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on the cover

Joe Hymer, who splits his time between Vancouver and Chinook, digs for clams in Seaview on the second night of 2016's first clam time on the Long Beach Peninsula. Long Beach hosts its annual Razor Clam Festival on Saturday and Sunday, April 9 and 10.

Photo by Natalie St. John

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Ales & Ideas asks how to end child sexual abuse

Margaret Frimoth to discuss the needed cultural shifts, social transformations

ASTORIA — From the moment of birth, sacred ceremonies encircle the small, fragile human being with special blessings, naming rituals, prayers, offerings, and celebrations. From remote, bucolic villages to frenzied city centers, family members wait expectantly for the first glimpse of a newborn, a symbolic representation of hope for the future.

Yet, soon after birth, far too many children experience a life story that has little connection to nurturance, honor, safety or nonviolence.

Despite decades of efforts to stop child sexual abuse, the epidemic continues. How is this possible? What prevents us from truly loving and protecting our children? What cultural shifts or social transformations need to occur to align our values and ensure that the sexual abuse of children is eliminated?

Margaret Frimoth will address these questions in her talk "Do We Really Love Our Children?: Ending Child Sexual Abuse," at the next Clatsop Community College Ales and Ideas lecture.

The presentation will take place at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 7 at the Fort George Lovell Showroom, located at 426 14th St. Doors open at 6 p.m. The event is free and open to all ages. Food and beverages

Coast Weekend welcomes comments and contributions from readers. New items for publication consideration must be submitted by 10 a.m. Tuesday, one week and two days before publication.

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Ales & Ideas

7 p.m. Thursday, April 7

Fort George Lovell Showroom

426 14th St., Astoria

All ages

Free

will be available for purchase.

Frimoth began her early career as a family sexual abuse specialist. In 1988, she established her "heart work": the Victory Over Child Abuse (VOCA) Camps for child survivors of sexual abuse. The annual camps continue today. Frimoth is currently the direc-

tor of the Lives in Transition and Counseling Programs at Clatsop Community College.

April is the national Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The goal of SAAM is to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate communities on how to prevent it.



Submitted photo

Margaret Frimoth will discuss how to eliminate child sex abuse at the next Ales & Ideas lecture on Thursday, April 7.

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