

## BRIEF

## Chatham Literacy's Spring for Literacy Luncheon and Tuscany Raffle

For the ninth year, Chatham Literacy will host their Spring for Literacy Luncheon to provide free educational services. It will be held at Governors Club on **Wednesday, April 10 from 11 a.m.–2 p.m.**

Bestselling and beloved author Frances Mayes will be the featured speaker. Ms. Mayes has written numerous memoirs, travel guides and novels, including *Under the Tuscan Sun*, which was made into a major motion picture starring Diane Lane.

Frances Mayes will be highlighting her new book, *See You in the Piazza* (Crown; March 12, 2019), an insider's travel guide to Italy. In researching it, she discovers the hidden pleasures of Italy in a sumptuous travel narrative that crisscrosses the country, with inventive new recipes celebrating Italian cuisine.

The Roman Forum, the Leaning Tower, the Piazza San Marco: these are the sights synonymous with Italy. But such landmarks only scratch the surface of this magical country's offerings. In *See You in the Piazza*, Frances Mayes introduces us to the Italy only the locals know, as she and her husband eat and drink their way through thirteen regions — from Friuli to Sicily. Along the way, she seeks out the cultural and historic

gems not found in traditional guidebooks.

You can pre-order or buy Ms. Mayes new book from McIntyre's Books and they will donate 20% of your purchase to Chatham Literacy. All you have to do is mention Chatham Literacy when buying your book.

The Spring for Literacy Luncheon is an important annual fundraising and awareness raising event for Chatham Literacy. Chatham Literacy provides free tutoring to adults in reading, writing, English for Speakers of Other Languages, workforce soft skills, and preparation for Citizenship and a GED. It is the most popular event Chatham Literacy holds each year. Buy your tickets before they are sold out.

Tickets are \$100 per person, \$75 of which is tax deductible. Register today to attend at [ChathamLiteracy.org](http://ChathamLiteracy.org) or call 919-214-1269.

## WANT TO TAKE YOUR OWN TRIP TO ITALY?

You can win a Tuscany vacation for two valued at up to \$5,000 with a raffle ticket offered by Chatham Literacy, including flights, five night hotel accommodations, breakfasts, and

transportation to/from the airport to the hotel.

The Bernini Palace Hotel is set in a 15th century building and holds a prime location in Florence's city center.

Raffle tickets are \$100 each. There will only be 250 tickets sold. The winning ticket will

be drawn during the luncheon. You do not need

to be present to win. Buy your ticket while they last and support Chatham Literacy's free adult education.

Place your order today at [ChathamLiteracy.org](http://ChathamLiteracy.org) or call 919-214-1269.

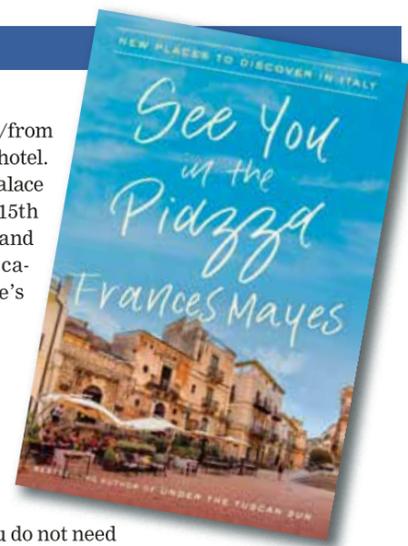


PHOTO BY MELISSA HLAVAC

## ClydeFEST: folk art fun for kids

Are you ready to have a bright sunshiney day full of fun? The Chatham Arts Council's 17th annual ClydeFEST is on **April 6!** We're excited and you can tell but let's slow down for a second in case we're catching some of you who may not have experienced the joy that is ClydeFEST — yet.

ClydeFEST, sponsored by The Jester Group at Baird, is an old-school kids' carnival celebrating Clyde Jones, a renowned folk artist, lovingly known locally as the "critter artist." And the festival is almost as unique as Clyde is.

ClydeFEST features Clyde's critter cut-outs, local artists, young and talented musicians, face-painting, old-fashioned and custom carnival games, clowns, fabulous local food trucks, and of course, lots of hands-on arts and crafts projects!

"One of the things we love most about ClydeFEST is seeing so many different parts of our Chatham community come together to celebrate creativity and art with children," expressed Cheryl Chamblee, Chatham Arts Council Executive Director. "Something that

started as a small, local event now draws crowds from Raleigh, Durham, and communities across the Triangle. It's a true gem in Chatham County and we're thrilled to host it with all of our amazing partners each year."

ClydeFEST takes place only in Chatham County and only on Saturday, April 6 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Bynum Ballfield. (Well, unless there's a bunch of rain, in which case it'll be Sunday, April 7th from 1 to 5 p.m.) This year, the Sky Blue Express Bus will be ferrying people to and from the event, courtesy of our friends at Carolina Brewery. Park and catch the bus from the Carolina Brewery in Pittsboro to Bynum. The bus will leave on the half hour from Pittsboro and on the hour from Bynum from 10:30 a.m. until around 4:30 or so.

Tickets will be available for purchase soon — watch our website for those. Meanwhile, we have sponsorship opportunities for excellent local businesses, booth opportunities for groups who want connect with youngsters and their parents, and volunteer spots for good folks who want to help make this super fun day happen. We hope to see you on April 6, getting messy, having fun, and simply enjoying this art-filled day.

<https://www.chathamartscouncil.org/clydefest-2019-save-the-date/>

## LOVE, Chatham County style

What is this thing called Love? I don't pretend to know much about it, but they did nickname me "Tamilove" in college.

Love is beautiful. Love is painful. Love is complicated. Love is delicious. And love is, above all, what we strive for to reach a higher place of awareness. I know that love brings tears to my eyes, lumps to my throat and sometimes pits in my stomach. Love can make one feel fearless, super human, and invincible.

I understand what it's like to love a child, to love a partner, to be in that obsessive state of new exciting love, to love a friend, to love nature, to love this life, and to have passion. We all experience love differently depending on how we were raised, our experiences and our ancestors. Love is a reflection, a projection and sometimes a rejection.

Abundance NC examines and celebrates grief at Death Faire in November every year. We bring in experts to share their wisdom. With meaningful speakers, unique vendors, musicians, storytellers, and interactive art, we examine death and grief in our culture.

The last few years have taught me that grief is directly proportional to love. This inspired Abundance NC to shake things up!

This spring, we're hosting an event focused on affection, appreciation, devotion, tenderness, fondness, friendship, infatuation, lust, passion, respect, attachment and non-attachment, acceptance, enchantment, emotion, and basic adoration.

Think Again: Love will take place on **April 19th and 20th** in Pittsboro at The Plant, home of the newly formed Chatham Beverage District. Abundance NC events bring together commerce, education, entertainment, community, poetry, singing, local food, local spirits, connection, and magic.

As our second event in the Think Again Series, this festival-conference hybrid will



be a little edgy and lots of fun. We sense a need as a community to explore these different aspects of love, as a way of healing ourselves. We believe this greater understanding of love will ripple out to the community, mend divides between all people, mend this earth. Topics include how to talk to your children, how to speak to each other, sexual empowerment, gender exploration, the history of burlesque, consent, self-love, and we'll celebrate the coming of spring, of life and LOVE.

We are thrilled to bring to town, Vanessa Jackson, a soul doula to keynote: *Conjuring a Love Revolution: Everyday Acts of Love to Transform Our Communities*. The evening before will be an Amuse Bouche (taste of the event) and will feature community leaders discussing what it's going to look like to reach our goals of a loving community. A community that supports each other no matter how different we are, a community that helps each other in times of crisis. A community that is healthy and protects our environment as we go through all the changes. An equitable and fair community. The root of the problem is talking about the hard subjects with each other, pushing through our fear and beliefs. We will visualize this together.

Join us. In the words of Mary Oliver, "And I say to my heart, rave on."

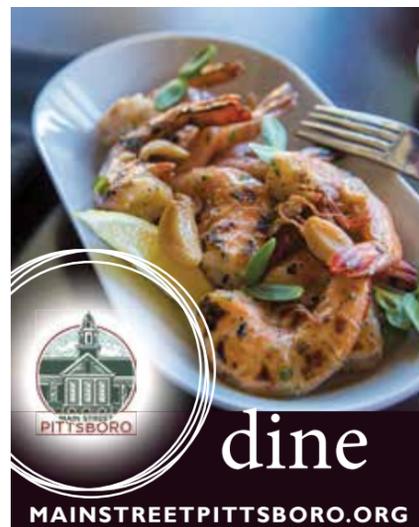
For more information and tickets, check out our website: [www.abundancenc.org](http://www.abundancenc.org)

— Tami Schwerin, Executive Director, Abundance NC

## NATURE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

I recently came across two quotes I would like to share with you. The first quote is from Aldo Leopold who many would say is the father of modern day wildlife management. It goes like this:



"One of the penalties of an ecological education is that one lives alone in a world of wounds. Much of the damage inflicted on land is quite invisible to laymen. An ecologist must either harden his shell and make believe that the consequences of science are none of his business, or he must be the doctor who sees the marks of death in a community that believes itself well and does not want to be told otherwise."



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It is very difficult for me not to become very angry and hardened about what I see we are doing to the earth and the many people who just do not see or care, so I try to connect with Nature as much as I can by paddling and hiking. With death and dying all around, Nature will show you the miracle of life.

The second quote is from Wendell Berry, a Kentucky organic farmer, author and poet. His quote goes like this:

"When despair for the world grows in me and I wake in the night at the least sound, in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be, I go and lie down where the wood drake rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds. I come into the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief. I come into the presence of still water. And I feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light. For a time I rest in the grace of the world, and am free."

Joe Jacob, a Chatham resident for more than 30 years and a marine biologist by training, is president of The Haw River Canoe & Kayak Co., [www.hawrivercanoe.com](http://www.hawrivercanoe.com), 336.260.6465. He worked for The Nature Conservancy for 20 years and served as Director of Science for TNC's Southeast Region.

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**County Line**

"where all voices are heard"

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Chatham County Line is a community newspaper serving all of Chatham County as well as the southern part of Orange. Our mission is to inform our community by providing a forum "where all voices are heard." We seek all views and ideas about our community, and we report on important matters — including our cultural life — comprehensively and in-depth. Our commitment is to create the best-written, best-edited and most stylish community newspaper anywhere. Chatham County Line is published ten times a year.

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