



Friday, March 23, 2007



News and People

## Rep. Gonzales appointed to NCSL health committee



Rep. Veronica Gonzales of McAllen has been appointed by House Speaker Tom Craddick to serve a two-year term on the Health Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL).

The committee's group of state legislators will meet to form policy guidelines on various health issues ranging from cancer prevention to children's health insurance and substance abuse. As a member of the NCSL Health Committee, Gonzales will participate in legislative forums that focus on policy innovation among different legislatures and guide the NCSL's lobbying efforts with the federal government.

Gonzales said she viewed her appointment as a "vital opportunity" to support South Texans' health needs.

## As the world turns in Texas

*By Mary Scott Nabers, CEO of Strategic Partnerships, Inc.*

Time passes, scientific data emerges and things change. Environmental impact, energy conservation, and efficient operating systems are definitely in vogue as a result of long overdue attention to all three issues.

A trend evident today in both the public and private sectors is a shift to ensuring conservation of energy. Governmental agencies are definitely "going green." In today's energy-conscious world, "going green" means environmentally smart construction and reduction of energy usage.

In recent years, state agencies have taken on environmentally protective projects. The Texas Department of Transportation installed