



Physician FOCUS

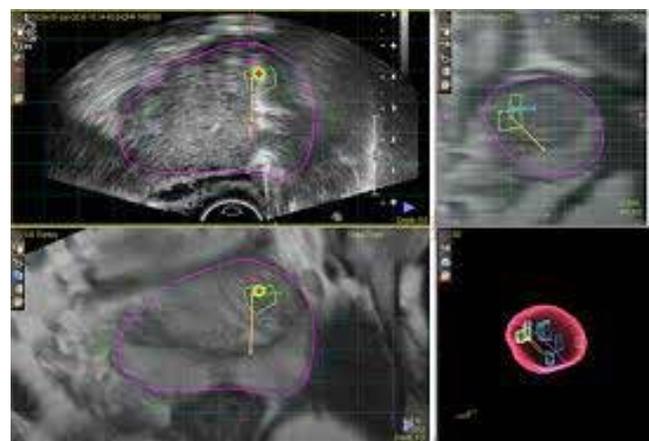
News for South County Health Medical Staff

June 2018

Fusion guided biopsies provide a clear mark for tissue exam

MRI/Ultrasound image technology at South County Hospital reduce need for multiple biopsies for prostate cancer concerns

The daVinci system isn't the only advanced technology tool used to treat cancer at South County Hospital. Fusion guided biopsies are providing more accurate results with fewer invasive procedures when prostate cancer is suspected.



"If a patient's PSA level comes back elevated, an indicator that cancer may be present, the next step in the diagnosis is to biopsy the affected area," said chief of urology, Joseph Renzulli II, MD.

Without the fusion guided technology, he said, physicians would take tissue samples from the general area of concern, hoping that of the many samples taken, some would be of the abnormal lesion.

"With fusion guided biopsy, a patient will get an MRI and the scans are reviewed by a radiologist who marks areas that appear to be cancerous. Then the patient returns for an outpatient procedure that uses an ultrasound probe to get an internal view of the suspected area. Using specialized fusion software, the MRI image is overlaid with the real time ultrasound, resulting in a highly detailed combination of a 3D ultrasound and MRI image," Dr. Renzulli said.

By viewing these detailed images, doctors can readily identify areas of concern and guide the biopsy needles to the precise area from which to draw tissue samples, rather than taking many samples from a more general area.

The procedure has been compared to using a GPS to reach your destination rather than driving around without directions.

An estimated 700,000 men with elevated PSA levels undergo repeat prostate biopsies. With the fusion guided biopsy procedure used at South County Hospital, doctors will get the information they need the first time, reducing the number of repeat biopsies on patients.

For more information on South County Hospital's fusion guided biopsies, or to schedule an appointment, contact South County Urology, 70 Kenyon Ave., Suite 324, Wakefield, RI, 401-788-8780.

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A “bittersweet” decision signals the beginning of the end to an 18 year legacy at South County Health

President & CEO, Lou Giancola tells Board he intends to retire



At the May 29 meeting of South County Health’s Board of Trustees, president & CEO, Lou Giancola submitted a letter of intent for his retirement, bringing to close his 18 year tenure of leadership. Lou, 73, did not give a specific date to leave his position, only to say he will “continue in my role to ensure a smooth transition ... until a successor is chosen.”

The search for his successor is currently underway.

Lou’s career in the healthcare industry spans 50 years, including such roles as chief operating officer of Lahey

Health and Women & Infants Hospital. He joined South County Health in 2000.

“This was a difficult decision,” Lou said of his plan to leave South County Health. “Working alongside all of you for nearly 18 years has been the highlight of my career. The level of teamwork and collaboration I have witnessed has been phenomenal. You have elevated the reputation of our system statewide and regionally.”

After accepting Lou’s letter of intent to retire, South County Health’s chairman of the board of trustees, Dennis Lynch, reflected on the CEO’s legacy.

“Lou has made a generational impact on South County Health,” Mr. Lynch said. “The legacy he leaves is one of a robust, financially stable, independent healthcare system delivering high quality care across Washington County and beyond.”

The growth of South County Health, in its reputation for high quality care, exceptional patient experience, and in healthcare services and facility expansion has been unprecedented under Lou’s leadership. South County Health has been the recipient of numerous prestigious recognitions from third-party organizations such as The Leapfrog Group, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid, and Press Ganey, among others. Enhancements to patient care under Lou’s leadership includes Medical & Wellness Centers in East Greenwich and Westerly, the addition of operating rooms, advanced technologies such as Mako and daVinci systems that improve patient outcomes, a comprehensive cancer center that offers patients the opportunity to receive the most effective treatment options available without having to leave Washington County, and many other patient-centric improvements.

Although his announcement came with mixed emotions, Lou expressed his utmost confidence that his departure will not affect the quality and level of service for which South County Health has become known.

“I have the greatest respect for your extraordinary commitment to serving the community, and I know you will continue to do so under new leadership,” he told staff via internal memo. “During this critical time in healthcare you have responded to financial and patient care challenges by rising to the top.”

Keeping to his no nonsense demeanor when it comes to staff expectations, Lou issued a friendly reminder that his announcement should not impact staff performance.

“This is no time to rest on our laurels,” he said. “I care deeply about you and the organization and will give my all until a new CEO moves into my office.”

MEDICAL STAFF OFFICERS

Medical Staff President

Aaron Weisbord, MD

401-471-6440

aweisbord@southcountyhealth.org

Vice President

Sal Abbruzzese, Jr., DO

401-788-1590

sabbruzzese@southcountyhealth.org

DEPARTMENT CHIEFS

Anesthesiology

Henry Cabrera, MD

hcabrera@southcountyhealth.org

Diagnostic Imaging

James Blechman, MD

jblechman@southcountyhealth.org

Emergency Medicine

William Sabina, MD

wsabina@southcountyhealth.org

Family Medicine

Dariusz Kostrzewa, MD

Medicine

Stuart Demirs, MD

sdemirs@southcountyhealth.org

OB/GYN

Steven Schneider, MD

sschneider@southcountyhealth.org

Orthopedic Surgery

Michael Bradley, MD

mbradley@scortho.org

Pathology/Laboratory

James Carlsten, MD

jcarlsten@southcountyhealth.org

Pediatrics

Roger Fazio, MD

rfazio@southcountyhealth.org

Surgery

Arnold Sarazen, MD

asarazen@southcountyhealth.org

Urology

Joseph Renzulli II, MD

jrenzulli@southcountyhealth.org



Aaron Weisbord, MD
South County Health
Medical Staff President

The rewards of practicing medicine come with risk - and thankfully, risk management experts.

by Aaron Weisbord, MD

Of all the duties of the medical staff president, one stands out for both its importance and the difficult nature of its subject matter. At the monthly meeting of the risk claims committee, administration, physicians, and board members get together with risk staff to review all the new, potential, and ongoing legal claims against the hospital and our staff members. The vast majority of proceedings arise from suboptimal patient outcomes. But, as physicians and their families know all too well, patients and their loved ones are not the only ones adversely affected by these outcomes and the claims that arise from them.

Whether justified or not, a legal case against a physician can have a destructive impact on his or her professional and personal life. The physicians on the risk claims committee, myself included, vicariously experience the pain and suffering of the patient and the doctor. The cases often take years to wind their way through the legal system leaving both sides emotionally and financially exhausted. I often find myself thoroughly enervated by the time our monthly meeting adjourns. It seems almost inevitable, no matter one's level of diligence, knowledge and compassion, that each of us will eventually be the target of a legal proceeding. Though painful, I have also found membership on the committee to be a positive experience in several ways.

For one, I have become hyper-aware of high-risk situations and physician behaviors and have tried to mitigate exposure for myself and my patients. For instance, the manner in which I communicate with patients and their families, particularly surrounding risks, benefits and alternatives to specific tests and treatments, is much more precise and well documented than prior to my service on the committee. I believe this serves both of us well by giving patients a better



Heather Harris, risk analyst (L), and Lisa Munklewitz, risk manager, work to protect us all from unseen adversity.

understanding of the rationale for, and a higher level of engagement in, their care. Hopefully this builds trust and fosters a sense of shared decision making, both of which reduce the likelihood of miscommunication and litigation.

In conjunction with our quality department and our risk department, the risk claims committee works to apply these lessons to processes and procedures throughout South County Health to benefit all patients and providers. Prior to joining the risk committee, I viewed our risk department with a mixture of trepidation and indifference. I assumed that if I was attentive and a little bit fortunate, I would be able to escape interacting too closely with them.

I have come to realize and appreciate that our risk experts led by attorney, Jeff Latham, and the head of our Risk Department, Lisa Munkelwicz, work tirelessly to optimize outcomes for the hospital, the medical staff, and our patients.

I am grateful for their support and dedication and most of all for making what has been a difficult assignment one of my most rewarding.

WELCOME TO SOUTH COUNTY HEALTH

daVinci Xi makes public appearance at South County Hospital

Robotic arm cuts ribbon and staff tries the system used in urologic and general surgeries.



The daVinci Xi robotic arm assisted technology was introduced to staff at a ribbon-cutting ceremony and hands-on demonstration in the South County Hospital lobby.

Holding the ribbon while daVinci cuts it are, from left to right, Hugh “Mac” McGillivray, OR clinical coordinator; Karen Valleco, RN, surgical services director; Lisa Rameaka, MD, VP, CMO; Joseph Renzulli II, MD, chief of urology; Joseph Brady, MD, general surgeon; and Lou Giancola, president/CEO.



Advocacy action needs your voice

The state's proposed budget aims to freeze the Medicaid rate and eliminates reimbursement of important Medicaid payments to hospitals. Meanwhile, the cost of providing care is increasing, hospitals are facing uncertainty at the federal level, and government programs continue to pay less than the cost of providing care.

These funds are necessary to continue investing in patient care and in our workforce.

Hospitals are uniting to support a proposed budget that restores reimbursement of important Medicaid payments. Years of continued cuts have left our hospitals in critical conditions.

It takes less than three minutes and three simple steps to participate in the campaign:

- [Visit the Hospital Association of RI Action Center](#)
- Enter your information on the right hand-side. The system will identify your elected officials based on your home and business addresses. You can also personalize your email by adding an intro or closing note. Please do not change the message for the body section of the email.
- Click "Send Message" to send a pre-written email to elected officials. Following your submission you will receive a confirmation email.

Share with family and friends on social media!

Dr. Renzulli is on-the-air at WPRO

Dr. Joseph Renzulli appeared on The Patricia Raskin Show (WPRO-AM 630) to talk about joining the South County Hospital medical staff, improving patient outcomes with da Vinci robotic surgery, ways to reduce the risk of developing prostate cancer, fusion prostate biopsy, and more.

[Listen to Dr. Renzulli's interview here.](#)

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

In the coming months, South County Health will experience a variety of facility changes to improve efficiency and function of our patient services.

Phase 1 of the project began in the Medical Office Building, Wakefield, on June 8, with the expansion of South County Urology and the relocation of South County Nephrology & Hypertension. These suites will be closed from Wednesday, June 13 to Sunday, June 17.

- South County Urology will expand to include Suites 322/324
- South County Nephrology & Hypertension will relocate from Suite 104 to Suite 326

Both practices will reopen on Monday, June 18 in their new locations.

Construction updates will be circulated using a variety of communications channels to keep everyone informed of additional phases and how they will affect daily routines.



CME Opportunities

(Please refer to conference websites for credit and enrollment information.)

[Breast Cancer: New Horizons, Current Controversies](#)

July 12-14, 2018
Boston Marriott Long Wharf
Boston, MA

Objective: Assist health care professionals who care for breast cancer patients with integrating evidence-based information on breast cancer screening, diagnosis, treatment, and long-term monitoring into their practices.

Audience: Medical oncologists, surgical oncologists, radiation oncologists, breast surgeons, general surgeons, internists, physician's assistants, nurse practitioners, oncology nurses, and other clinicians interested in the care of women with breast cancer.

[10th Annual Hospital Medicine for NPs & PAs 2018](#)

June 20, 2018 to June 23, 2018
Hyatt Regency Mission Bay Spa & Marina
1441 Quivira Road
San Diego, CA 92109

Objective: Emphasizes clinical management of hospitalized patients in an interactive, case-based format with evidence-based lectures by experts in treatment pathways from admission to discharge.

Audience: NPs & PAs

[A Systematic Approach to Medically Unexplained Symptoms 2018](#)

August 8-11, 2018
Fontainebleau Miami Beach
Miami Beach, FL

Objective: Provide a diagnostic framework/template for chronic medically unexplained conditions with shared etiologies and presentations.

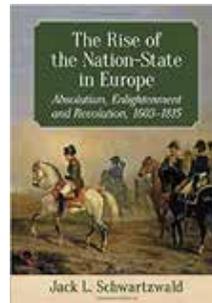
Audience: Internists, subspecialists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and others who practice in or have a special interest in treating medically complex patients.



Doctor, author to host book signing at South County Hospital

Thursday, June 14 ~ 11 am to 1 pm
South County Hospital Cafeteria

Jack Schwartzwald, MD



[Jack Schwartzwald, MD](#), author, historian, and hospitalist at South County Hospital, will host a book signing in the Hospital cafeteria on Thursday, June 14, from 11 am to 1 pm.

His latest book, [The Rise of the Nation-State in Europe](#) traces the development of the nation-state from its infancy as a virtual dynastic possession, through its incarnation as the embodiment of the sovereign popular will.

Dr. Schwartzwald gives historical perspective to the concept that the people, not their leaders, are the heart of a nation.

The book signing will take place near the cafeteria entrance. Books will also be for sale at a discounted price of \$15 (tax included) for South County Health staff and visitors.

Other books authored by Dr. Schwartzwald include:

[Nine Lives of Israel](#) that chronicles modern Israeli history as told through the lives of nine of its leading citizens and founders.

[The Ancient Near East, Greece and Rome, A Brief History](#), tells of the empires of the Ancient Near East, the foundation of Western Civilization in Greece, and the attempt to build the first nation-state in Rome.

[The Collapse and Recovery of Europe, AD 476-1648](#), is a history of Europe from the fall of the Western Roman Empire until the Treaty of Westphalia marking the emergence of the nation-state as the dominant political entity in Europe.



SCH Staff Golf Tournament

The South County Health Staff Golf Tournament will take place on Saturday, June 23 at Laurel Lane Country Club in West Kingston.

The tournament is opened to friends and family so please extend the invitation.

The \$100 per person entry fee includes 18 holes of golf, a golf cart, chicken and rib dinner, and gift bag. There will also be raffles and awards.

To register, contact Ralph Mitchell, Bobby McGillivray, or Sandra Winter, or send an e-mail to staffgolftournament@southcountyhealth.org.

South County Health Scholarship Awards Ceremony

The recipients of the Conrad-Nestor Scholarship and the Med Staff Scholarship will be recognized on **Thursday, June 14, 2018**. Please join us in the **Potter Conference Center at 8:30 am** to support these 21 outstanding high school graduates for their academic and civic achievements, as well as their future endeavors and career pursuits.

The awardees were selected by committee based on their academic achievements, civic involvement, commitment to furthering their education and other criteria.



Eleni Pappas, DPM, right, stands among the 2017 scholarship recipients.

An Appreciation of Lou Giancola

*Submitted by Neil Brandon, MD
Medical Director, South County Cardiology*

Lou Giancola has announced his decision to retire after 18 years as President of South County Hospital.

South County Hospital had gone through a dark period in the fall of 2000. With significant Medicare cuts bearing down on us, a new Administration took a heavy hand in dealing with financial challenges. The result was an employee union drive and widespread physician and nursing dissatisfaction. Our reputation was beginning to suffer. The medical staff took drastic actions that led to the resignation of the hospital President. It was not an inviting situation for a new CEO.

Lou Giancola took on the challenge. His approach included a lot of listening and observing the culture in South County. This resulted in his appreciation and affection for our community. He was able to restore a spirit of mutual respect and collaboration that enabled us to tackle our challenges in a constructive and successful manner.

In 2004, our cardiology group came to the realization that we needed to add nuclear cardiology to our practice, in order to compete for physicians on a level playing field. We knew that this would have a negative effect on South County Hospital's finances, and assumed that this venture would be unwelcome on the hospital campus. While we made plans to build an

off-campus facility, Lou discussed the situation with us and listened to our challenges. He understood why we needed to do this, and allowed us to place our competing nuclear cardiology facility within the Medical Office Building.

In 2005, I approached Lou for logistical help in accepting donations for a project to provide AED's (defibrillators) to schools throughout Rhode Island. Lou immediately embraced our plans, and he provided staffing, financial assistance, and legal help to form a non-profit corporation (the Southeast New England Heart Safe Community Foundation). With the jump-start that he gave us, we raised over \$350,000 and provided over 150 AED's to 96 schools in RI, as well as CPR training to hundreds of students. One of the hospital employees that Lou had "volunteered" to help us continued to play a major role in our efforts for several years after moving out of state for another job.

In 2013, Lou's stewardship of South County Health made it an easy decision for us to reorganize our cardiology practice to be an integral part of South County Medical Group.

As a result of Lou Giancola's tenure as CEO of South County Health, our medical community is well positioned to face whatever the future of health care brings our way. We wish him a healthy, happy, and greatly deserved retirement.

Donate Blood in Memory of MaryLou

MaryLou Gallant will always be remembered for her commitment of caring for others as a nurse at South County Health.

It was always her plan to organize a blood drive, hoping in some small way to give back for the care that she received.

MaryLou's family is honoring that wish.

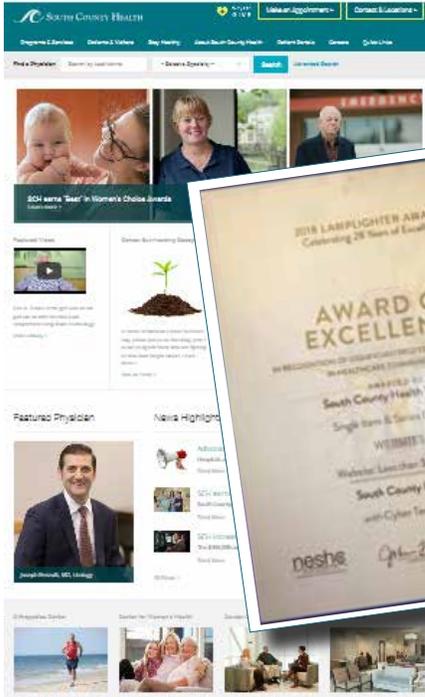
On Friday, June 15, from noon to 5pm, the Rhode Island Blood Center will be in Potter Conference Center accepting blood donations.

Please roll up your sleeves and give blood in memory of MaryLou.

Bring your driver's licence or other form of identification to the blood drive.

When: Friday, June 15, 2018
Where: South County Hospital
Potter Conference Center
Time: noon - 5 pm

Please bring your driver's license or other form of identification and help MaryLou's plan come to fruition.



South County Health's marketing team receives industry recognition for redesigned website

Healthcare marketing professionals from across New England attended an annual conference hosted by the New England Society for Healthcare Communications (NESHCo) on May 20 - 22.

South County Health's marketing team received a Lamplighter Award of Excellence for their work to produce the system's redesigned website, southcountyhealth.org.

South County Health's new responsive design website launched in November 2017. Its updated graphics and wealth of service line information has helped attract more visitors and keep users on the site longer. The new website provides more resources for patients, visitors, staff, and physicians, and can be navigated more easily.

The award category was for website design on a budget of less than \$100,000.

Share Your News & Ideas!

If you, your department, or a colleague made a significant professional or personal achievement, share the good news! The South County Health Medical Staff is made up of some of the most respected physicians and clinicians in healthcare. Be part of the Medical Staff community by sharing your experiences, knowledge, published works, opinions, and latest trends in delivering high quality patient care through these pages.

Contact Eric Dickervitz, editor, *Physician Focus*, via [e-mail](#) or at ext. 1137. Your colleagues want to hear from you!

Physicians wanted: Rewarding family medicine opportunity at South County Health

South County Health has a full-time opportunity for a board-certified, Family Medicine physician within the South County Medical Group. As a member of the South County Health medical staff, you will be aligned with the only hospital in Rhode Island to receive two 5-Star ratings from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid – **Hospital Quality and Patient Satisfaction** - as well as numerous recognitions for healthcare excellence.

We are a community healthcare system. Quality of care and the patient experience are our highest priorities.

If you are a primary care physician who provides exceptional care in family medicine, this may be the perfect fit for you.

Some of the benefits of South County Health:

- Hospital employed
- Patient centered medical home model
- Customized, flexible schedule (four 10 hour days or five 8 hour days)
- Work in a collaborative environment with three collegial physicians
- Extensive specialist referral network
- Beautiful clinic space with modern, comprehensive diagnostic services
- South County Hospital is 10 minutes away for acute care needs

To learn more about South County Health, this opportunity and to apply for the Family Medicine physician vacancy, visit the [provider opportunity page](#) of our website.

[View all the positions available](#) at South County Health.

2018 Golf Invitational fit to a tee

The South County Health 2018 Day of Golf and Invitational Tournament was held on May 30 and June 6 at The Misquamicut Club in Watch Hill, RI. The recreational Day of Golf was held on Wednesday, May 30 with the more competitive Annual Tournament on Wednesday, June 6.

The event raised \$140,000 for South County Hospital and South County Home Health.

Grand Sponsor

ROTHA Contracting, Robert Thavenius

Awards Reception Sponsor

Mal Makin, Professional Planning Group-

Business Partners Program, including:

Elderwood of Scallop Shell

Clafin

Navigant Credit Union

South County Health and South County Home Health are extremely grateful for the outpouring of support from those who participated in the golf events, as well as those who sponsored tee signs and pledged in-kind donations to make this a successful event.



And the winners are ...

1st place gross	Westerly Community Credit Union
1st place net	New England Line Network
2nd place net	Clafin
3rd place net	Century Financial Services
Longest Drive	Tom Panczner
Closest to the Pin	Bill Almon and Justin Antaya

Looking ahead to 2019

Plans are already underway for next year's Centennial Year Invitational to be held on Wednesday May 29, 2019 at The Misquamicut Club.

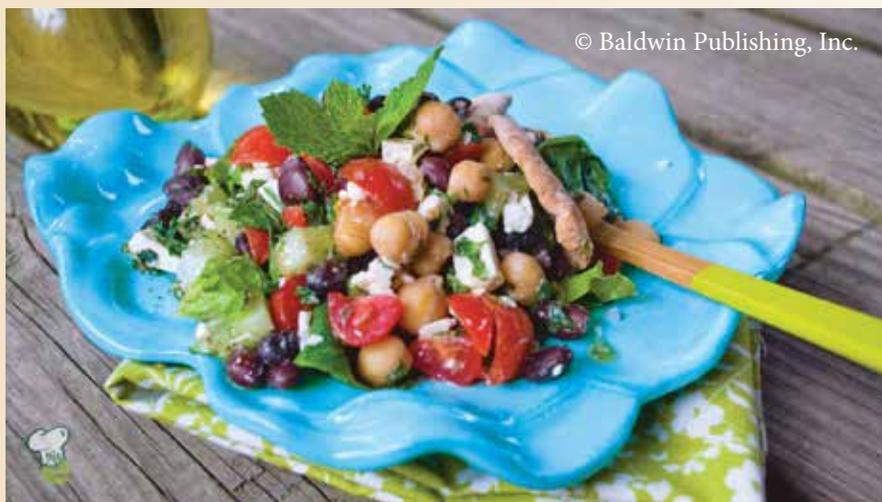
You will want to be part of this event! Secure your spot now by contacting Carrie Brown, Special Events Coordinator at cabrown@southcountyhealth.org or 401-788-1610.



Diabetic Recipe ~ Heart Healthy

MEDITERRANEAN BEAN SALAD

This healthy salad is packed with flavor and great nutrition. High-protein beans, fresh tomatoes and herbs, and healthy olive oil make this Mediterranean bean salad a tasty lunch.



© Baldwin Publishing, Inc.

NUTRITION FACTS PER SERVING

Serving size: 1 cup

Per Serving

Calories: 233

Fat: 10g

Saturated Fat: 3g

Cholesterol: 11mg

Sodium: 299mg

Carbohydrates: 26g

Fiber: 5g

Protein: 8g

INGREDIENTS

2 whole wheat pita breads (6-inch diameter), cut or torn into bite-size pieces

2 garlic cloves peeled

1/8 tsp salt

2 Tbsp fresh lemon juice

1/2 tsp ground cumin

3 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil

Black pepper to taste

1 cup cooked black beans rinsed and drained

1 cup chickpeas rinsed and drained

1/2 pt cherry tomatoes quartered

1/2 cucumber peeled and diced

1 cup sliced romaine lettuce

2 green onions chopped

1/2 cup crumbled feta cheese

3 Tbsp chopped fresh parsley

3 Tbsp chopped fresh mint

PREPARATION

Preheat oven to 400°.

On a large baking sheet, arrange pita pieces in one layer. Bake until crisp and just brown, about 5 to 7 minutes. Let cool.

In a small bowl, mash garlic and salt to form a paste. In another small bowl, combine garlic paste, lemon juice and cumin and whisk to blend. Add oil in a slow, steady stream, whisking constantly until combined. Season with black pepper to taste.

In a serving bowl, combine black beans, chickpeas, tomatoes and cucumber. Add the pita pieces, lettuce, green onions, feta, parsley, mint and the lemon dressing. Toss to mix. Season with additional black pepper to taste.

Recipe courtesy of: webhealthyrecipes.com

Visit Healthy eRecipes for this and other great food ideas!

JUNE 2018

MEDICAL STAFF CALENDAR



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4 OB/GYN Dept. 5:30 - 6:15 pm Potter	5 Cancer Conference 7 - 8 am Potter P&T Committee 7:30 - 8:30 am DI Conf. Room	6	7 Hospitalists Lunch with Nurses 12:30 pm Potter	8	9
10	11	12 Cancer Conference 7 - 8 am Potter Credentials Committee 7 - 9 am Potter A	13	14 Leadership Council 7 - 8:30 am Med Staff Lib Dept. Emerg. Medicine 7:15 - 9:15 am DI Conf. Room	15	16
17	18	19 Cancer Conference 7 - 8 am Potter Medical Exec. Committee 7 - 9 am Lab Conf. Room (basement)	20	21	22	23
24	25 OR Dept. Staff Education OR Schedule begins at 8:30 am	26 Cancer Conference 7 - 8 am Potter Hospitalists' Meeting Noon - 1 pm Frost 3	27 Peer Review Committee 7 - 8 am Potter	28	29	30

For the most up-to-date medical staff calendar info, visit the [Med Staff Calendar](#).

The calendar is updated on the intranet, departments, medical staff, whenever the Medical Staff Office is informed of any changes.