



## ***People Close to Us: Dreamers and Hard Workers***

***By Monica Prado***

**Our Newsletter** is the result of our team work during the first assignment period – from the end of August through the last week of September, 2015. Our teacher, Eric Miller, supported the idea to conceive a classroom newspaper with news written by each one of the classmates who joined the “News Group”. Other classmates wrote cover letter or biography as the assignment. The Unit 1 theme focuses on a person. Therefore, we chose someone who is important to each of us, and decided to write about him or her.

The general idea for the classroom newspaper was to capture the profile, the core of the life of the person we decided to write about. We met three times during the classes to discuss our options, and what questions we should ask. We also decided to have some pictures to add a face to our newspaper. Today, this newsletter is edited with some pictures because we did not prepare all of them to be printed ahead of time.

In order to help us in pursuing the goal of creating a classroom newspaper, our teacher prepared an exercise which involved studying some real profile pieces from the local San Diego newspaper – *The Union-Tribune*.

Each of us wrote a piece, and my role was to edit and work on the graphic design of the classroom newspaper. I collected all of the texts we wrote which were saved on different folders and files in the Z-drive of the SDCE computer system. After this first layer of editing, I prepared the text adding the *byline* (a term for the credit line), and I wrote the titles for each piece. I also created the masthead, a technical term for the section which lists and states who is responsible for the newspaper and who has contributed to this present issue. In the end, we came up with good stories. They are about people and their dreams and their hard work here in San Diego.

### ***Guatemala, Norma’s Dream***

***By Erica Avendano***

Norma Fuentes is a 55-year-old hard working woman, who has been employed since she was eight years old in order to support her family. At the age of 15, she got married. She has had a hard life, but never gave up. She moved to the United States with the purpose of getting a better life, and later to bring her kids. However, her true calling was to become her own boss.

*Read more on page 3.*

### ***Entrepreneurism: Family of Companies***

***By Samson Futwi***

*Safari Computer Graphics* is where Abraham Tessema works, publishing and printing banners, business cards, T-shirts and transferring graphics on all kinds of clothes. He also edits by video capture of whatever you want: photo, text, or logos. He is the owner of the company and splits his time with his other company: a radio delivery, where he deals with dispatchers, third parties and whoever needs transport or delivery. He also has a company for health care.

Abraham is very smart, intelligent and diverse. Besides his three companies, he also dedicates time to work on IT (information technology systems) as a hobby. His plan for the future is to open a manufacturing center.

*Read more on page 3.*

**Animation: Graybill's Dream**

**By Ana Saikowski**

John Graybill is a very busy man. He works all day as an engineer in his day job. He is in his late sixties. He was born and raised in Manhattan Beach, California, but now lives in San Diego. In his free time, he works on an interesting hobby.

One day he had a dream about a cartoon-like character, and he kept thinking about the dream. He decided to draw what he saw in his dream.

Now he makes animated characters in his spare time, and he is trying to make a movie. In the future, he would like to write scripts for movies. *Handeyeman* is the name of his production company.

He produced a three-minute video that he pilots with families and children. It is on YouTube: [Animated Movie Looking at Earth through an Alien Eye](#). John Graybill is my boss.



Dominick (left) and his family

**Fishing: Passion into Work**

**By Ines Cambambia**

Dominick Dibona was a fisherman for 40 years, in San Diego. He really enjoyed his work because it was his life. He was born in New York city (NY) in 1929. He grew up there. He moved to San Diego when he was 10 years old, because his father found work here as a fishing engineer. Dominik has lived most of his life in San Diego. He started to fish during a summer vacation with his uncle when he was 10 years old.

According to Dominik, he found his passion for fishing on a trip with his father. "When I was 10 years old I took a trip with my father for 40 days on a fishing boat. That shaped my life and I just wanted to be a fisherman", he says.

After finishing High School at 17 years, Dominik joined the Army for two years. Then he became the captain of a fishing boat with his father until 1988.

**Driver: Medina's Job**

**By Joel Jimenez**

Miguel Medina is 49 years old. He is a truck driver, and his job is to transport fruit all over Mexico. He always has been a driver. Miguel was born and raised in Edo de Mexico, and he never wanted to live outside his city. Miguel is my friend.

**Bikinis: Thao's Dream**

**By Thuy Truong**

Thao Le is a 19-years-old college student at SDSU and a future businessperson. She grew up in Vietnam. Now, she lives in San Diego, and dreams about opening a business.

She wants to design everything and make bikini clothes, because she likes to sell things and make people beautiful. First, she will study business at SDSU. Second, she will do some online sales, and at the same time, work part time in a shopping center.

Thao Le is my daughter and I am happy for her. She is a good daughter.

**Guatemala ... from page 1**

On June of 2000, Norma moved to San Diego to pursue her dream. She opened Guatemala, a mini-market with central America products, such as traditional clothes from Mexico and Guatemala, as well as cultural food such as homemade tamales.

The tamales are delicious. Norma sells the most on Christmas.

Her motivation is to benefit her kids, and she is planting the seeds. In the future, her dream is to expand the store. One of her favorite quotes is

*'To be learn to be a leader, first you need to follow directions.'*

This quote is why I choose Norma as my subject for this piece. Norma is a friend of mine, a hardworking woman who never gives up.

**Family of Companies ... from page 1**

Abraham Tessema is highly educated. He holds a master's degree from SDSU in biochemistry and business management. Prior to coming to the U.S., in 1989, he attended Ethiopia's Adis Ababa University for four years.

Abraham is native of Eritrea, born and raised in Asmara, the capital city, where he grew up and lived until 18 years of age. He is 44 years old and lives in North Park, San Diego.

He is a faithful, loving and kind man. He is married and a father of one boy, age 14. He helps many people who have financial and spiritual problems. They appreciate his help. He has a great vision for the coming ten years. I really appreciate him, and I learned a lot from him.

Abraham Tessema is my cousin.

**Auto Prepars: Martin's Business**

*By Raymundo Santiago*

At San Diego Airport, Martin Francisco operates a company, *San Diego Auto Prepars*. His business is a contractor that takes care of the fleet of Enterprise, a huge global rental car company. Martin is married, a father of one boy, age 8, and one girl, age 15. Martin grew up in Mexico City, and now he lives in City Heights, San Diego. He is 45 years old, and everything in his life is about the special love he devotes to his family. His company has 40 employees, and I am one of them. Martin Francisco is my boss.

While we were interviewing for and writing the articles for **Our Newsletter**, some of our classmates were working on other assignments. Some of them chose to write a cover letters and others wrote biographies.

**Biographies**

- Hmam Alhamisi
- Rebecca Koda
- Samiya Said

**Cover letters**

- Alba Santiago
- Antonio Perez
- Eloisa Valle
- Natividad Lopez

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Editor-in-chief – *Eric Miller*, Editor and Design – *Monica Prado*, Contributors – *Ana Saikowski, Erica Avendano, Joel Jimenez, Raymundo Santiago, Samson Futwi, Thuy Truong*. Student Equity Tutors: *Anisa Hagi-Mohamad* (Tues.) and *Ingrid Greenberg* (Thrus.). Facilitator: Helen B.

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