

D219 ALUMNI NEWS



published by The Education Foundation for alumni of Niles East • Niles West • Niles North

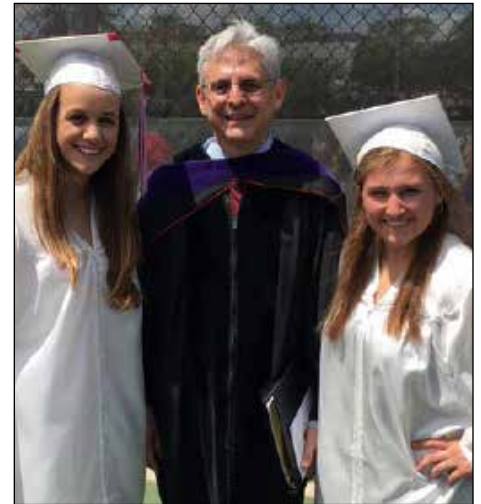
Supreme Court Nominee Merrick Garland (W'70) Delivers Commencement Address to Alma Mater



Judge Garland enters the stadium with Dr. Ness and school board members



Dr. Ness presents Judge Garland with a Niles West jersey, numbered for his graduation year



The Supreme Court Nominee and Niles West News reporters Katrina Nickell and Jenna George

On March 16, 2016, **Barack Obama, the President of the United States**, announced his nominee to fill the vacant seat on the Supreme Court. He selected Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, **Merrick Garland**, a Niles West alumnus from the Class of 1970.

"I've selected a nominee who is widely recognized not only as one of America's sharpest legal minds, but someone who brings to his work a spirit of decency, modesty, integrity, even-handedness, and excellence," said the President in his announcement.

The same day, Niles West's Principal **Dr. Jason Ness** made the following statement: "Our Niles West family is thrilled to hear the news about Judge Garland's nomination to the Supreme Court. Just this morning we recognized a number of students at our 'You Make a Difference' breakfast for leadership and improving our school community. And an hour later we received the news that one of our own alumni was being introduced as President Obama's Supreme Court nominee. Judge

Garland's record of service is representative of the values and beliefs we strive to instill in our students at Niles West. I can think of no greater affirmation of the supportive and caring community we have here at Niles West."

Dr. Gerald Horn (W'70), one of Judge Garland's classmates recalled, "Many of us grew up with Merrick Garland and I know my experience mirrors many: if I was asked who was the most authentic, impressive, amazing human being I ever met--before his nomination--I would have said his name immediately. His intellect and incredibly well-rounded persona were just off the charts. Brilliant, as in perfect, in every thing he did; funny, friendly and just larger than life. It was all natural, effortless. Destined to greatness would be in his DNA."

On May 12, *Niles West News* reporters **Grace Geraghty** and **Katrina Nickell** broke the story that Judge Garland would deliver the commencement address for the 55th Niles West Graduation Ceremony. If the news didn't break the internet, it certainly came close. Traffic to the *Niles*

West News site was jammed for most of the day.

On Sunday, May 29, Garland delivered his address on the same field he stood on as class valedictorian, 46 years ago. "It's every much as big a thrill and an honor to speak at your graduation as it was to speak at mine," he said. "The four years I spent at West were the basis for the career I've had and the kind of person I am today."

Garland thanked Niles West teachers and counselors who helped him and were on hand for the ceremony: **Lincolnwood Mayor Gerald Turry, Marv Klebba, Faith Shapiro Vickerman, Mary Pat Carr and Allan Paschke.**

He advised the graduates, "Instead of taking a selfie, turn the camera around.... You will have a much more fulfilling life by turning your focus outward to helping others."

During his visit, Niles West presented Garland with his induction into the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame.

FOUNDATION UPDATE



Greetings!

It's an exciting time to be a D219 alum!

We are proud that our very own Niles West Class of 1970

alumnus **Merrick Garland** was nominated by the President to fill the vacant seat on the U.S. Supreme Court. Here's what some of his classmates noted about him:

"He was our class president, always polite, willing to help if we needed him. It is an honor to have him as our classmate. "

-- **Robert Guenther (W'70)**

"Merrick was a great guy, friend to all without being false. Always had time to say 'hi' and ask how you were. He was popular for very good reason."

- **Julie Silverman (W'70)**

In other news, Niles North alumnus **Pankaj Sharma (N'97)**, a teacher at North, was this year's recipient of a Golden Apple Award, one of the most prestigious teaching awards in the state. The award ceremony was broadcast on WTTW, Channel 11 on May 20.

This year was our sixth annual Pizza Wars fundraiser, held in the Main Gym at Niles North High School. Once again, the intrepid mayors of Niles Township took part in our now-legendary pizza eating contest. Lincolnwood **Mayor Jerry Turry** along with **Mayor Andrew Przybylo** of Niles shared the win. Thanks also to **Mayor Dan DiMaria** of Morton Grove and **Mayor George Van Dusen** of Skokie for your participation. Pizza Wars raised \$14,000 this year for students in need. See page 5 for the recap.

While the work we undertake at the Foundation can be fun, we do not lose sight of the fact that more than 30 % of

the students in Niles Township are on the free and reduced lunch program and are in need of many basic necessities. During this past year, the Foundation provided the following assistance:

- Breakfast bars and gift cards for local grocery stores to purchase food and supplies
- Graphing calculators
- Scholarships towards college tuition for recent graduates
- Funding for RISE, a yearlong STEM enrichment program for underrepresented middle school students
- Bus transportation for first generation students to visit regional college campuses
- Lodging for homeless students
- Various other grants to support students in financial need



You may have noticed the updated logo, for The Education Foundation, which is a reflection of our updated mission. Our aim is to assist and help **all** students of Niles Township who are in need.

You are cordially invited to attend our public meetings, which are held at 7 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the D219 Administrative Offices, 7700 Gross Point Road, Skokie. Please contact us if you would like to be involved with our work. We are always looking for people who would like to help ensure that our students reach their fullest potential.

If you would like to make a donation to students in need, please call (847) 626-3957 or visit www.219foundation.org.

Thank you for your support!

Jeff Burman
Chair, The Education Foundation

The Education Foundation Board of Directors

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Maryam Khalid, Niles West (W'16)

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Rosamin Bhanpuri, Staff Liaison

"High school was hard for me as I tried to figure out where I fit in - with friends, but overall, I gained leadership experience through the activities in which I participated. I also took an accounting course for the first time, which led me to become a CPA and then a Controller before the age of 30. As much as I struggled socially in high school, it seemed to all be worth it!"

- **Christine Zvanut Fahey (N'00)**



Education Foundation representatives **Anam Furrukh** and **Maryam Khalid** fill the giant gumball machine in the Niles West cafeteria with prize-winning black gumballs. The Class of 2010 donated the machine. The sale of gumballs has raised more than \$4,600 to benefit students in need.

DONATIONS & TRIBUTES

Thank you to the following individuals and groups for their generous contributions to The Education Foundation (June 2015 to present). The Foundation provides education-related support on the basis of financial hardship to the students in Niles Township.

90 Miles Cuban Cafe, Lincolnwood

Michael Bass
Maria Franks
William Gabriel (W'74)
Steven Glink (E'73)
Charles Graessle (W'66)
Karen Gray-Keeler
Karen Griffin
Evelyn Karson (W'68)
IHC Construction
Legat Architects
Sheila Meyer (N'69)

Trustees of Niles Township
Government for purchase of
breakfast bars for students

Nancy Warshawsky (N'70) in memory of
brother Charles Karp (W'64)

Rosamin Bhanpuri in memory of
Howard Dunn and Dorothy Marcelo

Edward Forkos (W'63) for Niles West

Jay Kahn (W'68) in honor of wrestling
coach Bob Porter and in memory of
homeroom teacher Mike Basrak

Dr. Michael and Shelley Korey (N'67/68)
in memory of Susan Kamin Moschin
(E'63) and Scott Kamin (N'69)

Pete Marcelo in memory of Dorothy
Marcelo

Jill Moss (N'71) & Robin Torner (N'71) for
Cubby Holer 1971 Reunion

Donations through School Chest / Dance
Marathon fundraising

Donations through Niles North & Niles
West student registration

Thank you to D219 staff for donations
during D219 Fall & Spring Payroll Drives.
We would especially like to acknowledge:
Jim Szczepaniak, Guy Ballard, Susan
Dobinsky, Katherine France, Heather
Ingraham, Dana Des Jardins, Susan Klint,
Evelyn Lauer, Timothy Miller and Leslie
Natzke.

In the last issue we misspelled Corrie Roesslein's name. Our apologies.

Thank you for your support. All gifts are tax-deductible, as allowed by the law.

The Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization. Visit www.219foundation.org to make a donation.

YOUR DONATION COUNTS

Please consider making a contribution to the The Education Foundation, where every donation helps a Niles Township student in need. More than 30% of students in Niles Township are on the free and reduced lunch program and are in need of items that are not provided through the general budget. Your gift is tax-deductible, as allowed by the law.

Visit www.219foundation.org and click the Donate button under the Donation section. You will be directed to The Education Foundation Paypal site where you can specify a school, or set up a recurring amount donation. Or, mail a check to The Education Foundation, using the donation envelope that is inserted inside this publication. For questions, please contact Rosamin Bhanpuri at (847) 626-3957.

Thank you from The Education Foundation for your donation!

Foundation-Funded Program Gives RISE to Young Scientists

This year 25 Old Orchard Junior High School students took part in RISE, a science program at Niles North developed to encourage students in underrepresented groups to engage in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) projects. Niles North students and teachers serve as mentors and introduce participants to authentic scientific inquiry and research.

The goal of the yearlong program is to

prepare students to successfully enter a project in the 2017 Science Fair.

Uche Nwansi, a Niles North student mentor in the program said, "Because of this opportunity in the RISE program, students could possibly change the world. The program sparks ideas in their mind of what they can be in the future."

The Education Foundation provided funds for lab supplies and project materials.



Students and their mentors in the RISE program.

❖ 2016 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI ❖

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THIS YEAR'S DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS:



Marina Pazin (N'00)

Marina Pazin attended Niles North as a student from 1996 to 2000. She was a writing center tutor, senior editor of *Calliope* Literary Magazine and tutored through Spanish National Honor and National Honor Societies. She found her science classes to be both challenging and inspiring. Upon her graduation

from Niles North, she pursued a degree in biochemistry and secondary education from Northwestern University. She student taught at Niles North, with **Frank Sticha** and **Najwa Dajani**.

After completing her undergraduate studies, she enrolled in a Biological Sciences Ph.D. program at Northwestern University. During this time, she helped out at D219 whenever an opportunity would present itself. She served as a science fair judge at IJAS competitions and would partner up with her former honors biology teacher, **Jacklyn Naughton**, to speak about encouraging students to pursue STEM careers at the Academy of Math and Science, and she volunteered with the STEM Inquiry and Research (SIR) class. During her last two years of graduate school she was a graduate student by day and a SIR mentor by evening, mentoring a student in all aspects of scientific research. Under her guidance, the student she worked with received a designation of 'Best in Category' for the project they worked on at the regional IJAS science fair and was even invited to compete at the prestigious national competition.

She defended her Ph.D. in 2012 and has been working as a regulatory writer (first as a junior consultant and now in a senior role) at Astellas Pharma. For the past two years, she has also been collaborating with Director of Science, **Ami LeFevre** of Niles West High School, and the Chicago chapters of Association for Women in Science (AWIS) and GenNext branch of Healthcare Business Women's Association (HBA), to bring science awareness and excitement to girls of middle and high-school ages through a program called Girls Empowered by Math and Science (GEMS). This year, the event was attended by more than 120 excited participants and they are anticipating an even bigger turnout next year.

When she is not busy working, volunteering, or engaging in work-related functions, she enjoys family time with her two girls, Elizabeth and Daniella and her spouse, Boris (who attended Niles North his freshman and sophomore years). She also enjoys Zumba and learning how to cook/bake.

If you would like to be considered for a Distinguished Alumni Award, or would like to nominate a worthy candidate, please email Rosamin Bhanpuri at rosbha@d219.org.



Robert Ganz (W'72)

Robert A. Ganz, M.D., FASGE is a distinguished physician, researcher, inventor and entrepreneur. He is currently an Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Minnesota, with more than 70 publications and 25 patents in the field of medicine.

Among other achievements, he invented balloon-based radio frequency ablation of Barrett's esophagus (a precancerous condition that is one of the main causes of cancer of the esophagus) which revolutionized the treatment of this disease, saving thousands of patients from needless surgery (removal of the esophagus), and saving thousands of patients from developing adenocarcinoma of the esophagus.

Dr. Ganz discovered that *Helicobacter pylori*, the organism that causes peptic ulcer disease and gastric cancer, is photosensitive to 405 nanometer light and he also pioneered several innovative treatments for gastroesophageal reflux disease, including magnetic augmentation of the lower esophageal sphincter, culminating in a first-author *New England Journal of Medicine* publication.

Dr. Ganz also served as Chair of the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Research Foundation, helping raise millions of dollars in research for gastrointestinal disease and GI cancers.

Alumni on D219TV

View this year's Distinguished Alumni accepting their awards at the following link:

www.219foundation.org/alumni/distinguished-alumni

The 2016 Commencement Ceremonies are also available to view at the above link.

The Education Foundation provides bus transportation for first-gen students to visit regional college campuses.

The College Visit Trip in March was a great event! Our son got to see two very different campuses, with friends and other students, which hopefully helped spark some enthusiasm for college.

- Niles North Parent

The Battle for Pizza Supremacy Raises \$14,000



In the frigid depths of winter, many alumni look forward to warming themselves with hot, cheesy slices of pizza at the popular Pizza Wars event. This year marked the sixth annual Pizza Wars, and was held on January 20, 2016 at Niles North High School. The contenders were **Bar Louie, Father & Son Italian Kitchen, Gulliver's, Jet's Pizza, Lou Malnati's, Organic Life, Riggio's Ristorante, Village Inn Pizzeria and Wa-Pa-Ghetti's**. More than 1,000 hardy souls chowed down on pizza, raising over \$14,000 to support needy students.



Lou Malnati's was crowned the winner of 2016 Pizza Wars.

This event also marked the third annual pizza-eating contest by the Niles Township mayors. This year **Mayor Jerry Turry** (W'62) of Lincolnwood and **Mayor Andrew Przybylo** of Niles tied for bragging rights.

Thanks to our sponsors for supporting this event. **Evanston Subaru-Skokie, Howard Labow, Gary Kremen, AAA North Suburban Insurance Agency, Partnership Financial Credit Union, PRINT-Xpress, Representative Lou Lang, SkoMor Soccer Club, Swartz & Reeder, Inc., Ace Title Company, First Bank & Trust, Nancy Tuzzolino, North Branch Yoga, Northshore Community Bank, Riggio's Ristorante, Village Inn Pizzeria.**

Mark your calendar for Pizza Wars 7 on January 19, 2017 at Niles North.

Athletic Hall of Fame Honorees Inducted During Niles West's Homecoming Weekend

The following Niles West Athletic Hall of Fame Honorees were inducted on October 2, 2015: **Rashard Mendenhall** ('05) football/track; **Bill Porter** ('78) wrestling; **Darrell Kerbel** ('77) gymnastics; **Ray Borucki** ('75) baseball; **Barb Atsaves Pabst** ('80) basketball; **Judi Sloan**, Head Coach Varsity Girls Gymnastics, Cross Country; Tennis; **Ron Campbell**, Head Coach, Boys Track and Cross Country; **Bill Richardson**, Head Coach, Varsity Football; **Mike Basrak**, Head Coach Varsity Football; and the **1975 State Champion Baseball Team**. The honorees were nominated and selected by the Hall of Fame selection committee and recognized during the 2015 Homecoming weekend.



Pictured: Front Row: Barb Atsaves Pabst, Rashard Mendenhall, Judi Sloan, Ron Campbell, Bill Richardson
Back Row: Darrell Kerbel, Bill Porter, Ray Borucki, Roger Basrak (son of Mike Basrak)

We are sorry to report the passing of Ron Campbell on May 19, 2016. Our condolences to his family and friends.

The Hall of Fame selection committee announced the 2016 inductees. Join us during Homecoming Week: **Connie Erickson Brown** ('79) basketball; **Brad Niedermaier** ('91) baseball; **Mark Cartwright** ('70) basketball; **Coach Lou Torres**, Girls and Boys Swimming and Diving; **Coach Jean Armour**, Girls Track; **Coach George Galla**, Baseball; and the **1979 Girls Basketball State Championship Team**.

Reunion Roundup

We've listed recently held reunions here. Send your reunion news and photos to Rosamin Bhanpuri at rosbha@d219.org.

- The Niles East, West and North Class of 1965 celebrated their 50th Reunion last October at Viper's Alley in Lincolnshire.
- The Niles East Class of 1975 celebrated their 40th at Pinstripes in Northbrook on July 25, 2015.
- The Niles North Class of 1975 reunion was held on August 1, 2015 at Marcello's in Northbrook.
- The Niles West Class of 1975 celebrated their 40th Reunion on August 8, 2015.
- The Niles North Class of 1985 held their 30th Reunion on November 7, 2015 at Bella Via Restaurant.
- The Niles North Class of 1990 celebrated their 25th Reunion on June 27, 2015 at Moretti's Restaurant.
- The Niles North Class of 1995 celebrated their 20th Reunion on October 3, 2015 at the Untitled Supper Club.
- The Niles West Class of 1995 held their 20th Reunion on October 3, 2015 at Hubbard Inn in River North.
- The Niles West Class of 2005 celebrated their 10th Reunion on June 6, 2015 at Hubbard Inn.

"I am still amazed at the 'head start' my high school years provided me for college and life. I am astonished how each of my teachers dedicated their lives to teaching and it's incredible to me how many years they dedicated to teaching at Niles West -- most 25 years or more."

- Steven Bell (W'70)

"I always thought I had a pretty great high school experience - but it wasn't until college that I realized just how fortunate I was to attend a school like Niles North. During my four years at North there were all types of qualifiers that applied to me: low-income, single parent household, uninsured, undocumented, etc. Yet thanks to the generosity of people I had never even met, I had the opportunity to attend WHO Club service learning trips...I hope that by being involved in the alumni network, I can continue to be involved and give back in any way I can - especially to students who are in a similar position that I was."

- Maria Salazar (N'07)

Since 2008, the Education Foundation has provided grants of approximately \$290,000 to students in need

Upcoming Reunions

For updates, go to www.niles219.org, go to District Info and select Alumni

Niles East Class of 1956 - 60th Reunion Luncheon. Join the Class of 1956 for the 60th Reunion on September 21, 2016 at Palm Court in Arlington Heights. Contact **Barbara Rohner Wahler** at barrich@core.com or **Donna Cutro Campobasso** at dc1907@aol.com.

Class of 1966 50th Reunion

The East, West and North classes of 1966 will have a reunion on September 23 - 25, 2016. Contact **Barbara@capitalrubbercorp.com** or go to www.reuniondb.com.

Niles West Class of 1966

The Once in a Lifetime Red, White and Golden 50th Reunion will be held July 29 through 31, 2016. For details go to www.nileswest66.com.

Niles North Class of 1966 is having a 50th Reunion on September 23 through 25. Contact **Linda Trebels Fahey** at Ltfahey@hotmail.com or **Steve Zindell** at szindellacutecare@yahoo.com.

Niles North Class of 1967

For its 49th Reunion, the Class of 1967 turns 67! They will hold a reunion at Marcello's on September 10, 2016. Contact **Marita Powell** at marita6843@att.net.

Niles West Class of 1976

The 40th Reunion to be held September 23 through 25 includes a Cubs game, tour of Niles West and party. All events have to be pre-booked and pre-paid. Contact **Steven Nagelberg** at snagelberg@cox.net or find Facebook page under Niles West High School Class of 1976.

Niles West Class of 1981

The 35th reunion for the Class of 1981 will be held on September 24, 2016 at the Double Tree Skokie. Contact **Gus Haramaras** at gusharamaras@ghpgroupinc.com.

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Seen & Heard

Diane Nelsen Dehnten

(E'53) was part of the Marching Band in high school. Under the new band director, she earned letters all three remaining years. She played piano for a ballet company for \$1/hour and saved \$600, enough for tuition at Northwestern, where the tuition was \$200/quarter. She earned her teaching degree and taught K-8. Now she spends her winters in Florida.



Joe Goschy

(E'56) has lived a colorful and accomplished life. He received his first and only A's in the print shop at Niles East and that set him on the path to his profession. He spent 47 years in the printing trade, earning many awards. Goschy has been going to the Grand Ole Opry for more than 55 years where he sits on the stage during the performance.



Rosalyn Klott, aka Kliot, (E'63) is an award-winning, published artist who has been featured in noted publications, a radio interview, and a promotional film for a popular resort. After retirement from a career as a vocational reha-

bilitation counselor/consultant and forensic vocational expert, she began to pursue her passion for art. She has published two books, *A World of Color, Volumes 1 & 2* and *My Father's Book, A Daughter's Memoir*.

Her works can be viewed on YouTube, facebook.kliot.studio and fineartamerica.com. She is a juried member of the Oregon Society of Artists in Portland, OR.

Donald Lubowich (N'66), Coordinator of Astronomy Outreach at Hofstra University, will be helping to bring the stars to Ravinia's space-themed program on July 13, 2016. A NASA film will present jaw-dropping images from space while the CSO plays "The Planets, Op. 32" and other selections. Concert-goers can peer at the Moon, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and its rings, and more. "Bringing astronomy to Ravinia and partnering with astronomical organizations gives us a very special opportunity to encourage children to pursue their interest in science or math and to promote public understanding of science," said Dr. Lubowich.



Jim Berger (W'66) completed his tenth year as a UCLA Center X History Coach and continues to support history teachers in the Los Angeles Unified School District. He retired in 2005 after 32 years teaching U.S. History to students at Clay Middle School and Dorsey High School in LA. He was the sponsor for the 1990 Dorsey High School Champion Mock Trial Team. He plays senior softball in Culver City, CA. He and his wife Jocelyn Towler celebrated their 25th anniversary.

Jay Kahn (W'68) retired after 27 years as Vice President for Finance and Planning at Keene State College in NH, including one year as Interim President. He plans to remain in Keene as he was elected to the Keene City Council.

Michael Korey (N'68) notes, "I thoroughly enjoyed my high school experiences at Niles North. I made many lifelong friends and met my wife **Shelley Kamin Korey (N'67).**"

Debbi Kouzes Burdick Ed.D. (W'71) is the President of the Arizona School Administrators Association, representing over 1,400 school administrators and 227 AZ school districts. Dr. Burdick was recently honored as Superintendent of the Year for Large Districts and is the Superintendent of the Cave Creek Unified School District. She is also an adjunct professor at Grand Canyon University.

Steve Lee (N'72) was honored as the Middle School Principal of the Year in the state of Illinois. Lee has been a middle school educator for the past 34 years. He was recognized at the National Association of Secondary School Principals Conference in Washington, DC and the Illinois Principals Association Conference in the fall.

Ron Miller (E'74) received a Ph.D. in American Studies from Boston University and has taught at Goddard and Champlain Colleges. He currently runs an adult education program and literary festival.

Arnie Bernstein (W'78) published *Swastika Nation: Fritz Kuhn and the Rise and*



Fall of the German-American Bund with St. Martin's Press. The book earned praise from *Publisher's Weekly*, *Kirkus Reviews*, the *Chicago Tribune* and *The New York Times*. Bernstein appeared on the American Heroes Channel program *Codes and Conspiracies*. His previous book, *Bath Massacre: America's First School Bombing*, was the recipient of a Notable Book Award from the State Library of Michigan.

John Scott Watson (W'80) is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Illinois, Chicago and recently wrote a book on the Prairie Crossing development. The book is called *Prairie Crossing: Creating an American Conservation Community*.

The D219 Community Relations Department thanks **Howard Spiro (N'84)**, owner of the Dry Cleaning Factory in Glenview, IL for his generous assistance with District projects.

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Michael Greenberg (N'88) was nominated this year for an Emmy award for Outstanding Live and Direct to Tape Sound Mixing.

Jonathan Kite (N'98), who plays Oleg in the CBS show *2 Broke Girls*, performed two stand-up comedy shows on July 9 at Niles North.

Lia Lehrer (W'05) was named to the fourth annual Double Chai in the Chi: 36 Under 36 list of young Jewish movers and shakers in Chicago.

Jennifer Hedstrom (W'05) played the role of Nedra/Pianist in *Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play* by Anne Washburn at the Forward Theater Company. Hedstrom is staff accompanist at Edgewood College, directs children's music at First United Methodist Church, and serves as a musical director/pianist for Children's Theater of Madison's Summer Stage program.

Corey Lubowich (N'08) is part of a comedy group called the Tin Can Brothers. The group does sketches and posts them to



YouTube. Look for "Deal With the Devil," "LA Halloween," or "The Phone Thief." He also co-wrote, produced and directed the spy musical-comedy "Spies Are Forever."

Eric Rosen (N'12) achieved the chess qualification of International Master title. The title International Master is awarded to the world's best chess players. It is a lifetime title, usually abbreviated as IM in chess literature. After becoming an IM, most players set their next goal as becoming a Grandmaster. An International Master is usually in the top 0.25% of all tournament players at the time he or she receives the title.

Lia Sacks (W'12) graduated with a dual degree in severe and modified Special Education from Vanderbilt University in May 2016. A Fulbright Scholar, she will be teaching English in India for 9 months as well as developing a community outreach program to help assimilate girls with disabilities. As part of her volunteer work, she has taught English and worked at orphanages in Rwanda, Africa, Cambodia and Vietnam.

The Pullman Porter exhibit that **Karen Savella (N'13)** and **Lindsey Pietz (N'13)** created for their history fair project was chosen by the Chicago State University to be a part of their archives.

Roxana Berinde (W'14) was selected as a 2016 Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Scholar. She was honored at the Annual Phi Theta Kappa Convention in April in National Harbor, MD.

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Niles North Class of 1986

A 30th Reunion will be held on October 8, 2016 at Granite City Food & Brew in Schaumburg. For details, please find the Niles North 1986 reunion on Facebook.

Niles West Class of 1986

The Class of 1986 is celebrating a "30ish" Reunion on February 25, 2017. The event will be held at Moretti's in Chicago. For more information, contact nileswest86reunion@gmail.com, search for the event on eventbrite.com or like the Facebook page.

Niles West Class of 1987

Plans for the 30th Reunion are underway. Contact **Dana Shapiro Spaeth** at dana1968@sbcglobal.net.

Niles North Class of 1996 will hold its 20 Year Reunion on September 24, 2016 at iO Chicago. Email **Carolyn Friedberg Sherman** at isucarolyn@hotmail.com for details.

Niles North Class of 2006

The 10 Year Reunion will be held on November 26, 2016 at Bar Louie River North. Tickets on sale at <http://niles-north2006.eventbrite.com>

Send news of upcoming reunions to Rosamin Bhanpuri at rosbha@d219.org. We are happy to publish photos of your reunion, as space permits. Please submit 1 - 2 good quality photos, identifying each person in the photo.