

EXPO 2006

Vermont Business & Industry EXPO

CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS

MAY 24 & 25, 2006

Check out whats new!

Networking Opportunities, EXPO Mainstage featuring Citizen's Bank, Unicel, and Vermont Business Magazine, Free wireless internet access, Free Networking Reception

ADVERTISEMENT

Burlington Free Press

burlingtonfreepress.com | A LOCAL CUSTOM

XML

Search News

Submit Query

Search Ar

burlingtonfreepress.com WEATHER | JOBS | CARS | HOMES | APARTMENTS | CLASSIFIEDS | SHOPPING | DATING

ORDER 7 DAY DELIVERY
SUBSCRIBE NOW!
The Burlington Free Press

ENTER YOUR PET IN THE
Pet Idol
contest
CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS

Home

NEWS

Top Stories

Local/Vermont

Sports

Living

Entertainment/
Weekend

Business

Opinion

Election Coverage

Travel

Columnists

Contact Newsroom

NATION/WORLD

ARCHIVES

Search from:

SEARCH!

News Archive

PhotoWeek

NewsWeek

Sunday's Edition

CLASSIFIEDS

Place an ad

Careers

Wheels

Real Estate

Apartments

Shopping

Dating

Free Press Jobs

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Obituaries

Opinion

Sunday, May 21, 2006

Opinion Archives: Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat ■ NewsWeek

Contact Editorial Department

Help female inmates start over after release

Published: Friday, May 19, 2006

Female inmates at the Southeast State Correctional Facility in Windsor who used their hands and minds to build a home for a low-income family showed pride and optimism Wednesday at an event unveiling the structure.

These women deserve credit for seeking the carpentry and math skills to take control of their future and build a better life outside jail. But they can't do this alone.

An important player in this effort is the business community, particularly those connected to the construction trades. Several companies have provided lumber, a concrete foundation and more for the project. This program runs on a shoestring and every contribution helps.

Companies with tools, materials or training expertise can help. Employers can also provide scholarships to cover a share of the project.

In addition, employers are needed to provide transitional and permanent jobs for these inmates upon their release. Engelberth Construction Inc. is just one firm that has stepped forward in this manner.

There are challenges, of course. The women might need time off for counseling or probation meetings, face transportation problems, or be more difficult to place because of the nature of their crimes. There is also the risk these workers will re-offend and return to jail.

But there are reasons why these hires are worth those inconveniences.

These women are trained. They have a support network in place through the Corrections Department. They are usually motivated and truly want to succeed. And unlike an off-the-street hire, an employer will know much more about the

ADVERTISEMENT

FREE ESTIMATES & CAD DESIGN (888) 284-4680



Awnings • Sunrooms
Custom Closets

CLICK HERE TO VISIT OUR
ONLINE SHOWROOM



CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION

Burlington Free Press INTERACTIVE TOOLS

Printer Friendly Version

E-mail this article to a friend

Website Problems/Feedback

Contact Newsroom

[Births](#)
[Weddings](#)

SERVICES

[Contact Us](#)
[Subscriber Services](#)
[Customer Services](#)
[Email Headlines](#)
[Submit Feedback](#)
[Advertise](#)
[Ad Design Specs](#)
[PDA Version](#)

SPECIAL SECTIONS




background and skills these women bring to the job.


The state also has a role to play. Aside from financial support, which is important, why not use these women to construct needed state facilities to further their training? The Windsor prison needs an expanded medical building; let them build it.

Finally, Northern New England Tradeswomen sponsors a mentoring program for these and other female inmates due for release. Step forward; offer your time and support; help a woman succeed.


It's the right thing to do.

 [Printer Friendly Version](#)

 [E-mail this article to a friend](#)

 [Subscribe to the Free Press](#)

 [News Week](#)

 [The week in photos](#)

 [RSS Feed](#)