



*CHARLES DAVID SPIVAK*

*Medical Doctor — Writer — Pioneer in treatment of tuberculosis in this area*

*Charles Spivak was born in Russia on December 25, 1861, but fled his native country in the 1880s. After arriving in the United States, he worked as a laborer and farmer in the Philadelphia area while obtaining his medical degree. In 1896, he was teaching at his alma mater, Jefferson Medical College, when his wife's frail health prompted the move westward to Colorado, where the high, dry climate beckoned thousands of tuberculars, many of them penniless.*

*The plight of poverty-stricken TB victims prompted the organization of the Jewish Consumptive Relief Society (JCRS), and late in 1904, a small tent city opened in eastern Jefferson County. Spivak campaigned nationally for funds for the Sanatorium, which eventually became thirty-five brick structures on a campus setting of one hundred and five acres. The hospital operated its own post office, dairy and poultry farm, general store, printing press and bindery, in addition to a vast library. The doctor was a tireless writer on medical subjects.*

*Dr. Spivak was a hero without honor in the area where his life's most valuable contribution to mankind was made — on JCRS grounds. He died on October 16, 1927, leaving no descendants.*

*The Sanatorium operated over a span of fifty years. Today, the institution is still serving humanity as the American Medical Center for Cancer Research.*

*Excerpts from an article written by Pat Wilcox  
for the AMCRC Bulletin*