

also help to bring services to medically underserved areas in a quick and cost-effective manner, and can enable patients to avoid traveling long distances in order to receive access to health care.

While the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 includes a provision that provides for some Medicare reimbursement of telemedicine services, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) has interpreted it too narrowly and as a result, has severely limited the services which are covered. The Telehealth Improvement Act of 1999 will clarify the intent of Congress regarding Medicare reimbursement for telemedicine services and increases telemedicine access to medically underserved areas. This legislation makes improvements to the way telemedicine services are currently regulated and reimbursed through the Medicare program, and applies to rural, underserved, and frontier areas, including areas designated as health professional shortage areas under the Public Health Service Act.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House to support and cosponsor the Telehealth Improvement Act of 1999. We must continue to provide access to health care to underserved areas and provide adequate reimbursement to the hospitals and providers that are currently providing these services.

HONORING THE LATE D.R.
MILLER, "MR. CIRCUS"

HON. WES WATKINS

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the late D.R. Miller, known as "Mr. Circus" to those who knew him best, for his decades of service to his fellow citizens, and for his lifetime of providing laughter and fun to children of all ages.

D.R. Miller was born on July 27, 1916, in Smith Center, Kansas. But it was Hugo, the town in Oklahoma's Third Congressional District that serves as the winter headquarters for his Carson & Barnes Circus, that D.R. called home.

D.R. Miller passed away on September 8, 1999, in McCook, Nebraska—the very town where D.R.'s father and mother took D.R. and his brother to see their first circus, on August 24, 1924.

In 1937, after numerous business ventures, D.R., his father and brother, founded the famed Al G. Kelly Miller Bros. Circus, advertised as the 2nd Largest Circus in America, and toured the U.S. for years. When Ringling Bros. abandoned big top tents for buildings in 1956, the Al G. Kelly Miller Bros. Circus became the World's Largest Big Top Circus.

After several business and personal setbacks in the 1960s and 70s, D.R. roared back with the Carson & Barnes Circus, which grew and evolved into the 5 Ring Extravaganza that continues to entertain and amaze children of all ages.

In addition to his founding of two circuses, D.R. gave of himself to make this world a better place. D.R. served his country as a proud member of the Army's 273rd Artillery Division

during World War II. He founded the Endangered Ark Foundation, a non-profit association dedicated to the preservation and procreation of endangered animals. He established the D.R. and Isla Miller Scholarship Fund to provide scholarships to deserving Hugo High School graduates. D.R. established the non-profit Showman's Rest Trust Fund to provide plots, burials and proper markers for indigent show people.

D.R. provided countless opportunities to circus artists and fellow dreamers. He was a friend to all. In January, 1995, he was inducted into the Circus Ring of Fame in Sarasota, Florida, with his wife and partner Isla Marie Miller, who preceded D.R. in passing.

D.R. Miller was an entertainer, a showman, a family man, a veteran, and a model citizen whose example of success and hard work shines like a beacon for all Americans who aspire to improve their own lives and the lives of others. D.R. Miller was believed by all who knew him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that today the House pay tribute to Mr. Circus: D.R. Miller.

A TRIBUTE TO ISRAEL POLICY
FORUM

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my thanks to Israel Policy Forum.

Since its founding in 1993, IPF has been a vigorous and effective advocate for Middle East peace and Israel security. Few organizations have done so much to shape public attitude's about the peace process or to educate decision-makers about the significance of American international leadership.

On November 20th, the directors, members, and friends of Israel Policy Forum will hold their second Tribute Dinner. In addition to celebrating recent progress in the Middle East peace negotiations and welcoming Prime Minister Ehud Barak, this event will also be an occasion to recognize the outstanding contributions of several remarkable individuals.

Nathan Gantcher has devoted his considerable intellect and energy to the challenges of business, education, and community service. A towering figure in the world of finance, he is widely respected for his exceptional professional skills and deep devotion to principle.

Robert Lifton has contributed to remarkable range of fields, including law, real estate, entertainment, finance, and health care. His personal commitment to American-Israeli relations is evidenced by his leadership of groups as the American Jewish Congress, AIPAC, the Council on Foreign Relations, and many others.

Norman Pattiz is the founder and Chairman of Westworld One, the undisputed leader in the radio industry, with some 7,000 affiliated stations worldwide. His business acumen is matched by a powerful commitment to quality programming, and a creative understanding of the media's role in shaping a stronger society. His devotion to promoting Middle East Peace is prodigious, and he has pursued this goal

both through personal involvement with Middle Eastern leaders and through tireless activism in the American Jewish community.

Peggy Tishman is a nationally-recognized philanthropic leader, whose devotion to the Jewish community has been particularly inspiring. She was the first President of the merged UJA-Federation, where she helped lay a strong foundation for the future success of the organization, and where she demonstrated the character and charisma that would make her such an invaluable resource to a range of civic endeavors.

I am very pleased to join in this special tribute, to express my enormous pride in IPF's fine work, and to salute the examples of dynamic public advocacy IPF's honorees and leaders set every day.

CONGRATULATING ST. SAVA'S
SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, It is with great pleasure that I congratulate St. Sava's Serbian Orthodox Church in Merrillville, Indiana, as it celebrates its 85th Anniversary as a parish this Sunday. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Reverend Jovan Todorovich on this glorious occasion.

On November 20th, St. Sava's Serbian Orthodox Church will open its 85th Anniversary celebration at 9:30 a.m. at the church. Reverend Todorovich will begin with a liturgy, followed by a blessing of a new icon painting, and a Parastos, or ceremony for the dead. Beginning at noon in the church's small banquet hall in Hobart, Indiana, the celebration will continue with a Pomen ceremony, a wreath laying, taps, and a service by the American Legion in honor of all veterans from St. Sava's congregation. A banquet will be served at 1:00 p.m. in the main hall in Hobart. Entertainment will be provided by Drina Tamburitza, and Nikola P. Kostich will be the guest speaker at this gala occasion. Nikola Kostich is an attorney from Milwaukee and is the lead counsel for the Serbian Republic and for the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

A church of humble beginnings, St. Sava's Serbian Orthodox Church was founded in 1914 in Gary, Indiana by about 200 immigrant families. Today, it is home to 625 families. During the past 85 years, the congregation at St. Sava's has worshiped in five different locations and weathered a major disaster when one church building was destroyed by a fire. The history of the parish, from both a joyous and sorrowful perspective, will be remembered Sunday when the church celebrates its 85th Anniversary.

The church's roots go back to a group of Serbian immigrants who first formed a choir. In 1914, the choir members began meeting for church services at a hall located near 13th Avenue and Washington Street in Gary. By 1915, they had built and consecrated a church in Gary at 20th Avenue and Connecticut Street. In 1938, a new church was built at