

Dear Uncle Mike,  
I am thinking of writing a personal ad and would like to know if you think they are safe.  
Presently Lonely

Dear Presently,  
There's nothing the least bit risky about placing a personal ad. The risky part comes when you meet the people who answer it. Uncle Mike has heard many heart-warming stories of unrequited humans finding each other in the back pages of a newspaper. Granted, all but one were in ads promoting the service, but Uncle Mike refuses to believe anything not ruled out by physical law is impossible. The challenge with personal ads is the natural urge most humans have to make a good impression; an effort that often boils down to stretching the truth past all recognition. You, of course, would never do that but the people who respond to your ad might be less perfected beings. In clinical terms, what you're doing is posting public notice of an open position and soliciting resumes (a French word meaning "shameless embellishment"). What you'll likely find during the interview process is that there's at least one good reason most of these people are unattached; something which could, in all fairness, be said of most of us. Does Uncle Mike regard this social process as dangerous? Not if you have a good sense of humor and deal well with disappointment. If it's your karma to date an ax murderer, the personal ads will only be the means to it, not its cause. The worst that will probably happen is that you'll know even more people whose company you'd cross the street to avoid. Uncle Mike wishes you the best of luck and would love not to know how things work out.

Dear Uncle Mike,  
You keep saying you know nothing about etiquette but you've given some pretty good answers before and you have to know more about it than me since I'm only seventeen. I've always eaten with the fork in my right hand. I see a lot of people now eating with the fork in the left hand and the knife in the right. It looks cool but is it etiquette?  
Chris

Dear Chris,  
First off, there's no such thing as *only* seventeen. By that age Mozart had been composing for ten years and Einstein had been passed over in mathematics. But your question involves knives and forks. We push on. Uncle Mike isn't just pretending to know nothing about etiquette. Aside from common manners, which chimpanzees are capable of mastering, Uncle Mike would be regarded by members of court as either, depending upon the level of *gaucherie* involved, an amusing bumpkin or a well meaning primitive. You have, perhaps without knowing, hit upon the first rule and the root cause of etiquette. It must, to outsiders, look cool. The second rule is that the more complex and arbitrary the anointed behavior, the better (and cooler) the form. There must be a third rule, but Uncle Mike hasn't the foggiest notion what it might be. Neither is he curious. If it means anything, Uncle Mike holds his fork in his left hand, pointy end down. This leaves his right hand free to make conversational points with his butter knife. It also conserves energy. When Uncle Mike thinks of the cumulative hours he's spent cutting his chili cheese burger into manageable portions, laying down his knife and transferring the fork to his right hand before lobbing his bite in the general direction of his mouth, he could just slap his forehead and make cuckoo sounds. This is (aside from the lobbing part) the "European" way of self nourishment and is considered the proper form in every culture (aside from ours) that doesn't lean to chopsticks or fingers: methods hilariously counterproductive when applied to chili cheese burgers.

Dear Uncle Mike,  
I'm writing to ask you a favor. My girlfriend thinks you're a saint. I tell her there's a big difference between the advice you give other people and what you do in your own life. Your advice is usually—okay, almost always—right on. But I'll bet you're as flawed as anybody else and could use some advice yourself sometimes. Could you please tell your readers the truth and get my girlfriend to stop comparing me to somebody who only exists on paper?  
D.R.

Dear D.R.  
Uncle Mike is beside himself with joy at the chance to help. Truth is an interesting word. Unless the Vatican is keeping it from him, something they'd have little reason to do, Uncle Mike isn't on any short list. Unless the world is in even more dire shape than CNN is letting on, he can't imagine being even on a very long one. As Uncle Mike has tried many times to make plain, he's just out here with his eyes and ears open and his mouth mostly shut, doing his level best to figure out what it means to be human. He has his good days and his bad days. The good ones are when there's a poker game; the bad ones are generally when there isn't. In between, he bumbles along, arranging words on paper, drinking coffee and smoking cigarettes and trying to do as little emotional damage as he can. Like yours, his life is a comedy of errors, some of them less funny than others; too many of them cause for embarrassment and regret. Please tell your girlfriend for Uncle Mike that there are legions of people who have, for one good reason or another, given up on him entirely. Fortunately, none of them are in his poker support group.

**Cannon Beach Historical Society Presents:**

**SHIRLEY GITTELSON**

**Haystack Rock:**

**My Vanished View Twenty Years Later**

My personal reaction to the loss, 20 years ago, of our view of Haystack Rock and the political turmoil surrounding the building of Breakers Point Condominiums.

October 5, 2001 – January 5, 2002

Opening reception Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm

At

Cannon Beach History House  
Corner of Spruce and Sunset

Open 1-5pm Wednesday through Saturday  
Call (503) 436-9301 or visit Shirley's website @  
<http://members.aol.com/shirlygitt/index.html>

**Tracy Erfling N.D.**

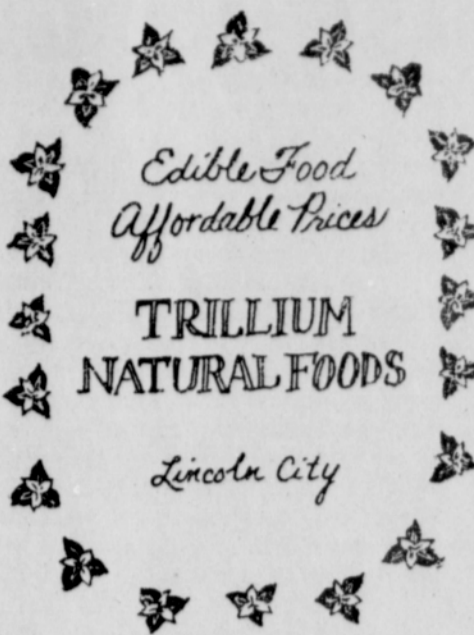
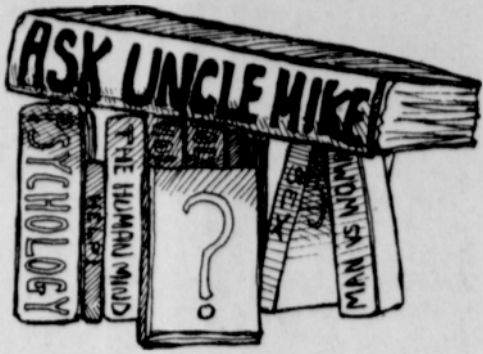
Naturopathic Physician



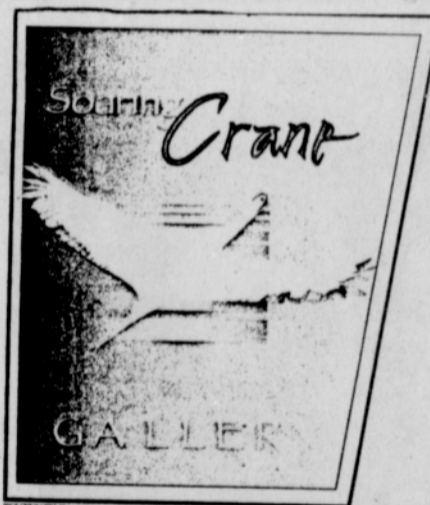
Treating Women  
& Their Families



1010 Duane • Astoria, Oregon 97103  
Phone: 503-325-9194 • Email: [erflingnd@hotmail.com](mailto:erflingnd@hotmail.com)

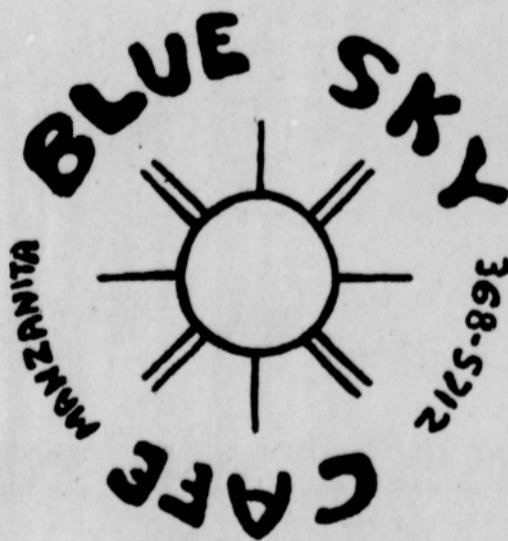


OSBORNESTUDIO.COM  
FINE ART, SMALL EDITION  
PRINTS, COMMERCIAL  
RENDERINGS & GRAPHICS  
LIVE VISITING RIGHTS  
BY APPOINTMENT  
503 368 7518  
EMAIL VIA WEBSITE



**SOARING CRANE GALLERY**  
Ground floor Inn at Cape Kiwanda  
1-877-397-8444 Pacific City

"Whereas each man claims his freedom as a matter of right, the freedom he accords to other men is a matter of toleration."  
Walter Lippman



**LEARN**

"The best thing for being sad," replied Merlyn, beginning to puff and blow, "is to learn something. That is the only thing that never fails. You may grow old and trembling in your anatomies, you may lie awake at night listening to the disorder of your veins, you may miss your only love, you may see the world about you devastated by evil lunatics, or know your honor trampled in the sewers of baser minds. There is only one thing for it then -- to learn. Learn why the world wags and what wags it. That is the only thing which the mind can never exhaust, never alienate, never be tortured by, never fear or distrust, and never dream of regretting."

— From "The Once and Future King" by T. H. White  
Quoted in the Powell's Bookstore online newsletter this week.  
([newsletter@powells.com](mailto:newsletter@powells.com))



Hibiki Miyazaki

**In the Name of Art.**

Mike works at Bill's and one day he set a jar on the bar labeled "In the Name of Art." He'd dropped a dollar in it as bait. So, we had to ask, "What in the name of art is that all about?" He explained that he was tired of artists looking at their art as a hobby, something you do after your "real" job, and how that idea is put in our heads at an early age. "Oh, Johnny sure can draw, you name it he can draw it, and he has a nice sense of color too, but he's better off working at the gas station, and besides you know how those artists are, kinda weird, and they all starve all the time." Mike hates that. So he decided to try to change that way of thinking where it could do some good, in the schools.

Mike and his friend Turtle got a plan together and formed a non-profit and began raising funds. They put jars in bars, and bookstores and various places in the area. When thought they had enough they went to Seaside High School and talked to the art teachers. They asked the teachers to identify the students who had talent enough to be working artists if they were given the motivation, then asked to see the students' work and meet with them. They then offered to buy work from the students. Cash money.

Mike told us of one student who was very good, who had drawings and some collage works, and they asked him how much he wanted for one piece. "\$50," he said. "Sold!" Mike said. The student's eyes got wide and when Mike asked the price of another piece the student said slyly, "\$60." "Sold!" said Mike. Then Mike said you could almost hear the kid thinking, "Wow, I just made \$110 off some stuff I did in class, what could I get if I really worked at this?" Which was the whole idea.

After Mike and Turtle bought enough work to deplete their budget, they took the drawings and paintings and had them matted and framed. They also arranged to have them hung with the students' other works in the annual art show at Seaside High, and made sure they were marked "sold." It's funny how that works. Family and friends can be counted on to buy some of the students' work; but seeing what were arguably the best pieces already gone, inspired them to look at the other pieces and the students themselves a little differently.

Mike says the kids look at themselves a little differently once a stranger has paid them for creating art. They look at their art as something that has value, not just to them, but to the rest of the community as well. Some might think of this as commercializing art, that money taints "true" art, and want to cling to the "starving artist" stereotype. Mike won't have it. If we want being an artist to be a respectable occupation we have to show it respect and in this society money is the main medium we use to do that.

So far *In the Name of Art* has done the same thing at Astoria High School and is planning to branch out in the area. They are working with the Seaside Parks Department and presenting a twenty-four hour "Art-a-thon" for the whole family November 10th. We asked Mike about the why he called this effort "In the Name of Art"? "It just looks good on a check," he said. It does too, try it.

Contact *In the Name of Art*:  
P.O. Box 411, Seaside, OR 97183-0411  
(503) 717-0927 or  
[www.inthenameofart.org](http://www.inthenameofart.org)

Sometimes A Great Lotion

\* Fine Lingerie and Sleepwear  
\* Crabtree & Evelyn®  
Bath, Body and Home Fragrance  
239 N. Hemlock #4, Cannon Beach • (503) 436-0129

**Copies & Fax**

**BUSINESS CARDS  
SIGNS & BANNERS  
LAMINATING/FLYERS  
BROCHURES/FORMS  
OFFICE SUPPLIES  
FAST UPS SERVICE  
COMPUTER SUPPORT  
INTERNET ACCESS  
NOTARY SERVICE**

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

cannon beach  
arts association  
Presents:

**Inkling Studio Printmakers**

- Sherrie Funkhouser
- Liza Jones
- Paul Miller
- Hibiki Miyazaki
- Gerald Purdy
- Nicole Rawlins
- John Saling
- Margaret Van Patten

Inkling Studio is an independent printmakers' workshop in a 1910 Mom & Pop grocery in the Corbett-Lair area of Southwest Portland. Over the last 21 years seventy-eight artists have shared space, presses and expertise. The etchings and engravings in this exhibition were made by 8 of the 18 current members.

October 6<sup>th</sup> – October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2001  
Opening reception  
Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 6-8pm

Cannon Beach Gallery  
1064 S. Hemlock  
Cannon Beach, OR  
(503) 436-0744