

FICTION SERIES

A mystery on the Long Beach Peninsula

Award-winning journalist contributes to fiction series

By **ALYSSA EVANS**
COAST WEEKEND EDITOR



This week marks the 10th entry in Coast Weekend's fiction writing series. Here is "The Diary," a story by Tom Hallman Jr., a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter at The Oregonian.

'The Diary'

I'm sending this to the Chinook

Observer from a motel room. Take it as a warning not to pick up a diary you may find in the bushes on Sandridge Road.

I found the diary in an antique store in Long Beach. The clerk told me another customer had a hold on it but had not come back to pay for it.

I began reading it that night. The previous owner, who lived on the peninsula in the 1950s, had learned about a man who pulled off a heist in Portland in the 1940s, and came to Ocean Park to hide. He brought with him \$300,000, now worth about \$3.2 million.

My diary writer learned the money was buried under a specific headstone in the Oysterville Pioneer Cemetery. He planned

to get it, but had to wait until the thief's son, who'd been poking around town, returned to Portland.

That night, my phone rang.

"That diary is my father's," a man said. "The clerk gave me your number. I'm coming to get it, and you."

I left town, throwing the diary out the window on Sandridge Road. I'm the only person alive who knows the name of the

headstone. If you read the diary, you will be the second.

Sometimes, too much information is a terrible thing.

Excuse me, I hear a knock at the door. I'll be right back.

Maybe it's best hit "send" in case something happens to me.

our coast weekend

ON THE COVER

Hazel Schlesinger is the Stormy Weather Arts Festival's featured artist. Her work is shown by Northwest By Northwest Gallery.



STAFF AND CONTRIBUTORS

COAST WEEKEND EDITOR

ALYSSA EVANS

CALENDAR COORDINATOR

SARAH SMITH

CONTRIBUTORS

ZOE BUCHLI

NANCY MCCARTHY

BARBARA LLOYD McMICHAEL

NATALIE SKOWLUND

To advertise in Coast Weekend, call 503-325-3211 or contact your local sales representative.

© 2020 COAST WEEKEND



Find it all online!

CoastWeekend.com

features full calendar listings, keyword search and easy sharing on social media.



The Freedom
MARKET

YOUR #1 PREMIER CANNABIS RETAILER

LARGEST SELECTION
FRIENDLY & KNOWLEDGEABLE STAFF
ELITE PRODUCTS

— For Washington Residents —

Ilwaco (8am - 10pm) 360-261-7200 133 Howerton Ave	Cathlamet (8am - 10pm) 360-849-4504 327 WA-4	Kelso (8am - 12am) 360-636-0420 820A West Side Hwy	Longview (8am - 12am) 360-703-3229 971 14th Ave
--	---	---	--

WARNING: This product has intoxicating effects and may be habit forming. There may be health risks associated with the consumption of this product. For use only by adults 21 and over. Keep out of reach of children. Marijuana can impair concentration, coordination, and judgement. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence of this drug.

Coast Weekend is published every Thursday by the EO Media Group, all rights reserved. No part of this publication can be reproduced without consent of the publisher. Coast Weekend appears weekly in The Astorian and the Chinook Observer.

TO SUBMIT AN ITEM

Phone: 503.325.3211 Ext. 217 or 800.781.3211

Fax: 503.325.6573

E-mail: editor@coastweekend.com

Address: P.O.Box 210 • 949 Exchange St. Astoria, OR 97103