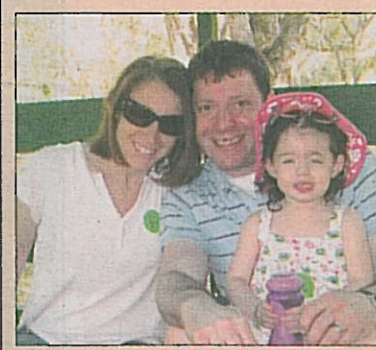


INSIDE



HEALTH BEAT / 20-25

Baby talk
Fertility expert separates pregnancy fact from fiction / 24

CLEVELAND

Play house
Mayfield Village home to new professional theater / 6

\$\$\$ ECONOMY WATCH \$\$\$

Making changes
Union for Reform Judaism streamlines services / 8

ARTS

Answer lady
Pleasing play based on life and letters of Ann Landers / 26

Index

Candlelighting 7:27 p.m. Shabbat ends 8:29 p.m.

A&E 26	Deaths 31
Births 19	Editor 4
Bar Mitzvah 19	Family 18
Business 30	Holiday 14
Cause & Effect 13	Jewish Stars 3
Cavalcade 16	Party Planner 36
Celebrations 17	Professional Directory 34
City Beat 28	Synagogues 33
Classifieds 37	Torah 32
Cleveland 6	

CLEVELAND Jewish News

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CJN tribute event to feature TV anchor

Dettelbach, Certner, Fingerhut to be honored for service



King

CJN anchor John King will be the keynote speaker of the Cleveland Jewish News "Making Headlines" tribute event on June 18, 2009.

The community celebration will honor Cynthia Dettelbach, Rob Certner and Alice Fingerhut, three longtime CJN employees who are retiring, and raise funds for the CJN Foundation, a nonprofit organization that supports the mission of the

King / 5

A WEEK TO GO: JCF campaign

MARGI HERWALD ZITELLI
City Editor

"It's the campaign that never ends!" joked Michael Siegal, general chair of the Jewish Community Federation's 2009 Campaign for Jewish Needs, at a recent Federation board meeting.

But, it appears the end is finally near, as Federation plans to close its yearly fundraising effort at its annual meeting on Sun., April 19.

Originally, the 2009 Campaign for Jewish Needs, which supports local, national and overseas Jewish education and human services agencies, was slated to end Dec. 11, 2008. But due to the economic recession, leadership opted to extend the drive in hopes of reaching the many donors who felt unable to commit until they were better able to assess

JCF / 12

CJN PHOTO / ARLENE FINE



Dr. Jeff Ponsky of University Hospitals, left, and Dr. Gary Hoffman of the Cleveland Clinic are ready to serve as co-medical clinical commanders of the free medical clinic.

Free medical clinic just the ticket at fairgrounds

Zac Ponsky brings professionals together for 2-day health clinic

ARLENE FINE
Senior Staff Reporter

He doesn't have a medical degree or even wear a white lab coat, but Zac Ponsky is working to bring together those who will provide free eye exams, dental extractions, pap smears and mammograms to thousands of Northeast Ohioans. Leaders in both the medical and non-medical community have offered

their services at a two-day free medical clinic being held at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds on Sat., May 2, and Sun., May 3.

Ponsky's idea for the free two-day medical clinic in Cleveland sprang from his volunteer assistance at a similar, but smaller Remote Area Medical (RAM)-sponsored fair in rural Kentucky last summer. "I was amazed to see cars lined up at midnight waiting for the doors to open at sunrise," he says. "I never saw anything like it. I knew then that Cleveland had the resources and spirit to pull off something like this, too."

Clinic / 20

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THE WEB

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trying again to avoid deportation
• A Passover message from

health beat



The U.S. Army 256 Combat Support Hospital Unit in Twinsburg is providing a MASH emergency room tent filled with equipment and staff for the health clinic.



MetroHealth Medical Center's Mammo Van will provide free mammograms for men and women.

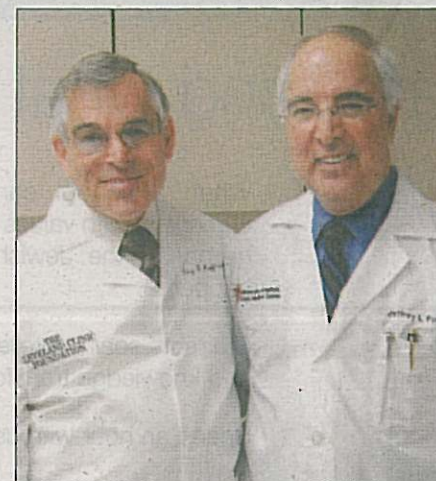
Free medical clinic just the ticket at the fairgrounds

Clinic from 1

The concept of a free health event in Cleveland would never have gotten off the ground "without the overwhelming support and collaboration of Cleveland's entire medical community and a wide base of community volunteers," insists Ponsky, 33, an AmTrust employee.

The moment professionals from the Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, the VA, MetroHealth Medical Center, Euclid, St. Vincent Charity, and Southwest General hospitals and others heard Ponsky's pitch for a free medical clinic for the uninsured and underinsured, their first question was, "How could I help?" says Ponsky. "Now, it's not a question of who's offering their services, it is a question of who's not."

"This is an invaluable opportunity for so many doctors and other medical professionals to participate in a multi-center collaboration," says Cleveland Clinic rheumatologist Dr. Gary Hoffman, director of the Clinic's volunteer and outreach program for physicians and senior managers. "There will be no competition between medical institutions or providers at this event, because to-



Hoffman, left, and Ponsky represent the cross-center medical collaboration.

be separately. We will all be reaching out to underserved people in our community with the goal of providing excellent patient care."

Thanks to a tireless team of volunteers, the fairgrounds will turn into a mini-medical community for the two-day event. The health clinic will take place rain or shine with extra tents set up on the fairgrounds alongside existing buildings.

tometrists, dental hygienists, social workers, EMTs, pharmacists, lab technicians, mental health counselors, and support staff from area hospitals and agencies will be working side-by-side in the temporary mobile hospital set up at the fairgrounds. Others will be stationed in a huge MASH emergency room tent filled with equipment and some staff provided by the U.S. Army 256 Combat Support Hospital Unit in Twinsburg.

A large cadre of social workers from many area agencies will refer those people identified with newly discovered health issues to the appropriate medical institution or agency.

The Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation, St. Luke's Foundation, and a handful of private donors are providing financial assistance for operational costs. Almost all the medical equipment is on loan at no charge, and many supplies – from dental floss to eyeglass frames – are being donated.

For example, Steris Corporation is providing examining tables; RAM Tennessee is bringing up their dental equipment and eyeglass-making truck; United Way 9.1.1 is taking

WHAT: Free Healthcare Event
WHEN: Sat., May 2; Sun., May 3.
 Parking lot opens at midnight. Gates open at 6 a.m.
WHERE: Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea; 1-71 to Exit 235 Bagley Road
INFORMATION: info@ramohio.org or www.ramohio.org
Patients are encouraged to bring their medications and a snack. No qualification requirements; no financial restrictions; no proof of citizenship; no pre-registration.

TO DONATE:
 RAM Ohio welcomes tax-deductible contributions.
 Send checks made out to:
 MobileMed 1 Foundation
 2026 Murray Hill Road
 Suite 3
 Cleveland, Ohio 44106

vided by The City Mission and Ampco System Parking, that will travel from Public Square to the fairgrounds; and two mammogram vans are coming from Mammo Van and MetroHealth Medical Center. (See list of free services and screenings.)

Ohio Benefit Bank will sign up and register people for Medicaid and Medicare, and Legal Aid Society of Cleveland staff and volunteer lawyers will provide free legal advice.

Ponsky is no stranger to the practice of medicine. He is the son of Jackie and Dr. Jeff Ponsky, chair of the department of surgery at University Hospital. His brothers are Drs. Lee and Todd Ponsky, University Hospital physicians and social activists. When Zac Ponsky began planning a community health fair here ten months ago, he only dreamed of a small free clinic, open for two days.

But this grassroots movement struck a chord. "With today's stresses and all the negative headlines, the idea of a free health clinic resonated with people who wanted to participate in something uplifting and worthwhile," Ponsky explains. "The concept began to build momentum right from the beginning."

Turning that concept into reality has involved, among other things, organizing and staffing the dozens of screening areas, planning for security, manning the registration tables and patient education booths, and the actual logistics of setting up a hospital. "We have a large team of volunteers doing e-mail blasts and working non-stop, making sure that everything we can control goes just right," assures Ponsky. "I'm sure many of us won't get much sleep for those two days."

Eager to downplay his own efforts, Ponsky gives much credit to the only full-time employee, Kyan Chuong, who is working out of a small corner of his sister Kim's photography office in Little Italy. "My family's garages are loaded with donated medical supplies," he adds, "and I'm very fortunate that my wife Taryn is my biggest supporter."

Because of the scale of the endeavor and the depth of the offerings, Ponsky and his volunteer steering committee are praying that everything will go smoothly and that they



Steris Corporation is lending and donating supplies and equipment for the health clinic.

community members have registered as volunteers.

"We don't know exactly what to expect because not many of us have worked on something of this magnitude," Ponsky admits. "People should come early and be patient; this is the first time an event of this nature has taken place in Ohio."

The two-day free clinic model is one that organizers hope will be emulated around the country. "This is universal healthcare in action," Ponsky says. "We have created the perfect grassroots opportunity here in Cleveland for Clevelanders."

Remote Area Medical (RAM) Ohio is a publicly supported, all-volunteer program of the nonprofit organization MobileMed 1. To volunteer or for more information: info@ramohio.org or www.ramohio.org.

afine@cnj.org

Free medical services

DENTAL

Exams, cleanings, fillings, extractions

EYE CARE

Exams, glaucoma tests, free frames and lenses (limited)

MEDICAL

Basic checkups
Breast exams, mammograms
Cervical and prostate exams
Tests for heart disease, diabetes, high cholesterol, high blood pressure
Nutrition information

Specialists seeing patients include cardiologists, gynecologists, pediatricians, podiatrists, rheumatologists, urologists, and specialists in family medicine, infectious diseases

Q: Why is organ donation so important?

A: Every day in the United States, 17 people die waiting for an organ and more than 80,000 men, women and children await life-saving organ transplants. April is National "Donate Life" month - every person makes a difference.

People of all ages should consider themselves a potential donor. When an individual dies, he or she is evaluated for donor suitability, given current and past medical history as well as the person's age. Both organs and tissues can be transplanted including the intestine, cornea and skin.

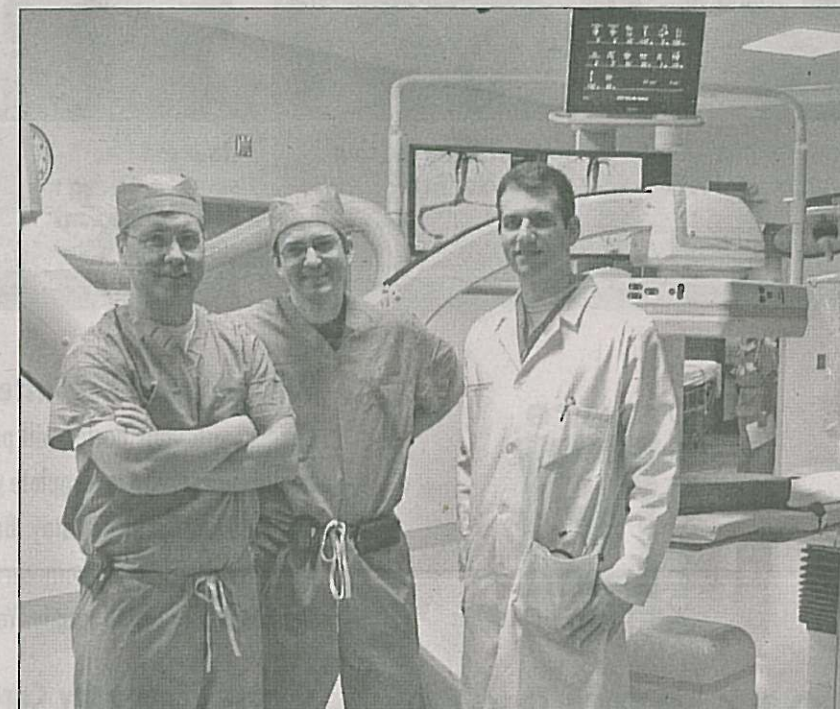
Individuals who wish to be organ donors should complete the following steps:

1) Join a donor registry. This is a way to legally give consent for the anatomical gift of organs, tissue and eyes. For more information, visit www.lifebanc.org or call 888-558-5433.

2) Sign and carry an organ donor card.

3) Let your family members, loved ones, family healthcare provider, lawyer and religious leader know of your desire to be a donor.

Joe Smith, transplant coordinator, Transplant Center Cleveland Clinic



Cleveland Clinic vascular surgeons Neal Hadro, M.D., left, Javier Alvarez-Tostado, M.D., and Jeff Weinberger, M.D., use the advanced angiography system at Marymount Hospital to help diagnose and treat vascular disease.

Marymount debuts advanced vascular technology

Marymount Hospital now offers advanced vascular technology to help diagnose and treat vascular disease, including carotid artery disease, aortic aneurysms, and circulatory conditions. The new multi-axis angiography system features robotic technology, which allows for greater ease in positioning patients, as well as visualization of larger sections of the anatomy. It is the same angiography system used at Cleveland Clinic's main campus.

Angiography is a procedure that helps physicians visualize blood vessels in the body, including the heart, brain and kidneys, to determine if there is narrowing or blockage.