



# Read All About It!

Craven Literacy Council's Student Newsletter 2016

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## Student Stories

### Please send us your stories or poems for the December newsletter

#### China to USA, By "Sarah" Ying Qin Zhao

I am born in ShanXi Province China. I graduated my university at 1992. My major is economic law in ShanXi University of Finance and Economics. After I graduated, I went to Shenzhen City GuangDong Province China to look for a job. My first job is house counsel for company. I did that job about 8 years. Then I want to have a big development, so I changed my job. I became a life Insurance Agency of PingAn Insurance Company. I was a life Insurance Agency about 17 years. PingAn is the biggest Insurance company in China. We can agent the products of PingAn Bank. Insurance, trust company. I had about 300 big clients. I sold to my customers about total amount 400 million. They all trusted me and treated me very kind and friendly.



But I married my husband in 2015, he is an American. So I came to USA to live. We stayed in New Bern last year. I like it here, because all my husband's family member treat me very friendly and kind, New Bern has fresh air, very blue sky and very beautiful clouds. New Bern has a very pretty river. I like Union Point Park, there are many beautiful ducks and sea gulls. Very pretty. But I have a little restless feeling, because I am so free no job to do before. I always had job very busy before. Suddenly nothing to do, I am feeling a little restless. I need to do some job, because I think I am not too old, I still have ability to help other persons. But I know my English speaking needs to improve, so I learn English in Craven Community College, and I am very happy I have got my tutor help me every week. All stores server are very friendly to me, when I need help. They all try to help me very well.

#### Trip to Minnesota, by Takaw Say

On our trip to Minnesota we saw beautiful mountains. We drove straight through. When we got there we were very happy. The first day we slept, talked, and ate. Day two we went to Mall of America. It was very different and big. Day three we went to Como Zoo and downtown St. Paul. The best parts were seeing my sister and the mountains.



#### My Trip to Burma, by Tha Tay Paw, as told to her tutor and her daughter Sel Lay Moo



In December, I traveled back to Burma with my daughter and my niece. I went to see my mother and my brothers and their families and friends. My brothers have 10 children altogether. My family and I have lived in the USA for 7 years and before that I was living in a refugee camp for 13 years, so I had not seen my mother for 20 years. I told her that I have become a U.S. citizen and she said 'good, good', and she was really proud of my accomplishment. I was so happy to see her and everybody else again and they were happy to see me. We said 'I love you, I love you'.

First we went to Raleigh, then to New York, Hong Kong and finally reached Bangkok. Overall the trip took 20 hours. The airplane ticket cost \$840.00. A friend picked us up in Bangkok, and then we drove to Burma to see my family. We spent 2 weeks in Burma and then we went to the Mae Ra Moe refugee camp and spent 1 month. That is where I lived while waiting to come to the US. Refugees are still waiting to come to the US. My nephew still has family there. It was warm there, but not too hot.

Then we traveled back to Mae Sot district in Thailand, and we stayed with my cousin for 1 week. During that time I was able to tour and experience the beautiful side of Thailand in which my family and I never had the opportunity to do while living in the refugee camp for 13 years. We drove back to Bangkok, and got on the plane to cross the Pacific Ocean and come back to New Bern. When I got home my family gave me big hugs. My mother-in-law lived at our house while I was gone and helped the children.

**An Interview with Tha Lei Htoo  
about her Journey to America**  
*Interviewed by Patti Buesser (tutor)*



Patti: When you were in Thailand how did you choose to come to the United States instead of other countries?  
 Tha: Because I want freedom in American countries. Because my country we don't have our freedom.  
 Patti: Other countries have freedom, like France or Norway. Why did you choose the United States?  
 Tha: Because France and Norway they didn't call people yet at that time. Because America call people to come to America.  
 Patti: So the American government helped to get you here.  
 Tha: Yes. The first time Canada called the people smart in school can come to America. The second Australia they help only a single mother they can go to Australia. And third country is America. Who wants to come to America free can come to America.  
 Patti: And were you married at that time?  
 Tha: Yes, I get married at 2004 November 20.  
 Patti: And you had your baby over in Thailand.  
 Tha: Yes, in the refugee camp.  
 Patti: Ok, tell me about the day you left the refugee camp.  
 Tha: 2007 July 7  
 Patti: How did it go? You said you had to drive a long way from the refugee camp to get to Bangkok.  
 Tha: Ah like the UN people help us to move then to the Bangkok, they have a bus. And we start to move in the refugee camp on small bus. After that we go into the Thailand they have a big bus.  
 Patti: So there were a lot of people who went to Bangkok for that flight?  
 Tha: Yes, yes. Maybe 50 family. We been in Bangkok airport we have a lot of people for different planes. A lot of Karen people for different planes. I never see before.  
 Patti: So that's the first time you have seen an airplane?  
 Tha: Yes, but I scared when I see the airplane, when the airplane fly I scared, I feel dizzy.  
 Patti: So how do you think you will feel when you want to go back, when you want to fly again?  
 Tha: I don't know yet because I didn't fly in 11 years. But I think it is better that before when I came because before when people driving I'm in the car I throw up. But right now I don't feel dizzy anymore. But I take medicine, I take medicine.  
 Patti: Thank you.

**Happy Father's Day, by Esther Rut Thi**

I Love you Daddy  
 You are the best Daddy ever, I had

You are my hero  
 when I was scared

You are my first teacher  
 when I was a kid

You are my doctor  
 when I was sick

You are my singer  
 when I was sad

You are my best cooker  
 when I was hungry

Thank you for letting me go to school  
 when I was a kid

You always told me the stories  
 when I was a kid

Thank you for everything and  
 I love you daddy

Happy Father's Day!



**Congratulations!**

We celebrate our students who have passed their citizenship interviews:

- ◆ Cherry Jung, tutor Debra Bass
- ◆ Ro Thang, tutor Nancy Galway
- ◆ Chan Norn (Nai Nyo), tutor Nancy Galway
- ◆ Ayiu Puih, tutor Geoff Wood
- ◆ Mi Ye, tutor Sherry Gedulig
- ◆ Su Meh, tutor Dennis Pymm
- ◆ Si Si, tutor Karen Mincavage
- ◆ Tha Lei Htoo, tutor Patti Buesser
- ◆ Thain Lian, tutor Don Spingler
- ◆ Nain Thait Win, tutor Jean Albanese
- ◆ Yan Wen, tutor Joel Birenbaum

**Congratulations, Rebeca!**

Rebeca Contreras  
 Service Excellence Award  
 June 2018

Carolina East Hospital, CAN

"So nice, helpful, always has a smile, careful"

Nominated by staff, supervisor, & Patients

Worked at hospital for 15 years.





### Review of Who Is Barack Obama?, by Louis J. Moseley III

The title of the book is Who Is Barack Obama. The author of the book is Roberta Edwards. It is a biography. It's about a man who became the forty-fourth president. He was a family man. He was African American. He was a person who believed in himself. When he was young he thought he didn't fit in because he was half white and half black. He joined a basketball team, then he felt like he was in a group. The reason I liked the book was because it told me a lot about Barack Obama. I liked the whole book. I couldn't put the book down.

## Books are a wonderful thing



### Ways that George Washington Carver Helped Farmers in the South, by Maria Chavez

George W. Carver was a great scientist who helped farmers to learn new ways of growing crops. Their old ways caused the soil to wear out. He rotate the crops.

Carver showed farmer's how to improve their soil. He took mud and leaves from the river to the soil. Carver plowed the material into the soil. The animals' droppins word worked into the soil.

Carver showed them how to make the soil good again. He told them don't plant cotton. He said plant other crops like peanuts, beans, and sweet potatoes.

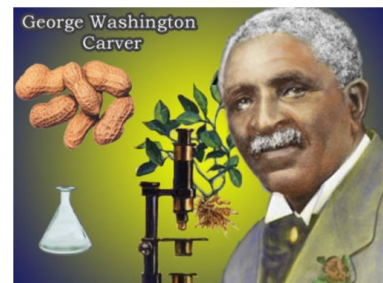
The farmers worked rotate the crops. The boll wevill destroyed the cotton. Then they learned how to plant food and they will never be hungry.

Farmers begin to rotate the crops. Peanuts and sweet potatoes are good food for planting. Then they planted the cotton and they found it was the best cotton crop.

Carver begin to use the peanut in different ways. He stared to make cooking oil, peanut butter, and peanut milk. Also he made fine writing peanut paper and rich plant food for the soil. But he discovered how made materials for building houses and building roads.

Washington. C knew there would be a market for the farmers. Now he have 300 new uses for peanut and people had to know. Then he made 118 products from sweet potatoes and 75 products from pecans.

Finally Carver worked hard to show how to improve the soil and maked good again. He told them to rotate the crops. Then the farmers had money crops like peanuts, pecans, and sweet potatoes.



## Let's read

### A Review of On the Court with LeBron James, by Louis J. Moseley III

The title of the book is On the Court with LeBron James. The author of the book is Matt Christopher. The genre is biography.

Gloria James was on 16 years old when LeBron was born December 30, 1984. They lived with his grandmother Freda James, and two uncles, and Eddie her boyfriend. Gloria bought LeBron a child size basketball hoop for Christmas when he was 3 years old. His grandmother died on that Christmas Eve. Then LeBron and Gloria moved to Elizabeth Park. It was located in a rough crime ridden area. They moved 7 times. Gloria made it work. LeBron said "she kept food in my mouth and clothes on my back." In 1994 he joined a football team when he was 9 years old. Frankie Walker Sr. noticed LeBron and talked to his mother and LeBron moved into Walker's house. Frankie Walker Sr. coached LeBron's 5<sup>th</sup> grade youth basketball team. He was playing for his own team and assisting Walker on the side lines. Gloria found a steady job and permanent home in Spring Hill in 1995. LeBron moved back in with his mother. He played football and basketball in the winter, spring and summer. In 1996 LeBron was playing with an A.A.U. basketball team. He played N.B.A. when he was only 16 years old. It was amazing that he was that good to go to the N.B.A.



I liked the book because it told me that he was only 16 year old when he went to the N.B.A. The book was so good that I could not put it down.

[This Photo](#) by Unknown

# Fall is in the Air

N M Z Y X I F F R B E B T W S  
O A V T B I F E E G B H D O R  
V Z Z N E B B O N S A V C L E  
E E J L Y M Y A V N T B R L D  
M V D D E R R F K M N I A E I  
B S T T D O A F O G E O V Y P  
E C P M Y L U S K L A T S A S  
R E O Y L L P U M P K I N S L  
S T G R C A N D Y L V C R A C  
N H S G N I L L A F E E Y G O  
K M X E C D E W S X B A X K L  
Z V U L V G K S N O B B V Z O  
G T T T W R D Q T L V C H E R  
F K Z A U D A C A P P L E S S  
Y B G N X A O H C N N J H O Y

Apples  
Autumn  
Candy  
Colors  
Corn  
Fall

Falling  
Festival  
Fields  
Harvest  
Leaves  
Maze

November  
October  
Orange  
Pumpkins  
Red  
September

Spiders  
Stalks  
Thankful  
Yellow