

The Burlington-Geib Times



Zelda and Rachel baking Hanukkah cookies together at Zelda's Stonybrook home on Dec. 3, 2023.
By Mackenzie Giattino/ College News Photographer

Family preserves legacy through cooking Latkes

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In the heart of Stony Brook, New York, Zelda Nagle joined her granddaughter Rachel in the bustling kitchen. Ten-year-old Rachel, visiting from her home in Burlington, North Carolina, stands on a stool, her small hands busily grating potatoes while Zelda grates onions. As they work side by side, the fragrance of cooking oil mingles with the sound of sizzling latkes enveloping the kitchen. "Make sure to squeeze out as much liquid as you can from the potatoes and onions," Zelda said. "That's

the secret to crispy latkes." Rachel followed her grandmother's guidance, carefully squeezing the grated mixture into a cloth. "Like this, Grandma?" Rachel asked, holding up the cloth filled with the squeezed potato-onion mixture. "Perfect!" Zelda said. "Now, let's mix in the eggs, flour, salt, and pepper." For Zelda, these culinary sessions are more than just a lesson in cooking; they're a bridge that spans generations, connecting her present with a past marked by unimaginable hardship. Born to a family profoundly impacted by the Holocaust, Zelda's roots stretch back to the harrowing

confines of the Dachau Concentration Camp in Germany, where her mother, a survivor, emerged from the horrors of World War II. Zelda and Rachel combined the ingredients, forming the mixture into patties before placing them gently into the hot oil. "Rachel, these latkes hold stories from our past," Zelda said. "Each bite connects us to our history." Carefully flipping the latkes, Rachel marveled at the transformation from culinary treasures. "Here they are, Grandma!" Rachel exclaimed. "Crispy and perfect."

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Elon education program reaccredited

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Elon University's School of Education received accreditation from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) standards. It wasn't the first time, the NCATE first accredited Elon's program in 1991.

"Accreditation is how we show that we are producing excellent candidates here," Ann Bullock, Dr. Jo Watts Williams Dean of Education, said. "It helps us see what we are doing right and where we can improve." The School of Education offers degrees in Elementary Education, Middle Grades Education, Science Education,

Secondary Education and Special Education, and North Carolina teaching licenses. Through the Teacher Education Program, students can become licensed teachers in special subjects such as music, Spanish, high school English, history, math, and comprehensive science. According to Rebecca Kohn, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Elon's Teacher Education Program instructs students on becoming ethical citizens with global outlooks. Elon's next accreditation will be for Spring 2025. More than 840 colleges for teachers participate in accreditation.

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By Mackenzie Giattino/ News Photographer

Education major Haley Mills teaches a science lesson during 'Science in the Village' in downtown Burlington. "I love seeing the kids' eyes light up when they see science in action," Mills said.

Vehicle break-ins scare Elon residents

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In Elon, a string of car break-ins has left residents on edge, prompting a concerted effort by law enforcement to apprehend the thieves. Sergeant Justin Jolly from the Burlington Police Department addressed the issue. "We're actively investigating a series of car break-ins across the town," Jolly said. "We urge residents to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activities." There have been 14 break-ins in town limits since Nov. 1. Mark Johnson, one of the victims, said he found his belongings taken from his car. "I came out in the morning to find my car window smashed," John-

son said. "They took everything of value - my laptop, wallet, and even some sentimental items." Another victim Emily Parker said knowing someone went through her personal items feels worse than the actual theft. "It's unsettling to know someone rifled through my car," Parker said. "They took off with my gym bag and some cash. It's not about the items. It's the invasion of privacy that's distressing." Tom Smith, another resident affected, voiced his frustration. "I parked on the street, assuming it was safe," Smith said. "But waking up to a broken window and missing belongings is a rude awakening. It's an inconvenience



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Tom Smith's car parked in front of his boyfriend's house was broken into overnight.

Paul Lockhart shares insights on space travel

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Retired Air Force Colonel and former astronaut Paul Lockhart spoke in Elon University's McCrary Theatre on Thursday, Nov. 30, about the importance of space travel and the International Space Station on student's lives. Lockhart said that space exploration is

an integral part of life, even more than people realize, comparing the need to explore space with Lewis and Clark's need to explore the western frontier. "It is time for us to move out, like Lewis and Clark did, and start our next exploration series and go further," Lockhart said. Lockhart took the audience on a tour of not just life in space but of the universe, captivating their attention with pictures of Earth's wonders from space and images of galaxies far away. While people are still years from beginning the next "exploration series," steps are being taken to advance the understanding of space life and travel. Lockhart experienced these steps firsthand when he piloted the Space Shuttle Endeavour to the International Space Station in 2002.



By Mackenzie Giattino/ News Photographer
Retired Air Force Colonel and former astronaut Paul Lockhart at Elon.

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