

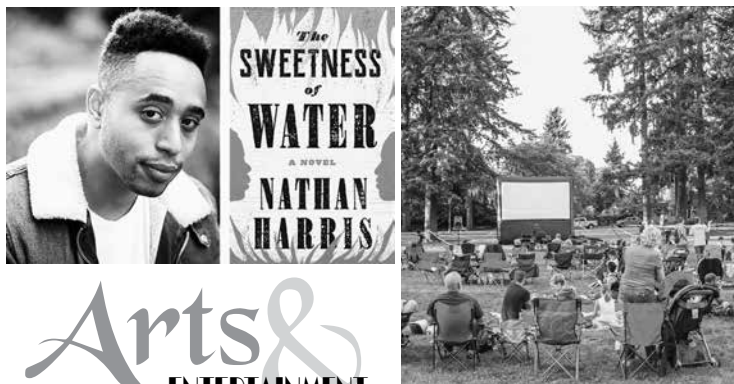
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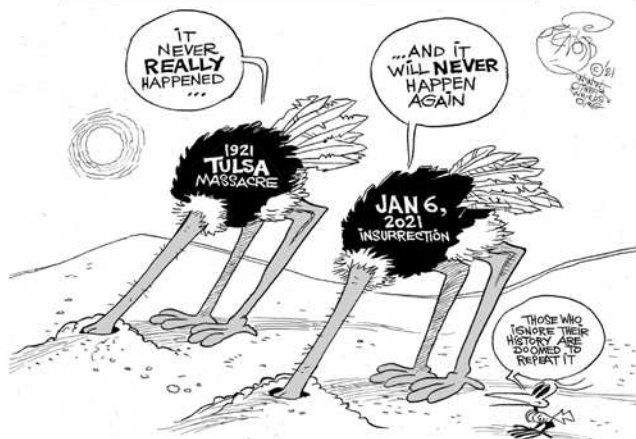
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# LOCAL NEWS



TriMet's Board of Directors has named Sam Desue Jr. as their new general manager, becoming the first Black leader of Oregon's largest transit agency. Desue is pictured early last month when he joined members of the Amalgamated Transit Union, including Local 757 President Shirley Block to receive their first COVID-19 vaccine shots.

## TriMet Names First Black GM

### Transit leader promoted following national search



TriMet's Board of Directors last week named Sam Desue Jr. as the transit agency's new General Manager, becoming the first Black leader in TriMet's five-decade history.

Desue has extensive experience at transit agencies in Seattle, Kansas City and most recently in Portland where he served as TriMet's interim General Manager and Chief Operating Officer.

"When Sam joined TriMet in 2019, he quickly established himself as a proven, measured, and

Sam Desue Jr. thoughtful leader who was committed to safety, service and the community," said TriMet Board President Bruce Warner. "His

years of transit expertise, customer-driven vision, commitment to building consensus and his humanity are sure to benefit transit riders and the agency for years to come."

"I am honored to be selected by the board as the next General Manager of this impressive agency," Desue said in a statement. "While we are collectively facing significant challenges as we recover from the impacts of the pandemic, I have full confidence in the TriMet team, our regional partners and in the strength of the community we serve. With a critical lens on equity and social justice, I will diligently work to advance new customer, safety, maintenance and climate initiatives."

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### The Portland Observer

Established 1970 USPS 959 680  
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PUBLISHER: *Mark Washington, Sr.*  
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## Smith Announces Run for Congress

Former Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith, a longtime leader in Portland's African American community, announced Tuesday that she will be running for Congress to represent Oregon from a new congressional seat.

"Big news - I'm running for Oregon's new Congressional seat to fight for the change our vibrant, diverse community so desperately deserves," Smith said, making the announcement on her Facebook



Loretta Smith

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