The Creative Writing Program and English Department of Boston University will present Sharon Olds, poet and author of Satan Says and the forthcoming The Tree and the Living, reading from her works on Wednesday, November 17, 5:30pm in room 315, George Sherman Union, Boston University. The reading is free and open to the public. For further information, call 353-2510.

A lecture-discussion entitled “Ex-Spoones and the Triangles Within the Stepfamily” will be held on Monday, November 15, at 8pm at the Institute for Remarriage and Stepmfamilies, 259 Walnut St., Newtonville. The focus will be on the role of the former spouse and the continuing relationship between the previously married couple as it effects the stepfamily. A short presentation, including suggestions for managing a family with more than two parents in it, will be given by the Institute Director, Jamie Kelem Keshet; questions & answers, and discussion will follow. Admission is free. For more information, call 964-6933.

Eric Rouleau, Middle East editor of Le Monde and author of My Home, My Land: A Narrative of the Palestinian Struggle, will address the World Affairs Council of Boston on “Europe and the Middle East: A Journalist’s Perspective.” Wednesday, November 10, from 12:00 noon to 1:00pm, at the World Affairs Council Rotunda, 22 Batterymarch Street, Boston. For more information, contact Carey Goodson at 482-1740.

Gustavo Colonel, Fellow at the Center of International Affairs, Harvard University, will present an analysis of the economic and political situation of Venezuela from the Presidency of Carlos Andres Perez to the present. Wednesday, November 17, 6pm. Emphasis will be placed on the petroleum issue and interaction with the rest of the country. Also, a brief comparison of the Venezuelan experience will be made with regard to other Latin American countries, e.g. Mexico. An informal reception will follow serving Mexican coffee. Donation: Members $2.00, non-Members $3.00; Students w/ID $1.00. The lecture is sponsored by the Pan American Society of New England.