

# WELCOMING PRINCETON

Recognizing the contributions made by newcomers and immigrants

## HUNAN AND EPS CORNER



I have lived in the Witherspoon-Jackson area for 8 years, and I had the privilege of growing up eating Hunan. Since the first day they opened, I have enjoyed their food. I was able to meet with Elsie Pang, a hard-working and kind woman. Mrs. Pang was open about her personal life, so I found out that she was born in a small island of Australian territory (Christmas Island), but eventually moved to the beautiful island of Taiwan and later to Singapore. She came to New York at the age of 16 with her husband, where she got into the restaurant business. Elsie's husband, an artist, was struggling to make money and so she decided to go into the restaurant business to help. Ever since she was a young girl, she already had in mind to own different businesses but she did not know how or where to begin. She first opened a small deli in Manhattan, and months after she opened a Chinese restaurant too. Finally she consulted with a lawyer who advised her that Princeton was a great town to invest in, and she began to think about the benefits of being a business owner in Princeton. Elsie had great things to say about Princeton and our community. She and her husband were in a life threatening situation after being robbed at gun-point in their store, and so they finally decided to move to Princeton in search of a safer environment. Once in Princeton, she began to look for opportunities to open up a restaurant, and got a lot of support from the municipality and a local bank to be able to open different businesses such as Hunan, and EPS Corner. Elsie opened these businesses because she wanted to create something that the town didn't have, which was Chinese food. Elsie Pang is an incredible person that loves to help people, which she puts over the actual monetary profit she may make. The reason behind this is because she feels that, "If you treat me nice, I will treat you nice." Mrs. Pang states that she is in town to help out others by making her lunches a reasonable price but still with quality food. Elsie's motivation was her hard-working family, and need to support her family.

**Interview by Luis Estrada**

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