"Know Your Medicine, Know Your Pharmacists"

College celebrates American Pharmacist Month

Do you have questions about the use of your medications? Consumers with questions about their medications don’t have to worry about where to get information. Pharmacists are their best and most accessible medication experts.

During the month of October, Idaho State University College of Pharmacy students and faculty members will host several events to educate the public about the role of a pharmacist and how patients can get answers to medicine-related questions.

In conjunction with American Pharmacist Month, sponsored by the American Pharmacist Association (APhA), the student chapter at ISU will promote the pharmacy profession with published articles about common health care questions, sponsor an ISU football game with an information booth at the pre-game Bengal Fest, and host an open house at the College on Oct. 24 from 4 to 7 p.m. The event is open to the public.

The theme of American Pharmacists Month, “Know your medicine, Know your Pharmacist,” encourages patients to get to know the resources a pharmacist may provide.

For example, did you know that taking your medications properly is one of the best ways to avoid future health care costs? Each year, thousands of people end up in the hospital, fail to get better, and spend more money than necessary simply because they do not take their medication properly, according to APhA.

Pharmacists can educate patients about medications, both prescription and nonprescription. The APhA says that every person should be able to answer several questions before taking any new medication. Many of these questions include the length of time a medication should be taken, determining if a medication contains anything that can cause an allergic reaction, determining if alcohol or any other medicines, foods or activities should be avoided while taking the medication, and other concerns.

APhA says that consumers should expect a higher level of service from today’s pharmacists. Consumers should look to their pharmacists to provide medication-counseling services, including drug-regimen reviews and drug-interaction checks, coordination of patient care with physicians and other health area providers, and monitoring of side effects. Some pharmacists can also perform limited patient testing, such as cholesterol screening, glucose monitoring and blood pressure checks, for serious health-threatening problems.

During the Oct. 24 College of Pharmacy open house, free adult flu shots will be given to the first 50 people who register for the immunization. In addition, community pharmacists, faculty and students will be available to answer questions and provide information regarding immunizations, heartburn awareness programs, and diabetes education and poison prevention.

For more information about the ISU College of Pharmacy open house, call 282-4597.
Pharmacy alumni gather at annual Tumwater picnic

Idaho State University alumni and friends gathered in September in Tumwater, Wash. for an annual picnic sponsored by College of Pharmacy alumnus Col. Garth H. Holmes, Olympia, WA. Holmes, a longtime supporter of the ISU Alumni Association, has hosted the picnic for several years. The 1960 alumnus also penned a book, *The J Amendment*, with the proceeds slated for the ISU Alumni Association’s plans to build a new visitor’s center on the ISU campus. Those interested in purchasing a copy may contact the ISU Alumni Association at 208-282-3775.

In other alumni news, Dan Dean, director of development for Idaho State University College of Pharmacy, will be visiting several alumni of the College this fall in various cities across the U.S. Dan says that meeting Pharmacy alumni is one of the highlights of his duties at the College and he recently returned from a trip to the Pacific Northwest. To schedule an appointment with Dan while he’s in a city near you, contact him at dan-dean@pharmacy.isu.edu or 208-282-3655.

Upcoming alumni visits include:
- San Luis Obispo/Bakersfield, Calif. - Oct. 29 - Nov. 2
- Missoula, Mont. - Nov. 14 - 16
- Orlando, Florida & South Carolina - Dec. 16

College of Pharmacy Nontraditional Doctor of Pharmacy Program graduate, Dr. Siri Childs, ‘95, right, and her husband Harvey at the 2008 Tumwater Picnic held in September.

College of Pharmacy alumnus George Roe, ‘60, and his wife Rebecca at their home in Snohomish, Washington. Roe is a retired executive of Costco Wholesale Pharmacy.
Dear ISU Alumni and friends,

The Idaho State University College of Pharmacy is excited to host this year’s American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists Mid-year Regional Meeting (APhA-ASP MRM). I am pleased to announce that this year’s MRM for Region Seven will be held October 31st- November 2nd in Boise, Idaho at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel. As the Region 7 MRM Coordinator, my responsibilities are to plan, organize, and moderate the conference. To achieve this goal, I am looking to the Northwest community for support. I hope to raise approximately $6,000 to fund this event.

The MRM is only hosted by Idaho State every six years and attendees will be arriving from Washington, Oregon, Montana, Utah, and Idaho. This is the first time that the MRM will be held in Boise, Idaho instead of Pocatello, and we expect higher attendance as a result. I expect over one hundred and fifty student pharmacists to attend the MRM, which will provide a forum for professional education on contemporary issues, career information, leadership development, and networking opportunities. This is an excellent opportunity for the name of your organization to be broadcast to tomorrow’s leaders in pharmacy.

If you decide to make a donation, I can provide you with a receipt upon request to receive a tax deduction for your gift. Contributors will be recognized in all programs and other promotional pieces for the MRM, and they will receive an invitation to any of the events at the meeting. I am also open to other marketing opportunities your business or organization may have. Possible opportunities include supporting one, or part, of the refreshment breaks at the meeting, each costing $1500, sponsoring the event’s semi-formal social, or being a sponsor for the welcome gift bag that will provided to all participants. Checks can be made payable to Idaho State University College of Pharmacy for APhA MRM Region 7 and sent to: Dan Dean, ISU College of Pharmacy, 921 South 8th Ave., Stop 8288, Pocatello, Idaho 83209-8288

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns about this event. I look forward to serving you as the APhA-ASP Region 7 2008 MRM Coordinator.

Sincerely,

Jessica Sipe
APhA-ASP Region 7 MRM Coordinator
sipejess@pharmacy.isu.edu
208-407-7321