

Health Plan of Nevada Expands Services

LAS VEGAS — Health Plan of Nevada (HPN), the state's only licensed and federally qualified health maintenance organization (HMO) is expanding its network of physicians to include doctors throughout the Las Vegas and surrounding area. These physicians will continue to treat their patients, including their HPN patients, from their private offices.

Until recently, the Las Vegas members of HPN were required to choose a primary care physician (family practice, pediatrics, internal medicine and obstetrics/gynecology) from among the more than 40 full-time and part-time primary care physicians located at one of the three Southwest Medical Centers in Las Vegas.

"Now, our members will have more of a choice," said David B. Willis, President of HPN and Senior Vice President of Sierra Health Services, the parent company of both HPN and Southwest Medical Associates. "The fact that we are increasing our geographic accessibility to medical care is also a big plus of this new arrangement," he added. HPN members who want to select one of the networked physicians above should contact the personnel or benefits manager where they work to obtain a Change Form. They can also contact HPN Member Services at 382-2883 for more information.

Argentina's Jewish Population In Steady Downslide In Numbers

NEW YORK (WNS) — The Jewish population of Argentina may decline by as much as 48 percent, to 137,000, by the year 2000 if infertility, assimilation and emigration continue at their present high rates, according to the 1985 American Jewish Year Book published by the American Jewish Committee.

The Jewish community in the rest of Latin America may shrink at a rate of 25 percent by the next century, according to U. O. Schmelz and Sergia DellaPergola, authors of the "The Demography of Latin American Jewry," published in the Year Book. The present Jew-

ish population of Latin America is 464,700. Half live in Argentina, one fifth in Brazil.

Schmelz and DellaPergola wrote that "between 1910 and 1945, the birth rate fell by 50 percent," adding that currently the community is failing to reproduce itself, below zero population growth.

Intermarriage, the authors emphasize, has taken the biggest toll. Schmelz and DellaPergola conservatively estimate the intermarriage rate at 40 percent, submitting that the figure is "probably higher," perhaps the highest of any Jewish community in the world. They stress that when Latin American Jews marry out of their faith, they almost always sever ties with the organized Jewish community.

When Israel was created, more Jews began leaving Argentina than entered.

Two Sports Teams, Boosters To Pass Out Directories

Centel's July telephone directory will be distributed beginning Monday, July 8, with the help of two local sports groups for the first time.

The 450,000 directories, which feature the captivating artwork of Las Vegas Anne Bridge on the cover and directory competition runners-up Victoria Wassell and Bruce Kaplan on the back cover, will be hand delivered throughout Southern Nevada until July 26.

Assisting in the door-to-door deliveries will be the Clark High School football team and booster club, and the Tigers, a girls soccer team. Both groups are delivering the books as fundraising projects.

"Every customer should have received the directory by July 26," said Larry Spitler, public relations manager. "Customers who've not received a directory by July 29, or need an extra copy, can stop by any of our five public offices."

Those who can't get to a Centel office can call the directory delivery office at 877-7172 on and after July 29.

Aside from Bridge's dazzling new cover art, which beat 88 other entries in the third annual competition, the directory's Yellow Pages has something new for senior citizens. Advertisers who give discounts to seniors are displaying a star symbol on their ads.

Directory distribution is under the direction of GTE Market World.

Israel Favors Participation In Star Wars Proposal

JERUSALEM (WNS) — Israel will probably respond favorably to an invitation from the

United States to participate in the Reagan Administration's Strategic Defense initiative, dubbed the Star Wars proposal, according to a Voice of Israel Radio report on July 4. Premier Shimon Peres' office was the scene of a meeting between Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and other officials on the U.S. invitation.

The discussion evolved around recommendations by a defense establishment delegation which recently returned from a visit to the United States where it focused on the Star Wars issue.

According to the radio report, both Peres and Rabin hold the position that Israel should respond favorably to an American initiative. Israel is already in the process of preparing a formal reply.

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