

LA PAROLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ACADIAN MUSEUM

By Warren A. Perrin, Chairman

February 2022

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SHARE THE GOOD NEWS!

If you know anyone who'd like to get this newsletter, send their name and email address to darylinb@plddo.com.

HELP PROMOTE THE CULTURE

Your tax-deductible contributions¹ can help fund these important projects:

- Finding the [lost location](#) of our first Acadian settlement.
- Transcribing and digitizing tapes of rare and valuable interviews.
- Developing videos and podcasts for distribution online.
- Promoting the French language and "immersion" programs.
- Expanding and categorizing our holdings of cultural treasures.

You can donate¹ [online](#) or by sending a check to The Acadian Museum, P.O. Box 53597, Lafayette, LA 70505.

UNSUBSCRIBE

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please send your request to darylinb@plddo.com.

¹The Acadian Museum is a Louisiana 501(c)(3) nonprofit. All contributions are tax-deductible.

MUSEUM NEWS

Passing It On Workshops

On March 12, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Mary Perrin, Mary Ann Armbruster, Ph.d., Beverly Fusilier, Nancy Adkins, DVM, Tina Vidrine, Melanie Francois will present the workshop Healing Traditions of Acadiana. This workshop will take place at the Erath Community Building, 100 City Park Drive, Erath, Louisiana.

On April 2, starting at 10:00 a.m., Elaine Bourque and Austin Clark will demonstrate the spinning and weaving of Acadian brown cotton, highlighting the techniques of Madame Dronet. This workshop will take place at the Perrin Farm in Prairie Greig, 6805 Hwy 330 in Erath, Louisiana.

Pre-registration is required for the workshops. For more information about these workshops, call the Acadian Museum at 337-456-7729 or consult info@acadianmuseum.com.

Visit Us, "Like" Us on Facebook, or Shop in Our Store!

The Acadian Museum is open Tuesday-Friday from 1-4 pm and Saturdays from 10-noon. But you can also visit us online using the links below. For group tours, dial 337 456-7729.

Website: www.acadianmuseum.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/AcadianMuseum

Museum Store: www.acadianmuseum.com/boutique.html

ACADIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE FOUNDATION, INC.

203 S. Broadway, Erath, Louisiana 70533 | (337) 233-5832 or (337) 456-7729 | acadianmuseum.com

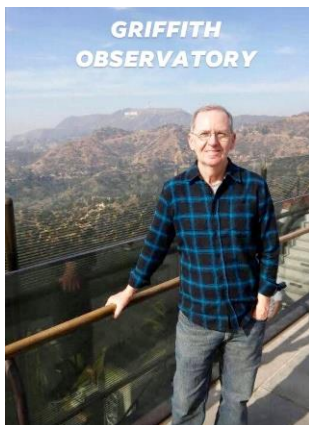
Museum Grants Update

Dr. David Cheramie Works with Museum on Projects

We were awarded a \$3,000 grant by the Jazz and Heritage Foundation from New Orleans which will be used to help us continue digitizing our recordings and tapes. Dr. David Cheramie, who was Director of CODOFIL when I was president, has launched a new business doing public relations and I have retained him on an hourly basis to help promote our French books and seek other grants for the museum... he is presently working on one grant seeking funds from the Louisiana Tourism Department.

Museum Volunteer of the Month

Ron Bodin



Inspired by his parents, the children of sharecroppers, he devoted his life to education. Along the way, giants molded his teaching. Dr. Huey McCauley challenged him to research teaching

methods. Dr. Anne Dobie molded his composition and rhetoric skills. Doctors Patricia and Milton Rickels taught him to love all things Acadian and Louisiana. Dr. Carl Brasseaux and Glen Conrad mentored his editing skills while serving as managing editor of UL's *Attakapas Gazette*. Along the way he taught some 3000

students, visited with President Clinton at the White House and traveled the world. Blessed, Quito, he will return.

Ron Bodin (educator from '73-2018)

Book Signings

We are accepting invitations to give presentations. Here are some scheduled talks:

- April 11, SAGE seminar, Thompson Conference Center, University of Texas, Austin Texas at 2:30 p.m.
- April 30, La. Sports Hall of Fame Museum, 800 Front St., Natchitoches, LA at 2:00 p.m.

Museum Visitors



Recent visitors to the museum from the Central American country of Honduras are, left to right, Crystal Belaire, Carolina Belaire, Shannon Belaire and Ariana Belaire. Shannon is from Henry, Louisiana. He went to work for Fruit of the Loom in 1992. Belaire followed the company to San Pedro Sula, Honduras in 2002 and married Carolina in 2003.



On January 20, 2022, videographer Kel Bonton (above) filmed some highlights inside the Acadian Museum to be used by the Louisiana Department of Tourism for promoting the state via commercials. He was hosted by the museum by docent Bonnie Broussard.



On a cold and windy January 20th afternoon docents Bonnie and Anna were not expecting to have any visitors show up. To their surprise a couple from New Hampshire driving through Acadiana came upon the Acadian Museum and thoroughly enjoyed their two-hour visit—and a fresh cup of Mellow Joy coffee.

Recent Deaths

Florence Brown LaFleur

We were sad to hear of the death of Florence Brown LaFleur, the mother of Amanda Lafleur, long-time member of CODOFIL board and former LSU professor of French. Florence was a cultural activist and represented Louisiana on trips with her husband Dwight to foreign countries.

Phil Lank

Sadly, Phil Lank, longtime community development director and businessman has died. He was a co-founder of *Festival International de Louisiane* and made several trips to foreign countries as a representative of Lafayette.

Dolores Dubois

Dolores died on January 10th. Our sympathies go out to Rene D. McDermott and the DuBois family for the death of Delores Bolner DuBois, who—along with her husband Mayor Richard DuBois—was an early supporter of the museum and came to Canada with our group when we twinned with Bertrandville.

Louise Libersat



Living Legend Louise Libersat has died at the age of 104. She was inducted on October 2, 2016 and is pictured at left on the day of her induction at the Perrin farm.

Museum Exhibits

I recently reworked some of our museum's exhibits and photos below show the changes.



We added some new and improved display cards...



We created a new Native American Mi'Kmaq exhibition...



I moved the big, beautiful photo (bottom) of the Henry Texaco Plant next to the other one...



I rearranged this area, so this important material is now more in focus...



We moved the salt miner's uniform to give it more visibility. Our Pass it On workshops have been very well-received and people continue to register for the ones set for March and April.

around the vernacular knowledge systems of this, the most watery of states. Submissions can explore any areas related to Louisiana's aquatic entanglements and their manifestations in folklore and/or

All submissions should be made via email to louisianafolklore@gmail.com with the subject heading: "Waterlore Submission."

Civil Rights Icon Ruby Bridges Named 2022 Humanist of the Year

We received this email from Mirand Restovic, Louisiana Endowment for Humanites:



Author, activist, and civil rights icon Ruby Bridges has been named the LEH 2022 Humanist of the Year. The LEH has also announced ten additional Humanities Awards recipients, recognizing documentary filmmakers and photographers, folklorists, literacy and language advocates, historians, and more.

Now in their 37th year, the Humanities Awards offer a collective opportunity to celebrate all the humanities have to offer and honor those who have made significant contributions to the understanding of Louisiana's history and culture. View the full list of awardees [here](#).

LOUISIANA CAJUN NEWS

Call for Papers - Louisiana Folklore Society

CFP: Waterlore: Vernacular Knowledge in a State of Change

The Louisiana Folklore Society seeks papers, presentations, panel proposals, and creative works related to or inspired by the theme of Waterlore for its annual meeting, on April 1-2, 2022 at the Teche Center for the Arts in Breaux Bridge, Louisiana. Deadline is March 1.

The theme of Waterlore is suggestive rather than prescriptive, but we hope to encourage discussion and collaboration around the many ways in which aqueous issues flow into and

Art in Bloom at NOMA in New Orleans

NOMA and the NOMA and the Garden Study Club of New Orleans invite you to Art in Bloom: In Full Bloom Presented by IBERIABANK | First Horizon, open to the public March 24–27.



Want to see more art in 2022? A [membership to NOMA](#) is an easy way to make sure you don't miss out. Members receive free museum

admission, invitations to special events, and so much more

History of Perrin's Work to Obtain the Royal Proclamation from the Queen

For anyone who is interested in reading more information about the history of my work in obtaining the Royal Proclamation from the Queen, you may want to check out this website posted below the French email. It contains the English translation of the infamous Articles of Capitulation of Montreal (1760), which treated the Acadians differently than every other group—preventing them from returning to their homes. This was an important document to show mistreatment of Acadians by *both* France and England. This was sent to me by my friend from Canada Mario Lagacé.

Bonjour M. Perrin,

Je veux partager avec vous un document historique important. Il s'agit des Articles de la capitulation de Montréal du 8 septembre 1760.

Le document est une traduction, la version originale a été rédigée en français par le Marquis de Vaudreuil.

Le document porte surtout sur la protection des droits des résidents de Montréal.

Le général Amherst accepte et signe le document au nom de la Grande-Bretagne mais ajoute la mention "Granted except what regards the Acadians." Mario Lagacé, Ottawa

[Articles of Capitulation, Montreal](#)

Amherst (below) was a highly decorated military man and an advocate of biological warfare against Indigenous people.



As an initiative to change the name of Port-la-Joye—Fort Amherst National Historic Site on P.E.I. is being debated, a researcher weighs in on the history of Jeffery Amherst.

Mi'kmaq elders and the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of P.E.I. have raised questions about the honouring of Amherst, by naming sites after him — arguing he was not only an enemy of Indigenous people, but worse.

To say Amherst was a decorated military man would be an understatement. He was a Field Marshal in the British Army. He served during the Seven Years' War in New France or modern-day

Nova Scotia. He also held the offices of Governor of Quebec as well as Crown Governor of Virginia and was named a Lord.

[Extirpate this execrable race': The dark history of Jeffery Amherst | CBC News](#)

Music Returns to NUNU February

We received this from NUNU Arts and Culture Collective:

Grand Coteau Front Porch Brings Dylan LeBlanc to Singleton's Pure Music Stage



Performance begins at 7:30 p.m., on Wednesday, Feb. 14 at NUNU Arts and Culture Collective. \$20 suggested donation. Doors 6pm. No food will be served. BYOB. At this time, we don't anticipate any Covid rules for this event. To reserve your seat visit [eventbrite.com/e/dylan-leblanc-live-at-nunu](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dylan-leblanc-live-at-nunu)

SchoolMint to Partner with French Immersion School in St. Landry Parish

This article by Adam Daigle appeared in *The Acadian Advocate*:



Ecole Saint-Landry, the French immersion school that opened in August, has partnered with SchoolMint to attract more students to the school.

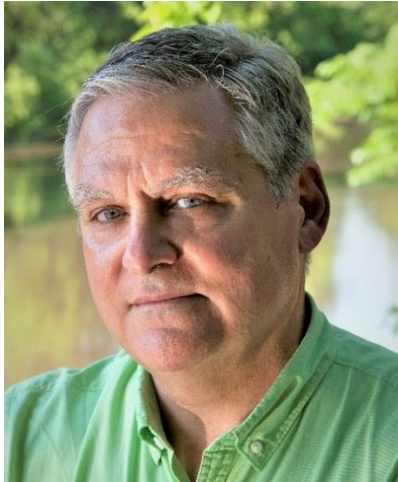
The move was the result of the William C. Schumacher Family Foundation, which connected the school with the Lafayette-based educational software company with the charter school in Sunset. SchoolMint will assist with attracting, enrolling and retaining more students, families and teachers, foundation officials announced Monday.

Applications began Jan. 3 for the 2022-23 school year.

https://www.theadvocate.com/acadiana/news/business/article_fa9612fa-7260-11ec-a3cb-43438b9eb356.html

Learn French with *Alliance Française*

Cajun French - Beginners with Dr. David Cheramie



Dr. David Cheramie grew up in the Cajun village of Golden Meadow on the Bayou Lafourche. He has published three collections of poetry with a fourth one scheduled to

come out this spring. He was Executive Director of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL) from 1998 to 2011. He is a Knight in the French Order of Arts and Letters and a member of the Quebec Order of Francophones in the Americas. He has a doctorate in Francophone studies from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He writes "En français, s'il vous plaît" in *Acadiana Profile* magazine. His writing can be found on his blog, *Un bougre du bayou*, at davidcheramie.blogspot.com. [Register here](#)

Monus Park Offering Free French Program

This article by Ashley White appeared in the *Daily Advertiser*:

Moncus Park is offering free classes, including fitness, dance and art programs, as part of its community programming.

The non-profit park announced the schedule for the first three months of 2022 on Monday.

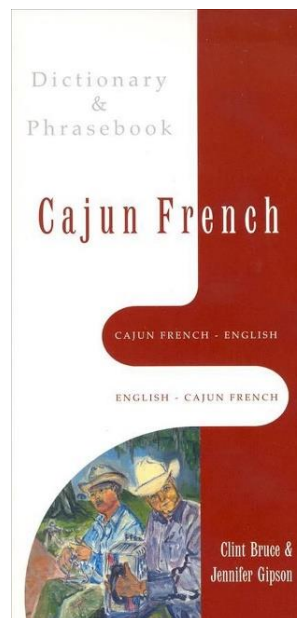
"The park partnered with local nonprofits, businesses and entrepreneurs to produce these programs that focus on three core pillars: arts and culture, health and wellness, and environmental education," park spokesperson Mary Allie Hebert said in a release.

- March 3, 5:30-6:30 p.m. - Ecole St. Landry introduction to French for all ages

The full schedule can be found at Moncus Park website: <https://moncuspark.org/events/>

Cajun Creation: Local Art, Books and Music

[This article](#) appeared in *Acadiana Lifestyle*:



Cajun French Dictionary & Phrasebook by Clint Bruce & Jennifer Gipson Paperback: \$12.95 At the heart of Cajun culture is a fascinating dialect of French that has survived the forces of Americanization and is still spoken by over 250,000 residents of Louisiana. With a historical overview and

an introduction to the language, this book answers many common questions about Cajun French. The preface by David Cheramie, executive director of the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL), offers the viewpoint of an influential leader in the movement to preserve Louisiana's unique linguistic heritage. - Pronunciation guide - Basic grammar - Frequently asked questions about

Cajun French - 3,800 dictionary entries - Essential phrases

Louisiana Historical Association Announcements

We received this email from James D. Wilson Jr.,
Secretary-Treasurer:

Louisiana History - Vol. LXII, No. 4

The Fall 2021 issue of *Louisiana History* has been delayed at the printer. Recent supply chain issues have led to a shortage of paper. The printer has informed us that this issue may not mail out until February at the earliest. The Fall 2021 issue of the journal has been posted to the [LHA website](#) and is accessible to active members.

2022 Annual Meeting

The 2022 Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Historical Association is scheduled for March 17-19 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at the Crowne Plaza Executive Center. Guest room reservations can be made by calling (800) 678-4065. Please state that you will be attending the LHA meeting in order to receive a discounted room rate. Attendees will be required to show proof of vaccination at check-in and wear masks throughout the meeting. Conference registration will open in late-January and the full program should be available on the [LHA website](#) within the next few days.

Membership Renewals

If you are unsure of your LHA membership status, you can check to see if your membership is up-to-date by logging into the [LHA website](#) and clicking on the "Edit Your Profile" link under the "Membership" pulldown tab on the main navigation bar at the top.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns about the Louisiana Historical Association.

Thank you for your continued support of the LHA.

Sincerely,

James Wilson
(225) 578-0459

Festival Acadiens et Créoles Returns in March to Girard Park

This article by WaTeasa Freeman appeared in the *Daily Advertiser*.

The world's largest free Cajun and Creole music festival returns to Lafayette this spring.

Festivals Acadiens et Créoles will be hosting two festivals in 2022 with the theme "The Great Return" or *Le Grande Retour*. The first festival will take place March 18 through 20 at Girard Park.

The weekend will be filled with South Louisiana culture, cuisine, music, crafts and workshops.

The Tour des Attakapas race will also return.

<https://www.theadvertiser.com/story/entertainment/2022/01/25/festivals-acadiens-et-creoles-returns-girard-park-march-cajun-music-free-culture-cuisine-craft/9210377002/>

See an Eagle at the 17th Annual Eagle Expo

Heading into its 17th year, the Eagle Expo is a tribute to the return of the American Bald Eagle to Louisiana. It was officially removed from the endangered species list in June 2007.

Eagle Expo returns on February 18-19 in Morgan City with a weekend of presentations, social events, birding boat tours, and field trips all set

deep within the Atchafalaya Basin and its surrounding waterways—home to numerous nesting pairs of bald eagles and other rare species of flora and fauna.

This year's Expo will include a presentation by Wings to Soar, sponsored by the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area. This lively and informational presentation showcases an array of eagles, falcons, hawks and owls soaring overhead.

Visit the [event website](#) for more information and to purchase tickets.

Swearing in of French Immersion Senator Jeremy Stine

We received this email from Peggy Feehan, Executive Director of CODOFIL:

Chers membres du Conseil,

Please view the video in the link below, beginning at about 4 minutes, the swearing in of newly-elected Senator Jeremy Stine, from Lake Charles, a former French Immersion student, CODOFIL scholarship recipient, study abroad in France while at LSU, from the Stine Family. Senator Stine took his oath in both English and French.

https://senate.la.gov/s_video/videoarchive.asp?v=senate/2022/02/020122SCHAMB

I met him, met his wife and family, his dad, great folks, it was an honor to be there and witness this, and visit with Michael Vincent who was also there.

FRENCH/ACADIAN NEWS

A World Guinness Record for Acadian Director Phil Comeau



Filmmaker Phil Comeau, a good friend of the Acadian Museum and co-director of our book *Acadie Then and Now: A People's History*, recently received a 300th award for his documentary "*Belle-Île en Acadie*". He smashes the world record and the film's success will soon be entered in the Guinness Book of Records.

With this 300th prize awarded by the Indie Movies Spark International Film Festival, in Utrecht, Netherlands, Phil achieved the world record for the most awards won by a documentary. The film has won hundreds of awards in nearly 60 countries since its release.

"I have already contacted the Guinness Records and they told me that I can register whenever I want," says Phil. "I'll wait another month before sending the official file to the organization because the film is still on the festival circuit and might win more awards. I don't want to be dethroned too quickly by another film in two or five years, so I'm collecting," adds the proud

documentary filmmaker from Saulnierville, Nova Scotia.

The crowdfunded documentary “*Belle-Île en Acadie*” had a snowball effect on the festival circuit. Because the touching film was winning multiple awards, other festivals wanted it in their programming.

“*Belle-Île en Acadie*” was filmed in the Maritime Provinces in Canada before and during the 2019 World Acadian Congress. The film follows a group of Acadians from Belle-Île-en-Mer, France, who come to our continent to meet their "cousins" in Canada and the United States and who explore the ancestral lands of their deported ancestors.

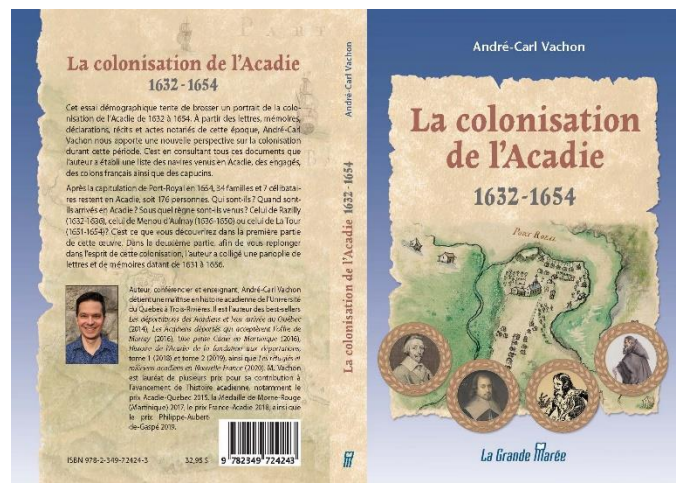
This film is the sequel to his film “*Belle-Île-en-Mer, Breton and Acadian Island*” which followed Acadians from North America who visited the Acadian Bellilois for the celebrations of the 250th anniversary of the arrival of the deported Acadians on their island in Brittany, France.

YouTube Video

On November 9, 2021, the video “1755: the deportation of the Acadians” at the channel “*L'Histoire nous le dira*”, episode # 85, on YouTube, reached 100,000 views. The text was written by André-Carl Vachon and the narrator is Laurent Turcot, professor of history at the University of Quebec at Trois-Rivières.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YfVcDIUNDbw>

Andre-Carl Vachon's New Book To Soon Be Released



Andre-Carl informed us that his 10th book is going to print soon. Professor Gregory Kennedy and Paul Delaney wrote the preface. The title is: *La colonisation de l'Acadie. 1632-1654*.

Also, his collective book, *De racines et de mots* is in the 3rd position of the top 10 "*Coups de cœur culturels*" of the year, in *Acadie Nouvelle*.

Here are excerpts from the preface:

Gregory Kennedy, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History and Scientific Director of the *Institut d'études acadiennes at the Université de Moncton*, said: "The author has carried out an impressive work of synthesis. For the first time, the historian offers a comprehensive list of the leaders, settlers, workers and missionaries in the colony, the result of meticulous work with historiography and colonial archives. If all the popular works devoted to this period name the first white man born in Acadia - this is Mathieu Martin - Vachon is the first person I know of to do the job of identifying the first white woman, Marie Gaudet. Without doubt, the most obvious strength of Vachon's work is its accessibility.

explains the demographic situation in Acadia with clarity and precision, then invites a more in-depth reading of the political, military and economic contexts with historical documents and the numerous references to s fellow historians and historians. Ultimately, Vachon made a laudable effort to replenish the population of European descent in the Port-Royal area and around the Bay of Fundy (the French Bay in the 17th century). Certainly, this work will be an essential reference for anyone interested in this period of the beginnings of permanent colonization."

Paul Delaney, contributor to the Dictionary of Acadian Families by Stephen A. White, said: "Mr. Vachon made a deep and balanced analysis of the arrivals of our ancestors in Acadia between 1632 and 1654. This is another important contribution that Mr. Vachon made to the understanding of the Acadian past."

<https://www.acadienouvelle.com/arts-et-spectacles/2021/12/31/les-coups-de-coeur-culturels-de-2021>

<https://www.septentrion.qc.ca/catalogue/de-racines-et-de-mots>

Books on Beyoncé's Genealogy

Our friend from Belle Ile en mer André Thomas sent to us two books that he prepared on the Acadian genealogy of Beyoncé, as is more particular discuss below in an article from the Internet by Mike Batie. One of the books will be put on display in the Acadian Museum and the other was sent to Beyoncé via her cousin in Erath Willie Mae Broussard.

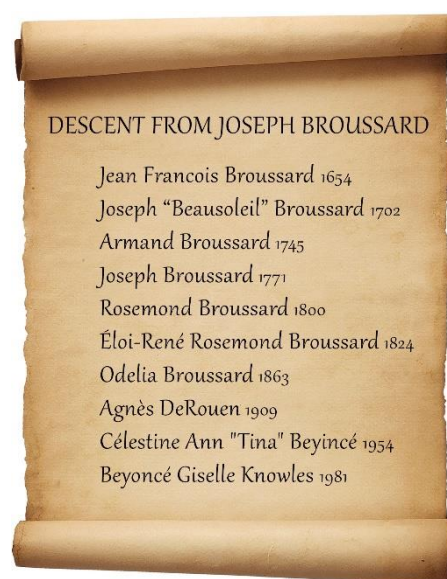
Beyoncé Descended from Acadian Hero and Cajun Pioneer

[This article](#) by Mike Batie appeared in *Hollywood Ancestry*:

Beyoncé's family tree can be traced back to French colonials from Acadia and down to Afro-Creole survivors of slavery.



Through her mother, Beyoncé is the 6th great-granddaughter of Joseph Broussard, the legendary leader and hero of the *Acadians*—French colonists who settled in what is now Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in Canada. The descendants of these colonists would eventually migrate to Louisiana.



After-School Program Aims to Instill French Language Skills in Caribou Youth in Maine

This article by Melissa Lizotte appeared in *The County*:



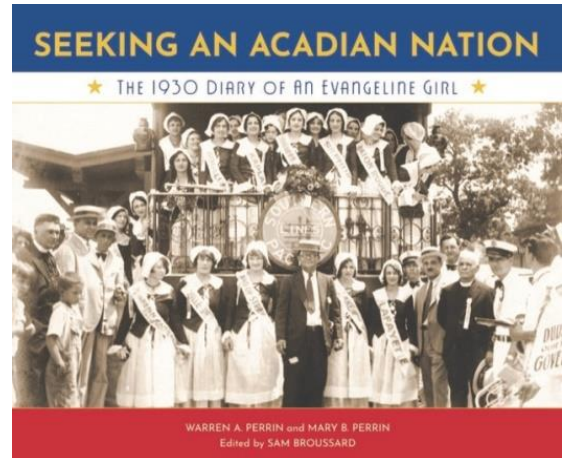
Like many children at Caribou Community School's Power Hour after school program, 10-year-old Benson Belanger is on a mission to learn French and forge stronger cultural connections with his family. Belanger is one of 11 students who have been taking French lessons from Caribou High School teacher Jonna Boure and several of her students throughout this month.

A longtime advocate for French immersion programs in Aroostook, Boure sees Power Hour as an opportunity to bring the language back to elementary students. Currently, there are no French classes being taught at the elementary level and the middle school lost its French program several years ago.

<https://thecounty.me/2022/01/21/news/education/after-school-program-aims-to-instill-french-language-skills-in-caribou-youth/>

LAGNIAPPE

Visit the Boutique / Get Cool Stuff !



Another way to support the museum is by visiting our [online boutique](#) and purchasing one of our books or other souvenirs. Our latest book, [Seeking an Acadian Nation](#), traces the movement toward Acadian reunification across the decades. Other titles and available souvenirs include:

- [Acadie Then and Now: A People's History](#) with articles by Cajun and Acadian authors from around the world.
- [Acadian Redemption](#) - *From Beausoleil Broussard to the Queen's Royal Proclamation* by Warren Perrin.
- *A Century of Acadian Culture, Erath (1899-1999)* by General Curney Dronet.
- *The University of Louisiana's National Championship Weightlifting Teams*
- Historical "picture books" on Vermilion, Iberia, and St. Landry parishes.
- T-shirts, posters, and reproductions.

Help Us Put Acadian Museum YouTube Channel on the Air!



D.L. Menard at Lake Peigneur

For most of last year, we've been announcing that we would release our own YouTube channel of Cajun and Acadian treasures. But **we still need your help to make it happen!** For months, the Center for Louisiana Studies has been working on converting our massive historic collection of videotapes, which will be a major part of what we offer. Here is just one of the videos from that collection: D.L. Menard playing outdoors at Lake Peigneur with the Rees Family Band.

<https://youtu.be/9EHP2TV8Y4A>

We would like to make our channel the number one spot for the best in Cajun videos: food, music, culture, you name it!

Here's how you can help and *have fun* at the same time! Go to www.youtube.com, search for "Cajun," watch a lot of the videos, and send us links to the absolute best ones you can find (email rybernard@gmail.com). Once we have a critical mass of these videos ready for viewing, we will launch the channel. Stay tuned...