

Geez, Uncle Mike,

Maybe you didn't get my letter? As you are a self proclaimed hermit and believer in the reading of good books, I thought 'Hey! I'll ask Uncle Mike for some book recommendations.' I even sent my own list along for encouragement. To my puzzlement you answer, instead, letters about pop-tops and such in what, to my mind, is a none-too-helpful tone.

I worry you may be getting wrinkly spending so long in the deep end of the pool of sensationalism. I can understand, I've spent too much time there myself upon occasion. But Uncle Mike, I invite you to dry off a little and to please share some meaningful and needed advice with fellow wintering Oregonians. Thanks so much.

Mari in Eugene, Oregon

Dear Mari,

Your worst suspicions are true. Uncle Mike didn't get your letter. His editor in Cannon Beach does remember seeing it and, if it's any comfort, is beside himself with shame that he hasn't the foggiest notion where it went. All that's left is to hope this is the worst thing that ever happens to any of us. If nothing else, it allowed you to get snotty and, as any number of self help books tell us, it's best not to bottle up your feelings. Uncle Mike reviewed his answer to the letter you refer to and, in all fairness, would hardly call it's tone "none-too-helpful". He'd call it derisive and openly hostile. People who fuss about nothing can sometimes bring this out in him. His only defense is that he's never claimed to be Ann Landers. You ask about favorite books and, being helpful, Uncle Mike is happy to oblige with a short list. The Alexandria Quartet by Lawrence Durrell (four interwoven novels: "Justine", "Balthazar", "Mountolive", and "Clea"); "Siddhartha" by Herman Hesse; the Smiley series by John LeCarre: "Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy", "The Honorable Schoolboy", "Smiley's People", and "Quantum Reality" by Nick Herbert. As for meaningful and needed advice for his fellow wintering Oregonians: stay warm and dry, drink lots of cocoa, and don't harbor dark thoughts.

Dear Uncle Mike,

I don't have a problem that needs your sage advice but I would like to hear your take on the YK2000 situation. End of civilization as we know it or another media flap?

Marv, e-mail

Dear Marv,

Good for you for not having a problem and for having the good sense not to invent one just to appear normal. Knowing nothing more about computers than what to do with the on/off button, Uncle Mike hasn't the foggiest notion who or what to believe. He does, however, have an abiding faith in the determination of corporate man to allow nothing to thwart the billing process. At best, they may be slow in arriving the first month. The due date will be unchanged. As delicious as it might sound, Uncle Mike doubts that when the little clocks turn to 00, the playing field will be leveled by a grand melt down of information as we know it. We'll not be standing in line with Donald Trump and Bill Gates at the Office of Re-establishing Identity. What those in power need to retain their power will be tucked away in the safe. They'll still know who you are, where you live, and whether or not you're likely to buy a Buick. The peasants may, of course, be inconvenienced. There may be distribution glitches, we'll all need new computers or something new and scandalously profitable to slap into them, gasoline prices will certainly rise, and resort reservations will need to be confirmed. The sun, on the other hand, will continue to rise and set, the birds will still sing in the trees, the tides will go right on going in and out. Like everyone else, Uncle Mike has looked forward for some time to greeting the new millennium and thinks it unimaginably bad form for the nearsighted machinery of greed mongers and control freaks to short circuit the celebration with news the sky is falling. When the little clocks turn to 00, Uncle Mike plans to be sipping from a small bucket of sour mash whiskey, smoking hand rolled cigarettes, and pondering the meaning of calendars in a universe in which time appears to be a figment of clocks.

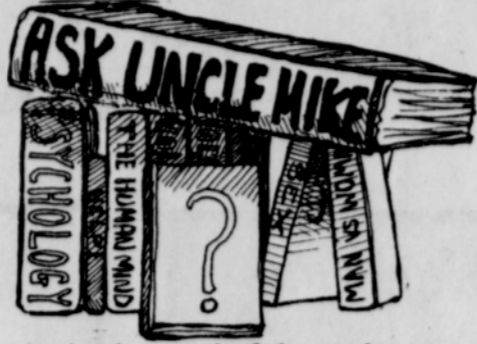
Dear Uncle Mike,

Why do people lie even when they don't have to? I have a friend who does this. Like when she says she's going to meet you and doesn't and then says the reason was her mother wouldn't let her and you know it was because this guy called and she went out with him instead. Or says something isn't bothering her when it is. I really like her but I can't always believe her and that makes it hard to be her friend. Why can't she just tell the truth?

Melissa, e-mail

Dear Melissa,

People lie because they're frightened: frightened they'll make someone angry or disappointed, frightened they're not good enough or smart enough or interesting enough, frightened that the truth will hurt them and drive people away. Like anything else, it can become a habit. There is, of course, a large difference between inventing reasons for standing someone up and keeping your business to yourself. Your friend most likely lied about why she stiffed you because she thought you'd be angry and was afraid she'd lose a friend. She most likely said that nothing was bothering her because whatever was bothering her wasn't something she was able or willing to talk about. There's no rule chiseled into stone that says whenever anyone asks if something's wrong we're honor bound to spill our guts. Accept your friend for who she is and make her as secure in your friendship as you can. And, when the timing seems right, look her straight in the eye and say, 'You lie like a rug.'



**From beach to boulevard, a natural choice for women's clothing.**

**M. Sellin**

Portland (503) 239-4605  
Cannon Beach (503) 436-1572

# Therapy Page

**CANNON BEACH MASSAGE**  
Licensed Massage Therapy  
Pain & Stress Relief ♦ Deep Tissue  
Swedish ♦ Relaxation

**VALOREE GIFT, LMT**

503-436-2425  
P.O. Box 872 • Cannon Beach, Oregon 97110

## WINTER SPECIALS ARE HERE!

Make reservations for Thanksgiving & Christmas soon!

**RESTAURANT** *Casually Elegant Dining*  
Located in the Cannon Beach Hotel  
1116 S. Hemlock  
(503) 436-0908  
Reservations Suggested

**Light Lunch 12:00 - 4:00**  
Homemade soups, chowders, bread and delightful desserts  
**Dinner Served 4:00 - 9:00**  
Award winning chowders, unique salads, pasta, seafood, steaks and chicken

Monday - Greek Specials  
Wednesday - Pasta Specials  
Closed Sunday  
Open Thanksgiving & Christmas

4. "The bench on which Dobbs was sitting was not so good."

5. "I was walking by the Thames. Half-past morning on an autumn day."

**Icefire GLASSWORKS**

JIM KINGWELL

POST OFFICE BOX 382  
CANNON BEACH, OR 97110  
PHONE 503-436-2359

**SENSEABILITY**

**MICHAEL WOLK PT, G.C.C.P.**

- PHYSICAL THERAPIST
- FELDENKRAIS METHOD® PRACTITIONER
- CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY
- MUSCLE ENERGY JOINT MOBILIZATION

503.777.5195

SOUTHEAST PORTLAND WOODSTOCK - REED COLLEGE

**LuLu's**

A SHOE & ACCESSORY BOUTIQUE  
503-436-0577 239 N. HEMLOCK  
CANNON BEACH, OREGON

**Copies & Fax**

Still performing **ALL** Our Usual Services **PLUS** **SIGNS & BANNERS** of all kinds & **SMALL BUSINESS BOOKKEEPING**

Owners - Jeff & Gladys Womack  
1235 S. Hemlock  
P.O. Box 985  
Cannon Beach, OR 97110  
(503) 436-2000  
Fax (503) 436-0746

**BANK OF ASTORIA**  
Member FDIC

Astoria Warrenton  
Seaside Cannon Beach

**ASSANDRA'S PIZZA OREGON**

**GOURMET PIZZA**  
A selection of OREGON WINES & fine BEERS always on hand.

Come join us for dinner near the pounding surf at Laneda & Carmel in Manzanita

503/368-5593

**Steve's Maintenance**  
Licensed  
Specializing in:  
Environmentally Friendly  
Window Cleaning

Steve LaMontagne  
P.O. Box 669  
Cannon Beach, OR 97110  
(503) 436-0942

**RICHARD BANT**  
Pressure Washing and CONSTRUCTION  
HOME and BUSINESS

LICENSED & BONDED  
C.C.B.#79420

Voice Mail (503) 738-4516  
Home (503) 436-1246

**Transformation Massage**

Becky Hart B.S., L.M.T., L.M.P.  
Swedish/Shiatsu - Aromatherapy - Reiki  
Comfort Cafe - A.B.M.P. - N.C.T.M.B.  
By appointment... 503-738-4650  
Serving the Northern Oregon coast...

**PACIFIC RIM Gallery**

Astoria  
"A Unique Blend of Art, Cafe and Comfort"  
108 10th Street  
Astoria, Oregon 97103  
503-325-5450 • Fax 325-9712  
Cannon Beach  
"Fine Art Gallery and Gifts"  
131 W. 2nd • P.O. Box 1245  
Cannon Beach, Oregon 97110  
503-436-1253 • Fax 436-1617

**Manzanita News & ESPRESSO**

A Cheerful Presence in Manzanita  
STARBUCKS & TEMPTATIONS  
449 MAGAZINE TITLES  
NEWSPAPERS & TOPO MAPS

Open Daily 7:30 to 5:00 • 500 Laneda Ave. • Manzanita • 368-7450

UPPER LEFT EDGE JANUARY