



PIKE'S PHARMACY

NEWSLETTER

... we're family

2133 Shamrock Dr Charlotte, NC

704 563 2286

www.pikespharmacy.com

ISSUE 2: MARCH 31, 2012

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NEWS YOU CAN USE

HELP US GET YOUR INFORMATION UP TO DATE!

We're still working hard to update our records. Look for the glass jar at our checkout and fill out a form to update your address and other information on file. Each week, we will draw one completed form from the jar. The winner will receive a \$20 gift certificate to Foskoskies. Only one completed form per person, please.

NEW GENERICS

There are several new generics on the market. Generics are now available for Lexapro, Avapro, Seroquel and Provigil. We will switch your medication to the generic equivalent automatically if your doctor allows.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Melanoma Monday, Monday, May 7th

Make your appointment for a skin check today.

Operation Medicine Drop Saturday, April 28th from 10am—2pm

Bring your expired or unwanted medications to Pike's for free disposal.



SERVICE SPOTLIGHT

FREE DELIVERY

Did you know that we offer free delivery? All of our local patients are welcome to take advantage of our next-day delivery. No matter what keeps you from being able to stop by, we have your back.

And now you can see us coming in our new delivery vehicle! Not only is it fuel efficient, but it is also good for the environment.

If you would like to take advantage of this service, please advise one of our staff when you call or email your prescriptions. We can't wait to hear from you.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Each month, we are going to spotlight a business owned or operated by our customers. If you would like for us to shine the spotlight on your business, send us an email at pharmacy@pikespharmacy.com.

This month, we have our eye on Tommy Sharp with Sharp Start Auto. Tommy has been in business in Charlotte since 1986. Not only is he fast and reliable, but he is also one of the most reasonably priced services in the area. Mr. Sharp has been taking care of the Pike's Pharmacy and Pike's family vehicles for six years now, and we wouldn't have it any other way. Sharp Start is located on Euclid Avenue, beside the Taco Bell and just behind Mac's Speed Shop.

Sharp Start Auto

2409 Euclid Ave, Charlotte, NC
704-527-6915



MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

HOW TO HELP YOUR 1 IN 4

Did you know that 1 in 4 adults suffers from a treatable mental health condition? If you have a family member or friend who has been diagnosed with a serious mental illness, you are probably wondering what you can do to help. Although new forms of therapy, medications and community services have enabled many individuals to lead full, independent lives, support from family, friends and peers remains an essential element in the recovery process. What can you do to help?

EDUCATE yourself about the diagnosis, illness symptoms, medication side effects and treatment options.

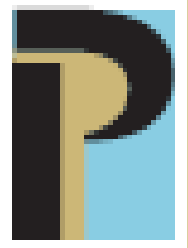
ENCOURAGE your friend or family member to be an active member of his treatment team and learn about the treatments and services that can help his recovery.

RECOGNIZE that it may take time for your friend or family member to find the proper medications and dosages that work.

ENCOURAGE your friend or family member to speak immediately to a healthcare provider about problems related to medications.

For more information and useful tips, check out the "Mental Illness and the Family" series at www.mentalhealthamerica.net.

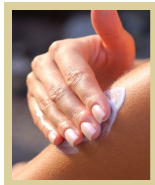
Information courtesy <http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/go/may> accessed online March 31, 2012.



JENNIFER'S BLOG

AN APPOINTMENT THAT CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE

Melanoma. It is one of the scariest diagnoses you'll ever hear. Melanoma is a form of skin cancer. If caught early, it's treatable. In advanced forms, it can be very aggressive, difficult to battle and even deadly. Usually, melanoma is the result of sun damage, especially damage done to your skin when you were young.



It only takes hearing about one scary story to make you a believer. A young 40-something patient of ours visited the doc about a month ago to see about a suspicious mole -- it turned out to be a melanoma. This past week, he found another. Fortunately, it was found early and chances are he'll be just fine. Had he not caught it early, it could have been devastating.

So, what can you do to protect yourself? This is the easy part. Make an appointment with a dermatologist for a complete skin check every year. Do it right now. It takes only a few minutes for the doc to look over your skin from head to toe. They will remove or biopsy any moles that look questionable. It's quick, easy, painless and it can save your life. While you're at it, don't forget the sunscreen! Use one with an SPF of at least 15 that provides both UVA and UVB protection. Wear it regularly. Reapply frequently. And stay out of the tanning bed!

Have you made that appointment yet?



Jennifer Keller, PharmD
Pharmacist

Check out Jennifer's blog at www.pikespharmacy.blogspot.com

TECHNICIAN'S CORNER

PRIOR AUTHORIZATIONS

With so many drugs out there that don't have a generic yet you're bound to hear us to tell you one day, "I'm sorry but this medication requires a prior authorization." Then the burning question. What's a prior authorization? It's simple; it means that your insurance will not cover the drug that the doctor has written for you unless he fills out forms that justify his choice of medication. There may be specific criteria that must be met such as symptom severity or even trying other medications first.

"AS INSURERS TRY TO CUT COSTS, THEY PUT MORE RESTRICTIONS ON THE MEDICATIONS THEY WILL COVER."

When you bring us a prescription that requires a prior authorization we send the doctor a note telling them

the situation and providing the insurance company's contact information. The doctor's office then contacts the insurer, gets the correct form to be filled out, completes the form and returns it to the insurance company. This process usually takes a few days and some phone calls to the doctor's office to get them moving a little quicker. Sometimes, you will hear us suggest that you give your doctor a call to be sure they are handling the details as quickly as they can.

Prior authorizations are a frustrating but common issue in pharmacy. As insurers try to cut costs, they put more restrictions on the medications they will cover. Next time you bring in a new prescription and you hear us tell you that it requires a prior authorization we can work together to get you your medicine quicker.

Ana Araguiz, CPhT
Certified Pharmacy Technician

