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*Inside HNE is published by Health New England. For questions and/or comments please contact Health New England's Sales Department at 413-787-4000 or 800-842-4464.*

## *New!* Employee Assistance Program

Health New England and Baystate Health System will begin offering you and your employees a comprehensive, nationally recognized Employee Assistance Program (EAP) effective 1/01/03. The program helps employees in our Western Massachusetts service area to resolve personal and work-based problems. These problems may interfere with their ability to work productively and safely, or live life to the fullest.

**For groups with less than 50 employees** the services will become a part of our core medical services. All employees covered by a Health New England product will have this additional benefit, which includes personal



and organization consulting services. Employers may purchase additional services at a discount.

For new groups, the EAP benefit will be available at the group's enrollment date. For existing groups, the benefit will be available at the group's renewal date.

**Groups with more than 50 employees** may purchase the program that includes both personal and organization consulting and development services, including:

- Wellness programs (dealing with stress and change; work/life balance)
- Supervisory/management training
- Newsletters, posters, and online information
- Critical Incident Stress Debriefing/ Workplace Trauma Counseling
- Assessment, clinical contracting and monitoring for government-mandated services.

*(continued on page 2)*

## Industry Highlights & Market Trends- Obstetric Care

You may already be aware that malpractice insurance rates have increased throughout the United States. "Across the country, liability insurance for obstetri-

cian-gynecologists is becoming unaffordable or even unavailable, as insurance companies stop insuring doctors," reported American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) President Thomas F. Purdon, MD.

*(continued on page 2)*

## New! Employee Assistance Program (continued from page 1)

### What's in it for your employees?

- No cost, expert service from a highly skilled team, experienced in working with employees and managers in a wide variety of settings
- Help when they need it-24 hour access to EAP consultants in urgent situations; routine consultations scheduled within five working days at locations within 30 miles
- Removal of barriers for seeking assistance—Confidential, convenient services available for HNE members and anyone in their household

### What's in it for you?

- Flexibility-Program is structured to address your needs and budget
- Range of services that can include: services for employees and managers, help with compliance for government mandated services, training and materials, and more
- Skill and experience of licensed professionals

*For more information, please contact your broker, or call Juan Campbell at Health New England at 800 842-4464, extension 3377.*

## Obstetric Care (continued from page 1)

Obstetrics-gynecology is among the top three specialties in cost of professional liability insurance premiums. Nationally, insurance premium rates have increased over time. Between 1982 and 1998 the median premium rate increased by 167%. It rose again in 2000 by 7%, in 2001 by 12.5% and in 2002 by approximately 15%.

The increasing liability insurance premiums may result in fewer obstetrician-gynecologists delivering babies and performing surgical services. ACOG has named nine 'hot states' with a liability insurance crisis that is

now threatening the availability of physicians to deliver babies: Florida, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington and West Virginia. ACOG reports that a crisis is brewing in several other states

Although, Massachusetts is not one of the states named by ACOG at this time, OB/GYNs anticipate very large premium increases in 2003. Health New England wants to ensure our member groups that we will do everything possible to maintain our network.

## Bright Nights Savings!

**\$1 OFF ADMISSION**

\$1.00 OFF

This coupon entitles the bearer to  
**\$1.00 OFF** the full price of admission to  
"Bright Nights at Forest Park."

**November 22, 2002 - January 5, 2003**  
Forest Park, Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA

Sunday-Friday    6pm - 9pm  
Saturday & Holidays    6pm - 11pm  
(Holidays: Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve,  
Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, New Year's Day)

Buses by Reservation    5pm - 6pm


\$10.00 per vehicle  
\$50.00 for 17 - 30 passenger capacity bus  
(\$60 after 10/31)  
\$100.00 for 31+ passenger capacity bus  
(\$125 after 10/31)

Presented by the Spirit of Springfield  
and the Springfield Park Department

For more information, call  
**866-7BRIGHT**  
or visit [www.brightnights.org](http://www.brightnights.org)

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\*Excludes buses and mini buses


2002 - 2003

# PHARMACY UPDATE

## NEW GENERICS!

*Please disregard this section if your plan does not include a pharmacy benefit.*

There are now generic products available for the following brand name products. Remember – the generic product is available for a Tier 1 copayment; the brand product is available for a Tier 3 copayment. Massachusetts law requires pharmacists to dispense the generic product when available unless the doctor writes “No substitution” on the prescription.

Medication	Generic (Tier 1) Equivalent
Augmentin	amoxicillin/clavulanate – antibiotic
Ceftin	cefuroxime - antibiotic
Prinivil	lisinopril – high blood pressure
Prinzide	lisinopril/hydrochlorothiazide
Zestril	lisinopril – high blood pressure
Zestoretic	lisinopril/hydrochlorothiazide

## IMPORTANT PHARMACY CHANGES

*Please disregard this section if your plan does not include a pharmacy benefit.*

### Additional Benefit: Attention Deficit Disorder Medications

*Members may obtain up to a 60-day supply of these medications at a participating retail pharmacy. One copayment applies for each 30-day supply. A 90-day supply is available through mail order provided the prescription is written by a doctor and the diagnosis is included in the prescription.*

Medication	Tier	Generic (Tier 1) Equivalent
Adderall	3	Amphetamine
Amphetamine	1	N/A
Concerta	2	None
Dexedrine	3	Dextroamphetamine
Dextroamphetamine	1	N/A
Focalin	3	None
Metadate CD	2	None
Metadate ER	2	None
Methylphenidate	1	N/A
Ritalin	3	Methylphenidate
Ritalin SR	2	None

# PHARMACY UPDATE

## DRUGS REQUIRING PRIOR APPROVAL

*Please disregard this section if your plan does not include a pharmacy benefit.*

Drug	Treatment	Notes
Actiq	Cancer pain	For a copy of the clinical criteria and/or request form used in the prior authorization process, please call <b>Pharmacy Services</b> at <b>413-233-3421</b> or <b>800-310-2835</b> .
Bravelle	Infertility	
Cetrotide		
Fertinex		
Follistim		
Follistim (Antagon kit)		
Gonal-F		
Metrodin		
Pergonal		
Repronex		
Gleevec	Chronic myeloid leukemia or metastatic malignant gastrointestinal stromal tumors	
Provigil	Narcolepsy	
Tracleer	Primary pulmonary hypertension	
Arava	Rheumatoid arthritis	
Enbrel		
Kineret		
Entocort EC	Crohn's disease	

### Additions to the Formulary (Tier 2 copayment)

Entocort EC - used to treat Crohn's Disease (*Note: prior authorization required for coverage*)

### Removed from the Formulary (Tier 3 copayment)

Paxil/Paxil CR - used to treat depression

- Formulary alternatives:
  - fluoxetine (Tier 1)
  - Celexa (Tier 2)
  - Zoloft (Tier 2)

# HNE IN THE COMMUNITY

Health New England will continue to provide community support throughout the new year. Below are some of the highlights from 2002.

## Menopause Management: Town Meeting

In response to the confusion regarding the risks of hormone replacement therapy, HNE conducted a Menopause Management Town Meeting to educate women about the benefits and risks and help them make more informed choices.

Dr. Michelle Cyr, Dr. Anne Moulton and Carol Landau, Ph.D., nationally known authors and lecturers, demystified menopause by discussing a wide range of topics, including hot flashes, hormone replacement therapy options, stress and depression, cardiac health and much more. The presenters, all professors at the Brown University School of Medicine, co-authored the top-rated book, "The Complete Book of Menopause: Every Woman's Guide to Good Health."

More than 300 women—and a few men—attended, and the feedback was very positive. The presenters answered numerous questions and did not leave until answering all questions. Following are a few comments from the evaluation forms:

*"The information makes me feel better about easing off hormone therapy - looking for other means of easing hot flashes."*

*"Very good speakers. Not too technical for lay audience members, but technical enough for health care professionals."*

*"Very informative. I learned quite a bit of information."*

## Girl Scouts of Pioneer Valley 2nd Annual Golf Tournament

Thanks to all the sponsors, golfers, volunteers, and community donations, the 2nd annual tournament was again a great day for all involved. This tournament

raised \$23,000 for programs for girl scouts throughout our communities. Crestview Country Club provided great course conditions, impeccable service and food.

## "Don't Take Candy From Strangers" Seminar

Health New England, Springfield Day Nursery, WMAS Radio, and Friendly Ice Cream sponsored this event, held on September 12 at City Stage in Springfield. Doug Sebastian, founder of KinderVision®, a national child education programs was the key speaker. Doug touched on why this program was started and why child safety education is so important as a prevention strategy for children and families. Springfield Police Chief Paula Meara attended and spoke to the audience regarding programs in the Springfield area.

## KinderVision®

The first KinderVision was a complete success! This was held at the Holyoke Mall on Saturday, October 12th. The educational video, which included footage of each individual child, was well received. Nearly 300 children were videotaped, and the parents were presented with the video and other safety information. They also received lots of goodies from co-sponsors; Health New England; WMAS 94.7FM; Friendly Ice Cream, Springfield Day Nursery; and Target. WMAS had a live broadcast from the site; the Springfield Police Department did fingerprinting; Target gave free eyesight screenings, and free face painting was available. ***(See back cover for more information on the next Kindervision®.)***

## Memory Walk 2002

The Memory Walk for Alzheimer's, held at Stanley Park in Westfield, was the most successful walk in terms of dollars raised. Perfect weather conditions, beautiful surroundings, and great food provided by The Outback made for a great event.

## Despite Health Care System's Ills, Quality of Care has Improved For Many

For the third year in a row, health care quality improved substantially for millions of Americans, despite broad public concerns over cost, the uninsured, patient safety and other system-wide ills.

The National Committee for Quality Assurance's State of Health Care Quality report documented significant improvements in clinical performance on more than a dozen key measures among selected health plans serving the Medicare, Medicaid and commercially insured populations. The report also found that despite these improvements, more than 6,000 deaths and 22 million sick days (see Figures 1, 1A and 2) could be avoided annually if the "best practice" care found at the nation's top organizations was adopted universally.

The encouraging results in the report reflect the health care available to 71 million Americans enrolled in various health care organizations that measure and report on their performance. Information about the performance of the rest of the U.S. health care system is either non-existent or unavailable.

"This year, 13 health plans delivered beta blockers to 100 percent of patients who had a heart attack. That's the payoff for measuring quality," said NCQA President Margaret E. O'Kane. "But we have work to do—a large part of the health care system still doesn't measure anything."

### Third Consecutive Year of Sustained Improvement

Among the positive findings in this year's report were substantial gains on a range of clinical measures reported by commercial health plans. For example, in 2001, the percentage of patients who had their high blood pressure under control was 55.4 percent compared to

51.5 percent in 2000 and 39 percent in 1999. Fifty million Americans have high blood pressure, which, left uncontrolled, can cause stroke, coronary heart disease, kidney failure and blindness.

Cholesterol control rates have registered similar increases. Among commercial managed care organizations, 59.3 percent of heart attack patients had their cholesterol under control in 2001, nearly a 6-percentage-point increase from the previous year, and up 14 percentage points from 1999 levels. High cholesterol can cause coronary artery disease, a condition afflicting 15 million Americans.

NCQA is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to improving health care quality. NCQA accredits and certifies a wide range of health care organizations and manages the evolution of HEDIS, the performance measurement tool used by more than 90 percent of the nation's health plans. NCQA is committed to providing health care quality information through the Web and the media in order to help consumers, employers and others make more informed health care choices.

### Estimated\* Adverse Outcomes Prevented Due to Quality Improvement: Commercial Managed Care Population

Measure	Estimated Outcomes Prevented Since the Measure's First Year	Measures First Year
Beta Blocker Treatment	10,000 deaths	1996
Controlling High Blood Pressure	10,500 heart attacks, strokes	1999
Chicken Pox Vaccinations	620,000 cases of chicken pox	1997

- The calculation compares the actual number of people receiving services since the measure's first year to the number that would have received services if there had been no improvement in the measure over time. Estimated deaths prevented are based on the mortality reductions documented in the medical literature from the services measured. Where indicated, it is assumed that services are received at the medically recommended intervals over a multiyear period.*

# NCQA REPORT

## Top 15 Accredited Organizations in CAHPS, 2.0H Member Satisfaction Measures (Listed Alphabetically)

CAHPS, 2.0H Member Satisfaction Measures
Capital District Physicians Health Plan
Companion HealthCare
Dean Health Plan, Inc.
Excellus Health Plan, Inc. - Rochester Area Division
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care of New England (NH/VT)
Health Alliance Medical Plans
<b>Health New England, Inc.</b>
HealthPlus of Michigan
Independent Health
Keystone Health Plan Central
MVP Health Care, Inc.
Physicians Health Plan of Mid-Michigan
Rochester Area Health Maintenance Organization, d.b.a. Preferred Care
Scott and White Health Plan
UnitedHealthcare of Ohio - Central Ohio

## HNE named “Best In Class” for 2002!

HNE received recognition of our strength in the area of member service when NCQA's *The State of Health Care Quality: 2002* named HNE among the top 15 (out of 271) accredited health plans in the nation for member satisfaction.

### Quality Compass 2002

HNE earned "Best of Class" designations in 6 of 23 quality and prevention measures in NCQA's Quality Compass 2002.

The six measures are:

- Access to health care - ages 7 to 11 years
- Access to primary care physician - ages 3 to 6 years
- Check-up after delivery
- Adolescent immunizations (combination 2)
- Adolescent immunizations (chicken pox vaccine)
- Well-child visits in the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th years of life.

Quality Compass 2002 contains audited, plan-specific information on clinical performance, accreditation and member satisfaction from 271 commercial organizations that submitted HEDIS results to NCQA for public dissemination.

The "Best in Class" designation is achieved only for rates in the top 10 percent of all plans nationwide.



# HIPAA PRIVACY CHECKLIST

Employers that sponsor Group Health Plans are not "Covered Entities" under HIPAA. However, plan sponsors -- particularly those with self-insured group health plans -- may perform certain functions that are integrally related to or similar to the functions of group health plans. In carrying out these functions, plan sponsors often will require access to individually identifiable health information (called "protected health information" or "PHI" under HIPAA) held by the plan. Although the HIPAA Privacy Standards recognize plan sponsors' legitimate need for health information, the regulations do not attempt to regulate sponsors directly. Rather, the Privacy Standards place restrictions on the flow of information from covered health plans to their plan sponsors and, thereby, indirectly limit a plan sponsor's use and disclosure of PHI.

The following checklist is intended to assist employers that sponsor group health plans in defining their obligations as plan sponsors under the HIPAA Privacy Standards.

1. Determine whether your employer-sponsored group health plan(s) meet the Privacy Standards definition of a health plan.
  - Only plans with less than 50 participants that are not administered exclusively by company employees are exempt from all of the Privacy Standards' requirements.

## For Insured Plans:

2. Review the PHI that the company currently receives from its group health plan(s).
  - Does the company routinely get reports that exceed the scope of "Summary Health Information" (information that summarizes claims history, claims expenses, or types of claims experience with personal identifiers removed)?
  - Does the company use the data it gets for purposes other than (a) obtaining premium bids from carriers that provide or will potentially provide health insurance coverage under the group health plan or (b) modifying, amending, or terminating the group health plan?

- If the answer to either of the above questions is "Yes," can the company achieve its business goals if it limits itself to Summary Health Information and uses the Summary Health Information only for the purposes permitted for plan sponsors who do not want to undertake Privacy Standard compliance? If it cannot, the company must follow the steps below for self-insured plans.

3. Determine whether each company-sponsored health plan qualifies as a small health plan.

- Group health plans must comply with the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information by April 14, 2003, unless they qualify as small health plans. Those plans have an additional year, until April 14, 2004, to come into compliance. The regulations define a "small health plan" as "a plan with annual receipts of \$5 million or less." Because HHS has not yet provided guidance on health plan issues, it remains unclear whether self-insured plans should look to claims filed or claims paid when they assess their status as a small health plan. Employers should monitor the HHS Office of Civil Rights website at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa> for informational postings on this and other HIPAA issues.

## For Both Insured and Self-Insured Plans:

4. Determine whether the company gets claim-specific information because it assists employees with claims disputes.

- If the company wishes to assist employees with claims processing issues after the Privacy Standards become effective, develop policies and procedures for (a) tying exchanges of information with the carrier or third-party administrator ("TPA") to employee authorizations and (b) confidential storage of any retained PHI held at company facilities.

# HIPAA PRIVACY CHECKLIST

## For Self-Insured Plans:

5. Identify the specific plan functions the company performs for each health plan it sponsors.
6. Identify public policy PHI uses and disclosures the company anticipates its health plan(s) making. Discussions with counsel, its TPA, its workers' compensation carrier, and its occupational safety and health staff should be helpful in this regard.
7. Develop policies and procedures for identifying and fire-walling off company employees with access to PHI because of the health plan functions they perform. This data may not be used for employment-related purposes such as hiring and firing nor may it be used to design or operate other employee benefit programs such as life insurance or long-term disability programs.
8. Amend health plan documents to (a) detail the plan functions the company will reserve for itself as plan sponsor; (b) explain the plan's position with respect to applicable public policy disclosures; (c) describe the policies and procedures for ensuring adequate separation between the health plan and the remainder of the company's operations; and (d) meet all other Privacy Standard requirements, including the requirement to notify plan enrollees of their rights to access, copy and amend their PHI and to obtain accounting of certain PHI disclosures.
9. Enter into a business associate agreement or business associate addendum with plan TPAs on behalf of the group health plan(s). To the extent possible, the company should amend its TPA contracts to shift compliance with all elements of the Privacy Standards applicable to health plans to the TPAs.
  - Note: Should the company retain "too many" administrative duties, its role may shift from plan sponsor to group health plan. The company then would become responsible for complying with the Privacy Standards and a TPA might be reluctant to provide these services, even on the company's behalf. Although HHS has offered little information clarifying health plan issues to date, employers should monitor the HHS Office of Civil Rights website at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa> for guidelines and frequently asked questions addressing plan sponsor issues.
10. Consider developing a general company health information confidentiality policy addressing PHI that comes to the company outside the context of group health plan operations. For additional information on HIPAA's impact on occupational health and safety data, see *How the HIPAA Privacy Rule Will Affect the Operation of Occupational Safety and Health Programs*.
11. Contact any payor or TPA with whom the company communicates electronically to determine when the standard formats will be adopted and if the payor or TPA expects to ask for an extension of the October 2002 compliance date for the Standards for Electronic Transactions. Determine whether payors or TPAs will expect the company to communicate enrollment and disenrollment data in standard formats. Develop and implement plans to revise data transmission procedures as required.
  - Group health plans that qualify as Covered Entities under HIPAA must have applied for a one-year extension by October 15, 2002, or have been prepared to accept and timely process standard transactions as of October 16, 2002.

*Reprinted with permission. Arent Fox Kintner Plotkin & Kahn, PLLC. Arent Fox represents a wide variety of employers in HIPAA-related matters. For more information or assistance, please contact Larri Short at 202/775-5786 or William Sarraille at 202/857-6359.*

# THE STRENGTH OF HNE



*(Pictured from left to right) Connie Lynch, Lynn Ostrowski, Donna Stafilarakis, and Alres Dinnall*

## Health Programs Department

The Health Programs Department develops and implements preventive health improvement initiatives, disease management programs and the Living Well Newsletter, and is also involved in the community benefits program. Overall, the department strives to:

- Encourage our members to use preventive health services.
- Help members living with chronic health conditions to manage their condition.
- Educate our community about important health issues.
- Improve the health status and overall quality of life for our members.

We accomplish these goals through diabetes management, asthma management, cholesterol management, and Brighter Infant Beginnings programs. Members receive educational materials, tracking tools, special newsletters and invitations to classes and special events. In addition, physicians receive quarterly listings of their patients who have been enrolled in the program and educational materials and posters to use with all of their patients.

We also oversee numerous preventive health initiatives such as the Birthday Card Program. We send birthday cards to all male members age 50 and over, all female members age 35 and over, and children who are 18 months of age. The cards promote age-appropriate

health screenings and immunizations. In addition, HNE has created the Caterpillar-to-Butterfly campaign to promote immunizations by age 2. Pediatricians and family practitioners receive colorful posters of the immunization schedule to hang in their exam and waiting rooms.

Every year the Health Programs Department plans a year-long program open to members and the general community. In 2001, our program was the “Year of the Family”; in 2002 it is “Celebrating Women.” This program has focused on osteoporosis prevention and management, cardiovascular disease in women and menopause management. The program culminates with a Women’s Night Out Program including numerous health screenings, educational sessions and vendor booths with health and hobby information. Next year we will focus on children.

Out of many 2002 accomplishments, two stand out. The first was the publishing of “How ACE Became an Asthma Control Expert,” an educational storybook for children with asthma between the ages of 5 and 12. The book also introduces a sticker system for children and parents to use with medications and related equipment. The feedback from parents and physicians has been very good.

The second highlight was the success of the Celebrating Women Program. The Menopause Management Town Meeting and the Women’s Night Out sold out! The program was very timely with the release of information from the Women’s Health Study on hormone replacement therapy occurring in August. Over 300 women attended the Menopause Management Town Meeting and 500 attended Women’s Night Out.

The Health Programs staff members include Alres Dinnall, Connie Lynch, Lynn Ostrowski and Donna Stafilarakis. This is a small but very productive group!

Lynn Ostrowski  
Manager of Health Programs

# TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Please fax back to 413-736-1850

We want to continue to provide you with tools and information to keep you informed and make it easy to do business with us. To do that, we need your help. Please take a minute to answer a few simple questions below, then tear it out and fax it to our Sales Department at 413-736-1850. Thank you!

**1. How would you rate Inside HNE?** Overall, did you find the newsletter *(please check one for each)*:

Informative?  Yes  No    Useful?  Yes  No    Interesting?  Yes  No    Easy to read?  Yes  No

**2. What would you like to see from Inside HNE?**

*Please indicate the importance of each topic to helping you do your job. (Check one box in each row).*

TOPIC	DESCRIPTION	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT AT ALL
<b>Network Updates</b>	Changes in participating doctors and facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Regulatory Updates</b>	Changes in state and federal laws affecting health care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Product Updates</b>	New HNE products	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Benefit Updates</b>	Changes in benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Health Programs</b>	Info new programs and other activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Pharmacy Changes</b>	Changes in formulary, prior approvals, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Industry Information</b>	Trends /developments in health care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Strength of HNE</b>	Features on HNE Departments: What they do, how they serve you	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**3. What future topics would you suggest?** *(please print)*

Please give us your ideas for future articles or regular features.

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**4. Any other comments?** *(please print)*

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**5. Please tell us about yourself.** *(Optional; please print)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Here are just a few of the community events that Health New England supports:

### Bright Nights at Forest Park

- HNE is one of the corporate sponsors of this event which runs from **November 22 to January 5**. (See coupon on page 2.) *For more information visit [www.brightnights.org](http://www.brightnights.org) or call 866-7BRIGHT.*

### Springfield Falcons Hockey

- Show your HNE ID Card and receive \$3 off regular admission on Saturday, December 28!

### KinderVision

- Our next KinderVision event is tentatively scheduled for January. KinderVision is a nationally recognized program that provides

information to parents on child safety. *For more information on the next event, please continue to check the HNE web site, as well as the WMAS web site.*

### New Basketball Hall of Fame

- The Tip-Off Classic will be held in November this year. *For more information, please visit [www.hoophall.com](http://www.hoophall.com) or call 413-781-6500.*

### UMASS Fine Arts Center - KODA

- *Wednesday, March 12, 2003* – Exploring the limitless possibilities of the traditional Japanese drum performed by Kodo.

### Children's Miracle Network Radiothon

- March 2003