Join us in 2018

The EVENT, June 8, 2018
Just announced, our EVENT silent auction will include two tickets to Hamilton at Proctors, donated by Janine and Roy Dykeman and The Adirondack Challenge Golf Tournament, July 13, 2018
The Littauer Foundation is proud to announce the dedication of the building housing the Gloversville Dialysis Center. The lettering was installed Sunday, Aug. 13 to the center's façade naming the structure as, The Parkhurst Ferguson Pavilion.

Drs. Robert and Priscilla Ferguson granted Nathan Littauer Hospital a gift of one million dollars to support part of the cost of the building's construction. Their generosity is recognized with the naming of the building. Sadly, Dr. Robert Ferguson passed on July 1 under the care of Nathan Littauer and Mountain Valley Hospice staff. His wife, Dr. Priscilla Parkhurst Ferguson was present for the dedication.

“I am proud to have the opportunity to display the names Parkhurst and Ferguson to our community,” states Littauer VP and Foundation Executive Director Geoffrey Peck. “Patients’ lives will be better due in-part to their generosity. Theirs is an inspirational message of the importance of giving locally.”

Priscilla Ferguson is a Gloversville native. She and her husband Robert were both professors at Columbia University, Priscilla in the Departments of Sociology and French and Robert in English and Law. Robert served as the George Edward Woodberry Professor in Law, Literature, and Criticism in the Law School. They own a home in Gloversville and are active in community life here.

The Ferguson’s donation continues a tradition of support for the Hospital. Priscilla’s father, Richard B. Parkhurst, served as a longtime member and officer of the Nathan Littauer Hospital Board of Directors.

In addition to the Dialysis Center gift, Priscilla and Robert have created a legacy of support for Nathan Littauer Hospital. In 2012 they established the Priscilla Parkhurst Ferguson and Robert A. Ferguson Fund for Education which has awarded scholarships annually to enhance the careers of many Littauer employees. The Ferguson’s have also given generously to numerous hospital fundraising campaigns.

Priscilla and Robert have expressed that helping Littauer and its employees is a good way to serve the community. Just as Littauer employees are the heart and soul of the hospital, so the hospital itself helps to sustain Gloversville as a vital and desirable place to live.
Why Giving Matters
Our community depends on Nathan Littauer. We are the backbone of a quality healthcare system that our families need and deserve. To serve them best, Littauer needs to stay on the cutting edge with up-to-date equipment and technology, as well as talented and dedicated health care professionals. Littauer is a financially stable not-for-profit, so your gift goes directly to improving patient outcomes, not to a corporate bottom line.

Why Giving Matters
Our donors believe in the work of Nathan Littauer Hospital and its vital role in ensuring the highest quality of community healthcare. But if you’re like most of our donors, you have other goals as well. The type of gift you choose can help you achieve them.

Some gifts can help you maximize lifetime incomes. Others can reduce the estate taxes faced by your heirs.

Following is a brief look at just a few of the gift options available.

Gifts Anyone Can Make
There are ways to give that don’t affect your current lifestyle or your family’s security. You can designate the Nathan Littauer Foundation to receive estate assets in the future or make immediate gifts of assets to us that are “out of sight and out of mind.”

Popular Giving Arrangements
- Gifts from Your Will
- Gifts from a Retirement Plan
- Gifts of Life Insurance
- Gifts of Real Estate
- Gifts of Personal Property

Gifts That Pay You Income
There are ways to give that return payments to you. The IRS allows and encourages these creative plans that can stretch your giving ability. Some of the best ways to support Nathan Littauer are available through life-income gifts. These “Gifts That Pay You Income” help you make a substantial gift while still providing for you.

Life-income giving to fit your needs
- Charitable Gift Annuity: Provide secure, stable income at a high payout rate. Gifts can be in cash or stock.
- Charitable Remainder Unitrust: Allow maximum flexibility with regards to the investment and benefits of your gift plan.
- Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust: Give you the flexibility to invest and manage your gift plan with the security of stable income.

Other Ways to Give
Incorporate a bequest for designated activities at Nathan Littauer Hospital and Nursing Home, such as patient care, education, capital needs, etc. The Foundation can provide suggested language to help you accomplish your specific goals.

Endowments
Endowments are funds that are used as investment capital, rather than spent on immediate needs. Endowments allow the donor to support in perpetuity as specific services - such as care for cardiac, diabetes, maternity, community outreach, pediatrics, or cancer. The principal remains intact, with growth income distributed according to the donor’s wishes at the establishment of the endowment.

Nathan Littauer Foundation is not engaged in rendering legal or tax advisory services. For advice and assistance in specific cases, the services of an attorney or other professional advisor should be obtained.

We will be happy to work with your estate planning professionals to craft a gift that meets your goals. For more information or a personal consultation with no obligation, please contact us at (518) 773-5505 or by e-mail at executivedirector@nlh.org.

“The steps you take today can fuel the legacies of future generations.”

Saying Goodbye
by Geoffrey Peck

Columbia Law School Professor Emeritus and part-time Gloversville resident, Robert A. Ferguson died on July 1, 2017, after a long battle with cancer at 75. He served as the George Edward Woodberry Professor of Law, Literature, and Criticism until his retirement in 2016. Robert was a legal scholar who wrote to critical acclaim on a broad range of socially relevant topics.

Robert Ferguson was immensely kind; he had a keen wit, was thoughtful and thought-provoking. He was the man that embraced his wife Priscilla’s hometown of Gloversville, and he was the man that together with Priscilla walked into Nathan Littauer Hospital one day and embraced us. Robert was an author and an educator. Both paths are so indicative of his nature of giving. As an author, Robert continues to share his thoughts in perpetuity as his words are read and re-read, and his ideas considered, challenged and embraced. As an educator, he shared knowledge and ideas with students who will continue to carry those concepts forward and share Robert’s thoughts with others.

Robert, the author, and educator had a genuine interest in the work and the employees of Littauer. True to his nature and work, he and Priscilla established a scholarship fund for Littauer employees in 2014. They have continued to grow that program and each year it is an honor to be part of the award presentations. Robert loved to meet the families of our scholars and learn about their plans for the future and the care that they would provide our community. Roberts warmth and quiet nature always made him an instant friend of our scholars and many kept him informed of their progress. Robert celebrated our successes, took the time to understand opportunities and challenges and embraced our mission. Robert the author, the man who crafted words in a way that would be relevant for future generations also considered our future and together with Priscilla have endowed the building housing our life-extending dialysis center, now known as the Parkhurst Ferguson Pavilion.

We are thankful for having the privilege of knowing Robert and offer tribute to an extraordinary man.
The Priscilla Parkhurst Ferguson and Robert A. Ferguson Fund for Education Scholarship 2017 Award Recipients

Nathan Littauer Hospital & Nursing Home recently revealed the recipients of scholarships from the Priscilla Parkhurst Ferguson and Robert A. Ferguson Fund for Education. Kayla Bellinger, RN, BSN, Tammy Merendo, RN, and Krista Sheils, RN, BSN received awards during a presentation at Littauer.

“The Nathan Littauer Foundation is honored to present these prestigious awards to Littauer employees wishing to continue their healthcare education. This has become an annual tradition made possible by the Ferguson’s generosity” said Geoffrey Peck Vice President / Executive Director Nathan Littauer Foundation. “They have been great benefactors, and we are thankful that they have chosen to support the education of Littauer staff.”

Kayla Bellinger works at Littauer’s Johnstown Surgical Center and is pursuing a career as a Family Nurse Practitioner. “I am grateful for this award,” said Bellinger. “I can now pursue my dreams and soon give back to my community.”

Tammy Merendo, Director of Community Education for Littauer’s HealthLink, is currently finishing a Bachelor’s degree in Nursing. Upon completion, she plans to pursue her Master’s degree. Merendo expressed gratitude noting; “I am so grateful for this opportunity to grow in my profession while remaining at Littauer.”

Krista Sheils, a Littauer maternity department nurse, is currently pursuing her Master’s in Nursing and her licensure as a Family Nurse Practitioner.

Priscilla and Robert Ferguson have created a legacy of support for Nathan Littauer Hospital. Scholarships have been awarded annually since 2014, to enhance the careers of Littauer employees. Priscilla and Robert had expressed that helping Littauer and its employees is an excellent way to serve the community.

Just as Littauer employees are the heart and soul of the hospital, so too is the hospital as it sustains Gloversville as a vital and desirable place to live.

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Littauer is recognized by IBCLC and ILCA for excellence

The International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners® (IBLCE®) and International Lactation Consultant Association® (ILCA®) have recognized Nathan Littauer Hospital & Nursing Home for excellence in lactation care.

Littauer has received the IBCLC Care Award in recognition for staffing professionals who hold the prestigious International Board Certified Lactation Consultant® (IBCLC®) certification and providing a lactation program for breastfeeding families. In addition, the facility demonstrated that it has recently completed activities that help protect, promote, and support breastfeeding.

Regina Maria Roig-Romero, Board Chair of IBLCE states, “Facilities that receive the IBCLC Care Award have taken initiative to improve the overall health of their patients by making breastfeeding a priority and implementing lactation support programs. An important part of providing excellent breastfeeding care is having expert assistance available when the breastfeeding family needs it. IBCLC professionals are the health care professionals best suited to help families achieve their breastfeeding goals.”

Nancy Quinlan, RN, IBCLC, OSC, leads the program at Littauer. “Our goal is to support families as their baby grows,” said Quinlan. “We continue that assistance after a baby is born by helping families overcome breastfeeding challenges.” “Nathan Littauer recognizes breastfeeding’s precious bond,” said Cheryl McGrattan, Littauer VP of Marketing and Communications. “We will continue to assist families by providing their children with the best possible start in life.”

To schedule an appointment with Nancy Quinlan, please call (518) 775-4101. For more information about the IBCLC Care Award program, contact IBLCE at award@iblce.org.

NLH Designated a Lung Cancer Screening Center

Nathan Littauer Hospital and Nursing Home has been designated a lung cancer screening center by the American College of Radiology.

The ACR lung cancer screening center designation is a voluntary program that recognizes facilities that have committed to practice safe, effective diagnostic care for individuals at the highest risk for lung cancer.
In February 2017, Nathan Littauer Hospital and The Baby Box Co. announced the launch of the Universal Safe Sleep program at Nathan Littauer Hospital.

“This program is a critical first step in reducing infant mortality,” stated Cheryl McGrattan, Vice President of Community Relations for the hospital. The new program is free to the new parents of the expected 340 newborns welcomed into the world at Nathan Littauer’s Birthing Center over the course of a year. Ms. McGrattan added, “According to our research, we are the first hospital in New York State to provide Baby Boxes to every family throughout the year.”

This program is focused on reducing the infant mortality rate in the U.S. which hovered around 6.5 percent in 2015 which is worse than all EU countries, Japan, South Korea, Australia and even Cuba. The innovative new program combines the Baby Box University information platform for new parents along with the proven safety of the Baby Box. Empowering parents and families with essential information for them to properly care for newborns is the heart of this new initiative.

Nathan Littauer’s Baby Box program is accessible to all expecting and new parents regardless of socioeconomic status. The Baby Boxes are available upon discharge from The Birthing Center.

Kristen Farley, 15, raises $1,250.00 for the Littauer community

15-year-old Kristen Farley of Gloversville presented a check to Nathan Littauer Hospital & Nursing Home for $1,250.00. Kristen is a Gloversville High School student who wanted to do something special for her community by helping local families. The industrious young woman set her sights on raising money for Littauer’s Birthing Center’s Baby Box program and excelled in the process.

Kristen, along with her mother Cindy Krueger Farley presented the check to Littauer President and CEO, Laurence Kelly, and Littauer Manager of Maternal Child Health, Maureen Mosher. Kristen’s hard work and determination will be greatly received by local families.

Soroptimist International of Fulton County Donate to Littauer’s Baby Box Program

Soroptimist International of Fulton County recently donated $2500.00 to The Birthing Center at Nathan Littauer Hospital. The donation is earmarked for The Baby Box Program. The check was presented by Soroptimist Treasurer, Colleen Baldwin to Littauer President and CEO, Laurence Kelly. Also present were Maureen Mosher, Littauer Manager of Maternal Child Health and fellow Soroptimist Cheryl McGrattan, Littauer VP of Marketing and Communications.
Nathan Littauer Hospital has been awarded $2.9 million in funds from the state as a part of the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program.

Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo announced $13.9 million to support three projects that will protect and transform the Mohawk Valley’s health care system.

The funds are a part of $491 million in funding being awarded to improve patient care through the development of high-quality medical facilities and programs serving the inpatient, primary care, mental health, substance use disorder, and long-term care needs of communities throughout New York state.

“Now, more than ever, we need to protect health care in New York and ensure the system in place is meeting the needs of current and future generations of New Yorkers,” Cuomo said in a news release. “While others seek to decimate our hospitals and reduce access to quality healthcare, we are investing to help ensure a stronger, healthier New York for all.”

The $2,995,689 award for Nathan Littauer is to “design, construct, and equip a new primary and specialty care facility on the hospital campus to improve access to care.” “This grant will help our transformation as we evolve from a hospital into a health network,” said Laurence E. Kelly, Littauer’s President and CEO. “Our community benefits when our hospital is strong and growing. As a small, independent, rural hospital we are in the unique position of expanding despite the changing dynamics in healthcare. And we are growing without losing our local roots.”

Nathan Littauer is investing in primary and specialty care to improve access caused by burgeoning patient needs. The proposed facility will add capacity while filling a regional void. The hospital will begin the first phase of the plan this summer.

“We are grateful to Gov. Cuomo for his steadfast commitment to rural health. His vision to fortify hospitals while others seek to dismantle healthcare should be lauded by every New Yorker. His vision to improve access to quality healthcare mirrors Littauer’s mission,” said Kelly.

Nathan Littauer’s Board President, Brian Hanaburgh, said, “Nathan Littauer is vital to our community. This grant will ensure our legacy of care will endure for many generations to come.”

Assemblyman Marc Butler said of the news: “Community hospitals are vitally important to the care and health of residents in counties like Fulton County. It is wonderful news that Nathan Littauer Hospital will be receiving nearly a nearly $3 million grant from the New York State Department of Health to begin design of a new Primary/Specialty Care Center. The center provides services in a wide variety of practices from internal medicine, women’s health, pediatric, occupations medicine, and much more. I am pleased to have voted in favor of this grant program to support the modernization of this important hospital to benefit the people of Mohawk Valley.”

NATHAN LITTAUER NURSING HOME RECOGNIZES EMPLOYEES FOR EXCELLENCE IN CARE

On Thursday, Sept. 21, we celebrated our distinction as being among the best in the state.

In March, our Nursing Home was honored by the state Department of Health as one of the Top Performing Nursing Homes. Our Nursing Home was one out of 42 selected from 629 nursing homes in New York. In addition, it was selected one out of five in the Capital Region.

NLH Nursing Home staff gathered on to celebrate the distinction. Each attendee was presented with a mug filled with an ice cream sundae that features yarn being spun together and a quote by NLH Nursing Home Vice President, Administrator, Leslie Beadle: “Excellence and care are woven into the fabric of what we do.”

Beadle also spoke during the event, saying the distinction is due to the efforts of the entire team.

“We work diligently throughout the year to improve on processes that we do in providing care to individuals — this is an affirmation of those efforts,” Beadle said. “It takes an entire team to work together to improve care and provide excellent quality care. This event thanks everyone for the efforts because it really is extraordinary.”

Also revealed at the event was a video response to being named one of the Top Performing Nursing Homes by staff members. Physical Therapist Assistant Brianne Iannotti, who is featured in the video, said it was her first time seeing it. The video can be viewed at: https://youtu.be/Yrhh-slpY8g.

“It was very honoring to see the video — I’ve been waiting a long time,” Iannotti said. “I love coming to work, and I never really mind coming back the next day because it’s the people here that make it that much more memorable.”

The staff also received a citation from Assemblyman Marc Butler’s office presented by representative Dottie MacVean. Sen. Jim Tedisco also sent a representative, Jennifer Donovan, to read a letter of congratulations.
Littauer Welcomes New Doctors

Shri Kris Verma, MD, Internist/Gastroenterologist joins Littauer

In September, Gastroenterologist Shri Kris, Verma, M.D., joined Nathan Littauer’s at Kingsboro Gastroenterology Primary/Specialty Care Center. He has come to Littauer after a successful solo practice at a Yale-affiliated hospital in New London, Connecticut.

Dr. Verma completed his fellowship in Gastroenterology at the LSU Health Sciences Center-University Hospital Shreveport, LA. He completed his residency in Internal Medicine at New York Hospital Medical Center of Queens, New York, and received his Medical Education through The Government Medical College of Rohtak Haryana, India. He is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine/Gastroenterology.

“I am very happy at Littauer,” said Dr. Verma. “I am enjoying the tremendous support of Littauer and my colleagues.”

Dr. Verma is now living locally with his family and has said to be enjoying the 44 Lakes Region.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Verma, please call 518-752-5275.

The New York State Department of Health has named the Nathan Littauer Hospital Nursing Home as one of the department’s Top Performing Nursing Homes.

With nearly 629 New York State nursing homes, Nathan Littauer was selected as only one of 42 to receive this top recognition. In addition, Littauer was one of only five selected for this distinction in the Capital Region.

This exclusive list recognizes the nursing homes that have achieved the top quintile in the last three years of the Nursing Home Quality Initiative (NHQI).

The Nursing Home Quality Initiative consists of five components; a quality component which evaluates 14 Quality Indicators, a compliance component that looks at our Department of Health surveys, immunization data and submission of cost reports, our potentially avoidable re-hospitalization rate, scoring and determination of ineligibility.

Performance is based on 2014, 2015, and 2016 NHQI.

“We are honored to be one of the few recognized for our hard work and dedication,” said Vice President, Administrator/NLH Nursing Home, Leslie Beadle.

“Our excellent staff treats our residents with care, compassion, integrity and respect every day, and it shows as we continually strive to improve our residents’ quality of life.”

U.S. Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer visits Nathan Littauer Hospital & Nursing Home
Friday, October 13, 2017

U.S. Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer held an event Friday, Oct. 13, at Nathan Littauer Hospital to call for the immediate renewal of the Low-Volume Hospital and Medicare-Dependent Hospital programs that he said are essential to the health of rural hospitals.

Sen. Schumer arrived at Littauer, met with President and CEO Laurence Kelly, administration, and staff. He toured the main hospital facility and visited Littauer’s Birthing Center where he was introduced to new, first time parents with their infant daughter, along with an expecting mother to learn about Littauer’s Baby Box program.

Sen. Schumer was informed of the key educational component The Baby Box Co. brings to Littauer, as well as the statics of reduced infant mortality rates from incorporating the Baby Box and its program to new parents.

A press conference was set up in Littauer’s Reflection Garden, which was well attended by staff, local dignitaries, and the media. Both Mr. Kelly and Sen. Schumer spoke and fielded questions.

Sen. Schumer was given the gift of a tool belt with the Nathan Littauer Hospital & Nursing Home logo, filled with energy bars, letting him know he has much work ahead.
Littauer Welcomes New Doctors
Orthopedic Spine Surgeon, Joseph Popper, MD, welcomed at Littauer

Nathan Littauer Hospital & Nursing Home proudly announces the addition of Dr. Joseph E. Popper, Orthopedic Spine Surgeon. Doctor Popper has joined doctors: Shen, Cecil, and Ortiz at Mohawk Valley Orthopedics.

“We are pleased to have Doctor Popper join Littauer”, said Littauer CEO and President, Laurence E. Kelly. “His expertise will improve the quality of life for so many of our patients.”

Doctor Popper specialized in the comprehensive treatment of the neck, back, and spine. He has completed a combined Neurosurgical and Orthopedic Spine Surgery Fellowship at the world-renowned Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He is a specialist in cervical spine surgery and minimally-invasive lumbar procedures.

“I have been highly impressed with the quality of care model Nathan Littauer provides,” said Doctor Popper.

You can schedule an appointment with Doctor Popper at Littauer by calling the Mohawk Valley Orthopedics, PC, located at 135 South Kingsboro Avenue, Johnstown, at 518-773-4242.

OB/GYN, Jerry Rosenstein, MD, joins our Gloversville Primary Care Center

This month, Littauer welcomed the addition of Jerome “Jerry” Rosenstein as a women’s health provider in the Gloversville Primary Care Center on the hospital campus. Dr. Rosenstein has come to Littauer from a successful practice in Binghamton, New York.

Dr. Rosenstein completed his residency in Obstetrics & Gynecology at the Greater Baltimore Medical Center and John Hopkins University, in Baltimore, Maryland. He attended Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and is certified by the American Board of Obstetrics & Gynecology.

“I am thrilled to be practicing and seeing new patients at Littauer,” said Dr. Rosenstein.

Dr. Rosenstein comes to Littauer with extensive experience with women’s health and obstetrics. He takes great pride in providing patients with the latest in women’s health care. Dr. Rosenstein is living locally, joined by his family.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Rosenstein, please call Littauer’s Gloversville Primary Care Center at 518-775-4360.

Nicholas J. Fusella, D.O., joins Gloversville Primary Care

In August, Littauer added Nicholas J. Fusella, D.O., to the Gloversville Primary & Specialty Care Center, 99 E. State St., in Gloversville. Dr. Fusella is coming to Littauer from Ellis Family Medicine in Schenectady.

Dr. Fusella completed his residency at Ellis Family Medicine, Schenectady. He received his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine, his Post-Baccalaureate from Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine and his Bachelor of Science from Siena College.

“Dr. Fusella is an asset to our primary care practice,” said Littauer Vice President, Primary/Specialty Care Services Patrice McMahon. “I’m happy to practice in a community I am familiar with,” said Dr. Fusella. “I am looking forward to getting to know each of my patients at the Gloversville Family Practice.”

Dr. Fusella was born and raised in the Capital District. When not practicing medicine, he enjoys spending time with his family, wife and infant son.

To set up an appointment or consultation with Dr. Fusella, please call Gloversville Family Practice at 518-775-4201.

Michael Parslow, D.O., joins Mayfield Primary Care

In July, Littauer welcomed Michael Parslow, D.O., to the Mayfield Primary & Specialty Care Center, 2497 State Highway 30, in Mayfield, New York. Dr. Parslow was previously employed at St. Elizabeth’s Family Medicine in Utica.

“We pleased Dr. Parslow has joined our Primary Care team at the Mayfield Center,” stated Littauer Vice President of Primary/Specialty Care Services, Patrice McMahon. “He has proven to be the perfect fit for the patients in our community.”

Dr. Parslow completed his residency at St. Elizabeth’s Family Medicine, Utica. He received his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, and is a Cum Laude graduate of Utica College of Syracuse University, Utica, New York.

“I’m happy to be back in the Adirondacks,” said Dr. Parslow. “It’s a pleasure to practice where my medical skills are needed while living in an environment I am so comfortable in.”

Dr. Parslow was born and raised in the Adirondack Mountains and enjoys the outdoors. When not practicing medicine, he can be found skiing, fishing, hiking and camping with his wife and two young sons.

To set up an appointment with Dr. Parslow, call Mayfield Primary/Specialty Care at 518-661-5441, or Speculator Primary/Specialty Care at 518-548-8155.