## Seek To Do More

News From The Snelling Center for Government

Spring 2007

"Our pride in Vermont and its history is one of our strengths...It is an exceptional quality which encourages Vermonters to seek to do more than might otherwise seem possible."

- Governor Richard A. Snelling



The mission of the Snelling Center for Government is to foster responsible and ethical civic leadership, encourage public service by private citizens, and promote informed citizen participation in shaping public policy in Vermont.

130 South Willard Street Burlington, VT 05401 (802) 859-3090 (802) 859-3094 fax www.snellingcenter.org

> Charlie Smith President

Colleen Oettinger
Assistant to the President

Katelyn Ritchie Administrative Assisant

**Glenn McRae**Director, Public Policy Programs

**Linda Wheatley**Director, Leadership Programs

### It's Spring! A Fresh Start

We are pleased to re-introduce **Seek To Do More**, the Snelling Center for Government's quarterly newsletter. We believe it is important to keep our friends informed about what we are doing to help build a better Vermont. Another way to stay in touch and up-to-the-minute is through our new Web site **www.snellingcenter.org**.

If you prefer to receive this newsletter via e-mail, please contact Katelyn Ritchie at katelyn@snellingcenter.org.

### Spotlight: Leadership

From its beginning, the Snelling Center has developed leadership programs to support Governor Snelling's passion for responsible and ethical civic leadership, democracy, and Vermont. The **Vermont Leadership Institute**, the **Vermont School Leadership Project** and other leadership programs provide participants with the skills to make thoughtful decisions and take well-considered action as they serve their organizations, their communites, and Vermont.

## Leadership for a Better, Cleaner Vermont First Annual Hybrid Car Raffle

The Snelling Center, with Heritage Toyota, is sponsoring the First Annual Hybrid Car Raffle to benefit the Vermont Leadership Institute and the Vermont School Leadership Project. The top prize is a 2007 Toyota Prius, the nation's leading hybrid vehicle. Tickets are \$100.00 and there is a limit of 1000 tickets. We will be drawing for the hybrid and other prizes on Green-Up Vermont Day, Saturday, May 5, 2007. For more information, please visit www.snellingcenter.org.

#### Vermont City Marathon Opportunity -Andrea Sisino (VLI '06)

The Snelling Center's leadership programs will be well represented in the KeyBank Vermont City Marathon this year. In addition to a number of graduates who have registered on their own for the marathon or for a relay bib, there will be two five-person relay teams available at auction, both at the Marathon Web site and at our site, www.snellingcenter.org. The current bid is \$300. All proceeds will support leadership programming. Thank you Andrea Sisino, Marathon Race Director, and VLI Class of 2006 graduate!

### Nine VLI Graduates Serving in the Vermont Legislature

VLI truly is about leadership and making a difference. Just look at the 2007-2008 session of the Vermont Legislature. VLI graduates (and one current associate) hold nine seats in the House of Representatives:

Denise Barnard ('07)
Christopher Bray ('06)
Sarah Copeland-Hanzas ('06)
Sarah Edwards ('02)
Maxine Jo Grad ('98)
Jim Masland ('05)
Jim McCullough ('04)
Peter Peltz ('04)
Will Stevens ('05)

Please visit the Alumni Lounge for more alumni news.

# Save the Date! VLI 2007 Commencement June 2, 2007 Basin Harbor Club

In keeping with the SCG tradition of presenting insightful and thought-provoking programs, the keynote speaker for this year's VLI Commencement is Joseph Jaworski, author of Synchronicity: The Inner Path of Leadership.

#### Just a reminder...

Vermont Leadership Institute Class of 2008 Application deadline March 30, 2007

Vermont School Leadership Project Class of 2008

Application deadline April 20, 2007

Please visit our Web site for more information about these programs and application requirements.

#### A Note from Charlie

The past year at the Snelling Center has been busy and productive, and focused on our mission to foster responsible and ethical leadership, encourage public service by private citizens, and promote informed citizen participation in shaping public policy in Vermont.

On the leadership and public service fronts, our 12th Vermont Leadership Institute is running smoothly; we are working with the University of Vermont on a specialized leadership program for higher education; we organized the "New Legislator Orientation"; and we have conducted the "Leadership Learning Exchange" for Vermont Community Foundation grantees. One of our biggest priorities in 2007 is to restore the Vermont School Leadership Project, which is an important opportunity for school leaders to reflect on how to lead change and continuous improvement.

In the citizen participation arena, we launched a major project to consider whether Vermont should amend its constitution to provide four-year terms of office to the governor, other statewide officeholders, and legislators. This project will continue through 2007, and the information we garner from the public will help to inform legislative action in 2008.