



Methodist Hospital
Foundation

MARDI GRAS FOOD FEST 2022

HONORING
DR. ELIAS TARAKJI

SUPPORTING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY
AND INNOVATIVE TREATMENTS AT
METHODIST HOSPITAL





Dear Mardi Gras Guests and Friends of Methodist Hospital:

Welcome to the 27th Celebration of **MARDI GRAS FOOD FEST!** Thank you for your support of Methodist Hospital.

This evening takes the hard work of dedicated volunteers and we want to recognize the members of the Mardi Gras Food Fest 2022 committee for creating an outstanding event that brings us back to our live and in-person format! We're also grateful to all the restaurants, businesses, and individuals who contributed the wonderful food, beverages, and auction items that have made this another night to remember.

Of course it wouldn't be Mardi Gras without "royalty" and we are proud to recognize Dr. Elias Tarakji as this year's "King." We are thrilled to honor such a deserving individual who has dedicated himself to Methodist Hospital, to its governance and to our patients for so many years. Please join us in congratulating him when you see him, especially as he leads the traditional parade draped in the cape and wearing the prestigious crown. Dr. Tarakji is an outstanding addition to our long line of past "Kings" and "Queens!"

We are also especially grateful to all who purchased tickets or became sponsors. Your support of this festive fundraiser benefits our efforts to acquire the advanced technology and innovative treatments our patients have come to depend on here at Methodist Hospital. We're especially grateful to inSite Digestive Health Care for their very generous "Mardi Gras" sponsorship and to all those who gave at the "Carnival" level, including Dr. Durdana Gilani and Dr. Hafeez Khan and Afnahn Khan; Optum; Arcadia Hospitalist Medical Group; Latino Outreach at Methodist Hospital - Patty Nijjar; Mickey and Lee Segal; Huntington Medical Foundation; and the Roger and Lilah Stangeland Foundation.

We hope you have a wonderful time dancing the night away at Sirona's, and that you'll take pleasure in knowing your support helps make the outstanding care we provide possible. Thanks again and *laissez les bons temps rouler!*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dan F. Ausman'.

Dan F. Ausman
President /CEO
Methodist Hospital

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike Driebe'.

Mike Driebe
President
Methodist Hospital Foundation

MARDI GRAS FOOD FEST EVENING'S ACTIVITIES

CULINARY TREATS AND LIBATIONS



Enjoy delicious food from
local top restaurants
(served from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.)



Partake in the
Wine Tasting, Vodka Bar, and Beer Station

– SILENT AUCTION –

TEXT "MG2022"

TO 243-725

or visit:

WWW.BIDPAL.NET/MG2022

Bidding ends at 8:30 p.m.



ENTERTAINMENT



Mardi Gras Parade!
(Everyone is invited to join in...this means you!)



DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY

Music provided by the
80'z All-Stars

MARDI GRAS 2022 HONORS DR. ELIAS TARAKJI

For more than two decades of dedication and philanthropic efforts on behalf of Methodist Hospital, we proudly honor Elias Tarakji, MD, as the King of Mardi Gras.

“I first joined the medical staff in the Fall of 1999, and have enjoyed 24 great years at Methodist Hospital,” Tarakji said. “When I first came to the San Gabriel Valley, I had privileges at 13 hospitals from Upland to Pasadena. Five years later, I only had privileges at Methodist Hospital because the hospital, the medical staff and the community were very welcoming.”

Dr. Tarakji says has learned a great deal from his colleagues during his time at the hospital, especially Chief Medical Officer Bala Chandrasekhar, MD, as well as neurosurgeon and Stroke Program Medical Director Greg Withers, MD.

“Dr. Chandrasekhar has always been my mentor. I learned so much from Dr. Chandrasekhar and Dr. Withers. Both are very courageous and tough, and both emphasize that nothing compromises providing high quality patient care,” he said.

Over time, Dr. Tarakji has become more involved with leadership roles at the hospital, first in the Department of Medicine and eventually became the Chief of Staff of the medical center in 2016. Upon completion of this term, he was asked to join the Hospital Board of Directors by Hospital President and CEO Dan Ausman.

“I’ve been privileged to serve as a board member and bring to the board the medical staff point of view, the physician’s point of view, the patient’s point of view as well as the viewpoint of support staff with whom I have direct contact,” Dr. Tarakji said. “Last year I became the chair of the Board of Directors Quality Improvement (QI) Committee. This has been a learning process and a very nice way to positively affect how medical care is delivered at the hospital.”

Working with the QI Committee has also been difficult at times to say the least because of COVID-19. “It has been a very challenging time during the pandemic,” Dr. Tarakji said, quipping that Dr. Chandrasekhar described it “as being on an airplane 30,000 feet in the air and learning how to fly the plane at the same time.”

“Staffing challenges, new procedures to follow, new standards and best practices affecting quality of care, and caring for a tremendous volume of patients and their families made this a very tough time,” he said. “But we came out stronger and better as a hospital team, and I feel as though we are better prepared for surprises going forward.”

With the pandemic subsiding, Dr. Tarakji looks forward to getting back to the typical routine with his medical practice and the hospital, which includes supporting fundraising events like Mardi Gras.

“I WAS SURPRISED AND HONORED TO BE SELECTED AS THE KING OF MARDI GRAS THIS YEAR. IT’S AN HONOR AND A PRIVILEGE. I WILL DO ALL THAT I CAN TO MAKE THIS A SUCCESSFUL EVENT. I’M VERY THANKFUL FOR THE PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY.”

-ELIAS TARAKJI, MD



“I was surprised and honored to be selected as the King of Mardi Gras this year,” said Dr. Tarakji. “It’s an honor and a privilege. I will do all that I can to make this a successful event. I’m very thankful for the philanthropic support of the community.”

“Thanks to philanthropy generated at events like Mardi Gras as well as donations from throughout the community, the hospital has been great at acquiring needed equipment to push our services forward and expand the services we provide,” Dr. Tarakji said. “Our facility’s physical structure is appealing and inviting. Although it’s a community hospital, the hospital has a great reputation for attracting patients from the entire the San Gabriel Valley and even surrounding counties.”

LONG LIVE THE KING!



MARDI GRAS 2022

BENEFITTING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES AND INNOVATIVE TREATMENTS AT METHODIST HOSPITAL

The delivery of healthcare services has changed enormously in recent years. Lives that once would have been lost can now be saved. Procedures that could only be dreamed of are performed routinely. All this is possible at Methodist Hospital because of our loyal donors. You have provided us means to acquire the latest equipment and attract the medical expertise needed to save lives every day.

At tonight's Mardi Gras celebration, we emphasize the importance of furthering our mission. Our hospital has served the community for 119 years, and we want to ensure the success of our hospital's future in the decades to come. While our services were pushed to the limit by the COVID-19 pandemic, the community came through and supported us during this time of need.

As we continue to move forward, we look to your help to address the need for emerging technologies.

We are moving forward with the purchase of a new da Vinci surgical robotic system. With the da Vinci robot, your surgeon is still with you in the operating room, seated at the robotic system console. The console gives surgeons control of the instruments used to perform your surgery. The robotic system offers 3D high-definition views and offers a crystal clear view of the surgical area that is magnified 10 times to what the human eye sees. In addition, the surgeon uses tiny instruments that move like a human hand, but with a far greater range of motion with smooth precision. Surgery conducted using a da Vinci surgical robotic system is less invasive, produces shorter hospital stays, and can lead to quicker recovery times and better outcomes for patients.

In addition, we are developing plans to construct a Hybrid Operating Room, which combines a traditional operating room with an image guided interventional suite. This combination allows for highly complex, advanced surgical procedures. Hybrid operating rooms are used in cardiac surgery, vascular and endovascular surgery, as well, as in neurological and spinal surgery. Intraoperative imaging to perform and assure the quality in complex surgeries plays a central role in this.

The addition of both of these innovative technologies will help continue the medical excellence offered by the experts at Methodist Hospital for years to come.

On behalf of the entire Methodist Hospital community, we share our sincere thanks to you all. We appreciate that you entrust us with the great responsibility of caring for your loved ones each and every day.



A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

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2022 MARDI GRAS COMMITTEE

ON BEHALF OF OUR PATIENTS, PHYSICIANS AND STAFF, WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME
AND COMMITMENT TO THIS YEAR'S MARDI GRAS FOOD FEST COMMITTEE.

YOU ALL HELPED MAKE TONIGHT POSSIBLE!

CO-CHAIRS

DINO CLARIZIO, MD

HOPE CLARIZIO

JENNA CLARIZIO

GAIL ALEXANDER

JOE CONCIALDI

DURDANA GILANI, MD

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PAST MARDI GRAS HONOREES: THEY GENEROUSLY ENHANCE THE GOOD HEALTH OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY WITH THEIR ADVOCACY AND PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT OF THE HOSPITAL.

PAST MARDI GRAS CHAIRS: THE SUCCESS OF THIS EVENING IS BASED ON YEARS OF COMMITMENT AND HARD WORK THAT HAS CREATED THIS TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE IN OUR FUNDRAISING PROGRAM.

HONOREES

1995- 1999 NONE
2000 NICHOLAS AND PRINCESS HEIDI
2001 WILLIAM AND PRINCESS JULIA
2002 OFFICER TONI CAYLOR AND
CAPTAIN NEIL CONRAD
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2018 DR. JOHN AND MARGARET QUIGLEY
2019 DR. DINO AND HOPE CLARIZIO
2020 DR. JACOB FAKOORY
2021 DR. HUA JIANG

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CALIFORNIA

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

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May 17, 2022

Methodist Hospital Foundation
300 West Huntington Drive
Arcadia, California 91007

Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to extend my warmest greetings to all who have gathered for Methodist Hospital Foundation's 27th Annual Mardi Food Fest!

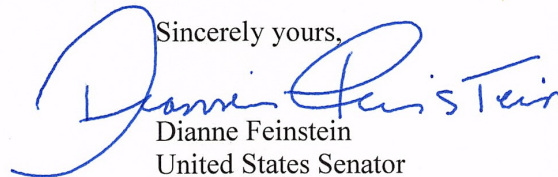
Since its inception, Methodist Hospital Foundation has been dedicated to providing a wide range of medical services to address the needs of patients at Methodist Hospital. With its devoted staff, philanthropic values and commitment to excellence, Methodist Hospital Foundation has continued to deliver quality care to the San Gabriel Valley and Los Angeles communities. There is no doubt that Methodist Hospital Foundation's work will continue to benefit countless individuals for many years to come.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize tonight's honoree: Dr. Elias Tarakji. Dr. Tarakji's commitment to the wellbeing of his patients and his longstanding, generous support of Methodist Hospital Foundation is truly an inspiration to us all. He has proven himself to be a medical practitioner of the highest caliber and an outstanding community servant.

As your United States Senator representing the State of California, I applaud Methodist Hospital Foundation and Dr. Elias Tarakji for all their remarkable accomplishments. Please accept my best wishes for a most enjoyable event.

With warmest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

Assembly

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Presented to:

DR. ELIAS TARAKJI

27th Annual Mardi Food Fest

In Honor Of:

Your Over 20 years of Medical Service to the
Residents of the San Gabriel Valley.

Your Dedication and Commitment to Providing the
Highest Standard of Care to Patients
is to be Commended!

Congratulations and Best Wishes!



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Fong".

Mike Fong, Assembly Member
49th District

April 1st, 2022



City of Alhambra

HEREBY CONGRATULATES

Dr. Elias Tarakji

METHODIST HOSPITAL FOUNDATION HONOREE

THE ALHAMBRA CITY COUNCIL, ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS OF ALHAMBRA, HEREBY CONGRATULATES DR. ELIAS TARAKJI FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP. IN HIS 20 YEAR CAREER IN THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY, DR. TARAKJI HAS SERVED AS CHIEF OF STAFF IN 2016 AND HELD NUMEROUS LEADERSHIP ROLES INCLUDING THE CHAIR OF PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT REVIEW BOARD. HE AND HIS WIFE CHRISTINE HAVE ALSO GENEROUSLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE METHODIST HOSPITAL FOUNDATION. DR. TARAKJI HAS ADVOCATED FOR HIGH STANDARDS OF PATIENT CARE AND SAFETY. THE CITY OF ALHAMBRA CONGRATULATES DR. ELIAS TARAKJI FOR HIS DEDICATION TO IMPROVING THE LIVES OF THOSE IN HIS COMMUNITY THROUGH SERVICE AND PHILANTHROPY.

PRESENTED BY

THE ALHAMBRA CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR JEFFREY MALONEY
COUNCILMEMBERS ROSS J. MAZA

VICE MAYOR ADELE ANDRADE-STADLER
SASHA RENÉE PÉREZ KATHERINE LEE

ISSUED THIS 17th DAY OF MAY, 2022



MAYOR JEFFREY MALONEY

CITY OF BRADBURY PROCLAMATION

Whereas, on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, Methodist Hospital Foundation will host its 27th Annual Mardi Food Fest fundraiser at the Sirona's Santa Anita Park. Each year at this event the Foundation honors outstanding community leaders who have given many years of distinguished service and leadership to Methodist Hospital. This year the Foundation will honor Dr. Elias Tarakji at this festive fundraising event; and

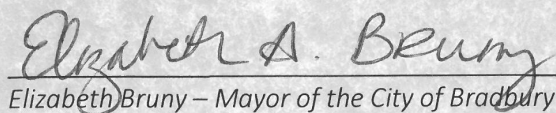
Whereas, Dr. Tarakji, a gastroenterologist, is a member of inSite Digestive Healthcare. He has been in practice for over 20 years serving the San Gabriel Valley in both the Arcadia and Glendora offices. He has been an active member on the Medical Staff as well as serving on the governing board of Methodist Hospital since 2016; and

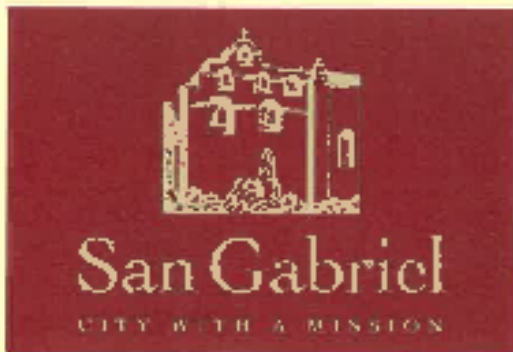
Whereas, in addition, he served as Chief of Staff in 2016 and in other Medical Executive Committee leadership roles including Vice Chief of Staff, Secretary/Treasurer and Department of Medicine. He currently is the Chair of the Performance Improvement review board. He and his wife Christine have personally supported Methodist Hospital Foundation through generous gifts to the Next Generation of Care campaign, annual giving and special events. He currently serves as Council President at St. Peter Syriac Orthodox Church in San Dimas, California; and

Whereas, Dr. Tarakji is a passionate advocate for the highest standard of care for patients. He actively promotes patient safety in areas like fall reduction, the reduction of hospital acquired infections and pressure injuries. He is a well-respected member of the Medical Staff, and a mentor to younger physicians.

Now, therefore, be it Proclaimed that the Bradbury City Council hereby pays tribute to this year's honoree, Dr. Elias Tarakji.

*Bradbury City Council: Mayor Bruny Mayor Pro-Tem Lathrop,
Councilmembers Barakat, Hale and Lewis*


Elizabeth Bruny – Mayor of the City of Bradbury



May 17, 2022

Methodist Hospital Foundation
300 West Huntington Drive
Arcadia, CA 91066

Dear Methodist Hospital Foundation:

It is a great honor and pleasure to congratulate Methodist Hospital Foundation on its 27th Annual Mardi Food Fest and Dr. Elias Tarakji!

Tonight, Methodist Hospital will honor Dr. Tarakji for his many years of service in the San Gabriel Valley. He has been an active member on the Medical staff as well as serving on the governing board of Methodist Hospital since 2016. In addition, Dr. Tarakji has served on many roles including Chief of Staff in 2016. He currently serves as Council President at St. Peter Syriac Orthodox Church in San Dimas, CA.

Dr. Tarakji is a passionate advocate for the highest standard of care for patients. He actively promotes patient safety in areas like fall reduction, the reduction of hospital acquired infections and pressure injuries. He is a well-respected member of the Medical Staff, and a mentor to younger physicians.

Once again, congratulations to Methodist Hospital Foundation and Dr. Elias Tarakji and thank you to those who worked hard to make this event a tremendous success.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Ding". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Tony Ding
Mayor

425 South Mission Drive, San Gabriel, California 91776 ~ Tel: (626) 308 2800

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Congratulations Dr. Elias Tarakji for
this well deserved recognition.



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Elias Tarakji, MD
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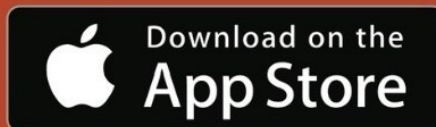
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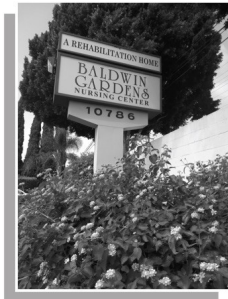
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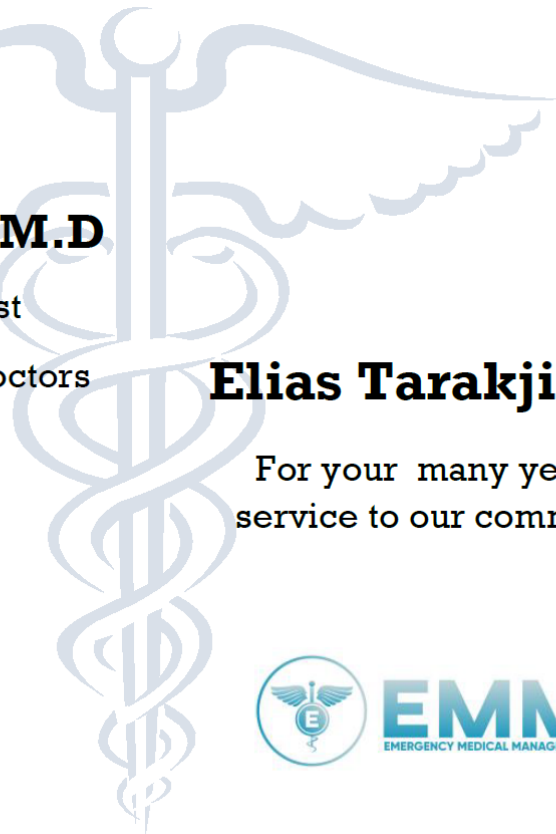
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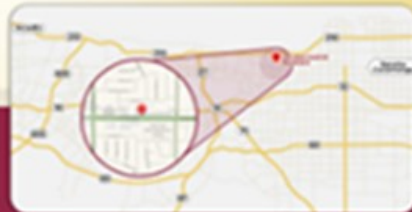


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**Congratulations to
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