

People and Events

Prominent men to read women's history month luncheon

RANCHO PALOS VERDES - Five prominent men who come from different cultures but who are married to Filipinas, will read during the literary luncheon on March 28 to celebrate Women's History Month. An advocacy program of Philippine Expressions Bookshop, it will focus on women's issues and the five men will celebrate their partnership with women in combating violence towards women. The Readers are Robert J. Little, Jr, who is an engineer and department manager at Northrup Grumman Corporation. With his wife, Linda, they recently established a literacy project in the Philippines called *Unang Aklat: First Books for Filipino Children*. Stephen Adamu, who was originally from Nigeria, is an author of various scientific research materials and a retired scientist from UCLA. He and his wife, Elsie, a retired nurse at UCLA Medical Center are now investors in options, stocks, and the futures markets. Craig Diamond, a VP for Investments at UBS Financial

Services, was past president of the Granada Hills Rotary Club. His wife, Mary Anne is president of the Bahay Kubo Center for Philippine Culture & Arts in the Valley and also owns a travel agency. Steven de la Vega, is a designer and master jeweler, who also restores vintage cars that have been featured in magazines and have won awards.

His wife, Carina Monica Montoya (also known as Carina Forsythe) is the author of *Filipinos in Hollywood* and the latest book, *Los Angeles's Historic Filipinotown*. Steve Austin is a graduate of UCLA where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree, with a major in French, and an MA from CSU Northridge. He is an educator and English Language Coordinator for the Los Angeles Unified School District. He and his community activist-wife, Norma, own and manage their real estate holdings in Santa Monica.

The short stories, poetry and personal narratives of women that will be read appear in books written or edited by talented and



Craig Diamond



Robert Little



Steve de la Vega



Steve Austin



Stephen and Elsalnye Adamu

award-winning *Pinay* and *Fil-Am* authors: Marivi Soliven Blanco (*Speak Up, Woman! Stories on Living, Loving, Leaving & Learning*); Evangeline Canonizado Buell (*Twenty-Five Chickens and a Pig for a Bride*); Rowena Peñaflor Festin (Poem: *To the Man Who Thinks He's in the Market: Sa Lalaking ang Akala'y Nasa Palengke Siya* which appeared in the book, *In the Name of the Mother: 100 Years of Philippine Feminist Poetry, 1889-1989* by Lilia Quindoza Santiago); Elynia S. Mabanglo (Poem: *The Ballad*

Woman." This poem was published in *Babaylan: An Anthology of Filipina and Filipina American Writers*, co-edited by Nick Carbo and Eileen Tabios); and Marianne Villanueva (*Silence*, from her collection of short stories, *Mayor of the Roses*). Their books will be available during the event.

Guest speaker and resource person for the event is Dr. Leny Mendoza Strobel who will speak on *The Power to Heal: Remembering our Babaylan Spirit*. She is an Associate Professor of American Multicultural Studies at So-

nomia State University, and a cultural and community advocate. She is also the author of *Coming Full Circle: The Process of Decolonization Among Post-1965 Filipino Americans* (2000), *A Book of Her Own: Words and Images to Honor the Babaylan* (2005) and *From Our Hearts to Yours: Letters to a Young Student* which she co-edited with Nancy Figueroa-Gochuico (2008). The latter title was a project of Pampanga High School, Class 1968 in honor of its Ruby and Centennial celebrations. Her new book on *Filipina Babaylan* tradition will be released late this year.

The event is open to all and lunch tickets at \$35 are available from (310) 514-9139 or email

<linda_nietes@sbcglobal.net>. No tickets will be sold at the door. The venue is Breakwater Room, Ports of Call Restaurant at Berth 78, Ports of Call, San Pedro, CA. For directions, call (310) 833-3553 or visit their website: www.portsocalldining.com/. This program is part of the continuing community outreach program of Philippine Expressions Bookshop to mark their 25 years of service to Filipino communities all over North America. Owner Linda Nietes, who trail-blazed the promotion of Philippine

books in America celebrates her 37 years as a Filipiniana specialist this year. This includes twelve years as owner of Casalinda Bookshop in San Antonio Plaza, Forbes Park, Makati, Metro Manila which she opened during martial law in 1972, in response to the question: What can you do for your country? Opening her bookshop revitalized the moribund book publishing industry in the Philippines at that time, as well as inspired a number of authors to write again. Her guiding motto is a quote from Ralph Waldo Emerson: Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail. ■

Living with osteoarthritis?

OSTEARTHRTIS not only strikes the knees and hips. When the shoulder joints are affected, even simple everyday movements can cause severe pain that radiates down into the arms and hands. Pain may become excruciating at night, forcing patients to get out of bed and roam around the house, finding sleep only in an armchair. But what can patients themselves do about this form of arthritis? How can they ease the pain, deal with the limitations it causes, and support their doctors' treatments?

With support from some of the world's leading shoulder specialists, the American Arthritis Society has compiled twelve practical tips for self-care that are effective and easy to follow. To view these and many more valuable suggestions for all forms of osteoarthritis, please visit the Society's website at: www.americanarthritis.org. ■

RE-UNION

Filipino-American Associations in America

Searching for a kababata from your hometown, a college buddy or a Pinoy colleague? Your search is finally over. The Asian Journal brings you Re:Union, Filipino American Associations in America -- your link to a network of kababayan associations here in the United States. As your Filipino-American community newspaper, the Asian Journal recognizes your need to nourish and maintain ties with the people and the culture you were born with. This is our way of connecting our kababayans to the past, of creating new opportunities for the present and of inspiring you to pay it forward by becoming active members of your association and the FilAm community at large in the future.

People's CORE

Community
Organization for
Reform and
Empowerment

OUR Vision People's CORE's vision is the socio economic political empowerment of the people where self sustaining, locally controlled communities provide housing, education, fulfilling employment with livable wages and justice for all.



Our Mission
Our mission is to organize, train, and mobilize the Asian Pacific Islander grassroots and general community in creating systemic change.

People's CORE strives to empower the community through organizing, alliance building, capacity building and base building. As an integral part of our work, People's CORE offers leadership development training to community residents to build up their knowledge and skills in order to advocate for their rights and welfare. In this manner, People's CORE empowers the community by building the capacity of residents and promoting collective action through grassroots organizing.

People's CORE is a registered 501(c)(3) non profit organization formed by Asian Pacific Islander activists in 1996 to conduct grassroots organizing in the communities of Los Angeles and the South Bay.

People's CORE is funded by generous grants from the California Consumer Protection Foundation, California Department of Public Health, Tobacco Control Section, Center for Environmental Health, California Fund for Youth Organizing, City of Carson CDBG, Dwight Stuart Youth Foundation, James Irvine Foundation, Liberty Hill Foundation, Self Help for the Elderly, Richard Health & Associates, The California Wellness Foundation, and The California Endowment.

Our Programs
Community Health
People's CORE believes that

healthy individuals contribute to a healthy community. People's CORE conducts health education and public health advocacy to raise awareness about health issues that impact community members' lives, the health conditions where they live and work, and ways of improving their health and well being. Community Action to Strengthen Advocacy for Healthy Housing (CASAHH)

CASAHH conducts health outreach on the health risks of pest infestation and chemical pesticides and other environmental hazards in the home, identifies hazards in housing units and implements Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in urban housing. Through capacity building activities, the project trains residents to be health promoters in order to spread awareness to the community on IPM and advocate for health code compliance in housing units.

Smoke Free Apartments Project

Although 85% of California's adults do not smoke, only a small fraction of rental units are smoke free. Secondhand smoke is a toxic air contaminant with no safe levels of exposure. Secondhand smoke causes tens of thousands of deaths each year and it is the 3rd leading cause of preventable death in the US. The right to breathe clean air in one's own home is a basic health protection that everyone deserves. People's CORE works with tenants and owners to implement policies that reduce secondhand smoke exposure in multi unit housing in Central LA. ■

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS

You can Bring Down Your Loan Amount to Your Home's Current Value

IF you are upside down by \$100,000 or more
IF you purchased in the last 4 years or refinanced in the last 3 years
IF you have a "problematic loan":

- 1 yr/2 yr ARM or Option ARM loan • Interest Only loan
- Non-Amortizing/Negative Amortization loan
- No Doc or Low Doc Loan • Stated Income Loan

You may be a victim of abusive lending by the mortgage industry
You have legal rights to a WRITE DOWN of your mortgage to your home's current value

SAVE YOUR HOME!
SAVE YOUR MONEY!
SAVE YOUR CREDIT!

Not "Attorney-assisted".
Not "Attorney-backed".
Licensed ATTORNEYS fight for your rights against predatory lending.

Total Legal Services for Foreclosure Prevention



In Foreclosure? Not Behind?
Severely Delinquent? Job Loss or Pay Cut? Investment Property? Residential Property? Struggling to Pay Monthly House Payment? CALL NOW!

THIS IS NOT A LOAN MODIFICATION

You must be upside down by 100,000 to qualify. And you do not need to be behind in your payments!

LEGAL Home HELP
LEGAL NETWORK
Protecting Your Legal Rights with Compassion and Action

Legal Home Helpline for Filipino Homeowners **888.233.5485**

www.legalhomehelp.com

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