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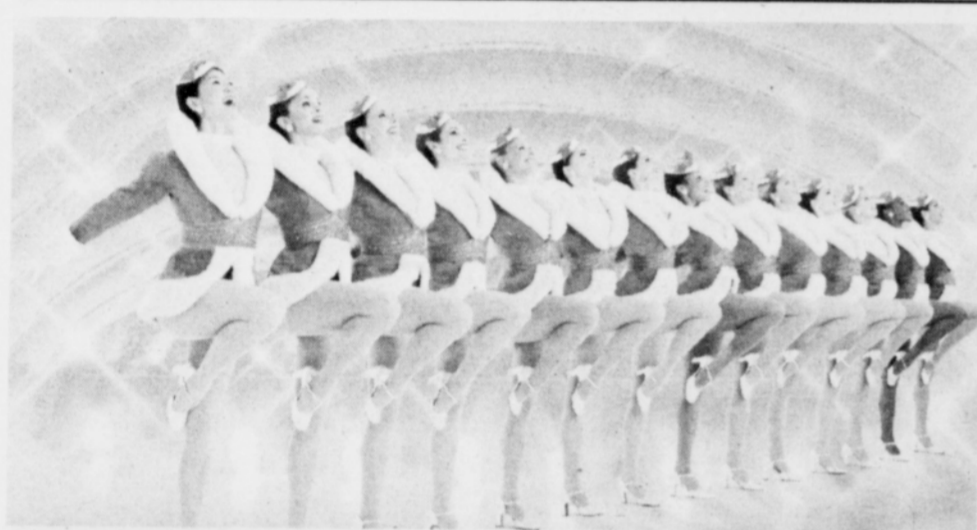
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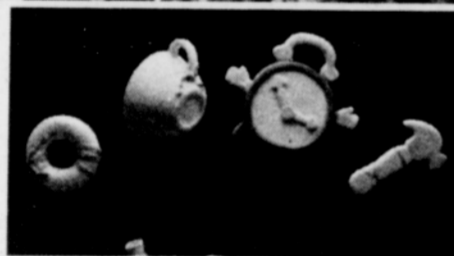


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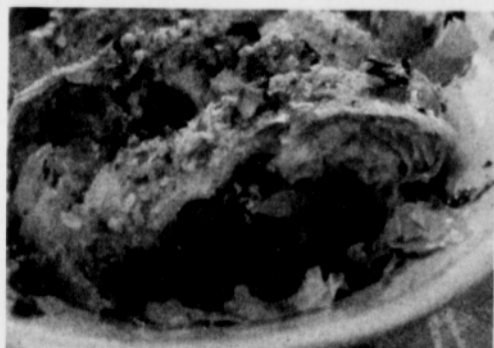
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# Fred Meyer

What's on your list today?

## LOCAL NEWS



Julio Rodriguez of R&R General Contractors works on the Civic Drive MAX station in Gresham.

### TriMet Diversity Success

#### Construction workforce set record

A local construction contracting firm has garnered the highest minority participation of any TriMet project with its work on a new Max station in Gresham.

R&R General Contractors hired a project crew of disadvantaged and minority business firms that accounted for 77 percent of the construction of the Civic Drive MAX station.

R&R President Jesse Rodriguez served as the prime contractor for the project, and also hired several other minority firms to complete construction. The station opened ear-

lier this month.

A minority-owned company based in Wilsonville, R&R won the prime project contract of \$1.76 million of the overall \$3 million project budget. R&R then subcontracted out several station project jobs to other Disadvantaged Business Enterprise firms, including A2 Fabrication, Green Art Landscaping, O'Neil Electric and Workhorse Construction.

"What TriMet does to create opportunities for DBE firms is amazing, especially in these tough economic times," said R&R President

Jesse Rodriguez. "They put a lot of time and effort into getting local minority contractors up to capacity.

R&R Constructors was founded in July 2008 and currently employs six people. The company has worked on two other projects for TriMet—rail improvements and station improvements.

"We are committed to helping local minority contracting firms succeed and expand their capacity," said TriMet General Manager Neil McFarlane. "Reaching a record DBE participation is a great milestone, and we will continue to help grow these small and emerging firms."

### Hats for the Homeless

#### Knitting class gives back to help other youth stay warm

Hats off to 10 young girls who've spent fall afternoons knitting hats to help homeless youth stay warm during the chilly Portland weather.

What started as a knitting class for youth at Friends of the Children in northeast Portland turned into an effort to help others. The group has long since surpassed their goal of making 75 hats by hand and will



Friends of the Children mentor Ki'ilani Viernes helps fit Chloe with a hat that she and a group of other young girls knitted to help homeless youth stay warm this winter.

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