

## Book store to host book/author brunch

Birmingham Bookstore's book and author brunch is planned from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday at The Community House, 310 South Bates, Birmingham.

Judge William Coughlin of Detroit, whose newest book is "The Twelve Apostles," Joy Fielding, author of "The Other Woman" and "Kiss Mommy Goodbye" and the newly released "Life

Penalty" are featured speakers.

Kate Rafferty and Mindy Saunders, creators of the "Trivial Birmingham" game — a local version of "Trivial Pursuit" — will also speak.

The event is planned as a benefit for the Hooper School Scholarship Fund. Tickets are \$8.95. Reservations may be made with the bookstore, 647-2885.

## Fall science classes start

Cranbrook Institute of Science in Bloomfield Hills will offer classes for children and adults beginning this month.

"The Stars at Night" for first and second graders, is conducted 4-5 p.m. Sept. 25, Oct. 2 and 9.

"Hibernation and Migration" will be taught to preschoolers 4-5 p.m. Oct. 15, 23, 30 and Nov. 6. A second section is planned at the same time Oct. 18, 25, Nov. 1 and 8.

"My First Microscope" will teach second

graders how to use the instrument 10-11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Nov. 3 and 10.

For more information, call the science institute, 645-3230.

## Understanding American Indians

Ira Lax of Birmingham, American Indian scholar, teacher and freelance writer/photographer, will give two courses on the American Indian this fall.

One will be through the University of Detroit office of continuing professional education. The other will be either a credit or non-credit course at Royal Oak Kimball High School through the Royal Oak office of adult education.

The U-D course, "The History of the Sioux Indians," will be given 7-9 p.m. Thursdays beginning Thursday. The 15-week Royal Oak course, "History of the American Indian," is held 6-10:15 p.m. Wednesdays. It began Sept. 19.

Lax said of the U-D course, "A book, 'Black Elk Speaks,' by John Neihardt will be the thread of the course."

Black Elk died in 1950. Lax described him as a Sioux holy man, who chose to reveal many ritual and

tribal secrets rather than let them die with him and be lost forever. He lived in South Dakota on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

"This course basically will cover the period of the Indian wars. My interest is to show the Indian's side — how the Indian perceived the migrations westward. We'll also get into the Indian ways of courting and dating, Indian government and Indian religious life. And we'll talk about inaccuracies, the real Indian vs. the TV version."

In the Royal Oak class, Lax said, "We'll be looking at the whole tapestry of Indian life, how different the tribes are. There will be a lot of films and group discussions."

Noting that the Indian is the fastest growing minority in the country, Lax said, "The Indian is still very much with us. We will point up how Indians have been able to survive in spite of the pressure to destroy their culture."

Lax, who completed his master's degree in American Indian history from the University of Montana and studied with Joseph E. Brown, Indian religion expert, has lived and taught on both the Flathead and Apache reservations.

He recently returned from a trip to Manitoulin Island in Georgian Bay where he found several Chippewa reservations.

Lax taught classes last year in Indian history in the metropolitan area for the first time and was pleased with the response.

"Everybody had an interesting reason for being there... we had lots of class discussion and we shared our experiences. I want people to come to these classes who don't know anything about Indians, who just have an interest, who are curious — that's the main thing."

For registration information on the classes, call (Royal Oak) 435-8300 and (U-D) 927-1025.



Ira Lax

## Chinese folk art festival set

A Chinese folk art festival featuring a puppet show is planned at 1 and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23, at the Southfield Civic Center Auditorium, 26000 Evergreen.

Sponsors are the Chinese American Educational and Cultural Center of Michigan and the City of Southfield.

A Moon Festival Gala also will be staged at 6:30 p.m.

Admission is \$25. Tickets are available at the Southfield Parks and Recreation Department.

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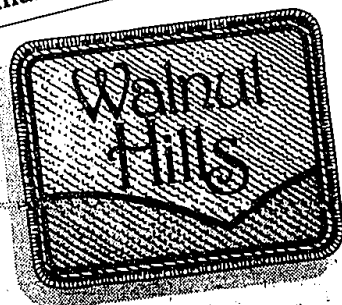
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