

LA PAROLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ACADIAN MUSEUM

By Warren A. Perrin, Chairman

July 2022

CONTENTS	Page
Museum News	1
Louisiana/Cajun News	4
French/Acadian News	8
Lagniappe	13

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.

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

² Dial 337 456-7729 during weekday business hours. On Saturday or if no one answers, dial 337-501-3049.

A Day of Remembrance of the Acadian Deportation

The Queen's Royal Proclamation recognized the British Crown's role in the deaths and suffering of many Acadians and declared July 28 of each year to be observed as a somber Day of Remembrance of the Acadian Deportation.



In 2003, Warren Perrin is shown with the Royal Proclamation issued by Queen Elizabeth declaring July 28 of every year as a "A Day of Commemoration of the Great Upheaval." Photo by Philip Gould.

On July 28, the Royal Proclamation Exhibit at the Acadian Museum in Erath will be open from 1:00 until 4:00. At 5:00 p.m. that day, James Akers will be inducted as a Living Legend at the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville.

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 337 456-7729.²

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 NEWS

Book Talks/Special Events

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

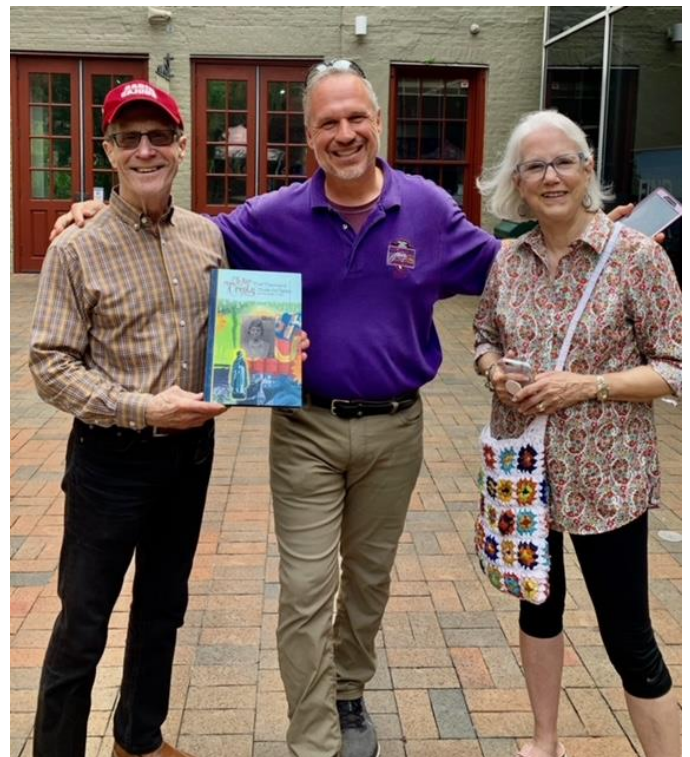
- July 13, 1:00 p.m., *Out to Lunch Acadiana* radio show on KRVS 88.7 FM or krvs.org.
- July 14, 10:00 a.m., “Birth of French Cajun Culture, 1765-present,” Jean Lafitte National Park, 419 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA
- July 20, 10:00 a.m. “Acadian Women in History,” Jean Lafitte National Park, 419 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA
- July 21, noon, “Acadian History Then and Now,” Hancock Historical Society, 198 Cue St., Bay St. Louis, Mississippi
- July 27, at 6:00 p.m., “Revisiting the Queen’s Royal Proclamation on its 19th Anniversary,” Vermilion Historical Society, Abbeville Library, 405 E. St. Victor St., Abbeville, LA 70510
- July 28, 5:00 p.m., “Day of Remembrance of the Acadian Deportation,” Acadian Memorial, St. Martinville, LA
- August 6, at 12:30 p.m., “Acadian Women in History,” Lafourche Heritage Genealogy Seminar, TRMC’s Wellness Center, 726 North Acadia Blvd., Thibodaux, LA
- August 10, at 10:00 a.m., “Revisiting the Queen’s Royal Proclamation on its 19th

Anniversary,” Jean Lafitte National Park, 419 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA

- November 5, at 1:00 p.m., Louisiana Folklife Festival, Longfellow-Evangeline State Historic Site, St. Martinville, LA

Ranger Talk

On June 29, Mary and I enjoyed meeting with Matt Hampsey, Supervisory Ranger at the Jean Lafitte Nation Park in the French Quarter in New Orleans, and touring the beautiful facility at 419 Decatur St. We look forward to working with the staff to make periodic talks on Francophone-related subjects sponsored by the Acadian Museum and the Francophone Section of the Louisiana State Bar Association. The first three talks are listed in the left column on this page.



Warren Perrin, Matt Hampsey, and Mary Perrin.

Presentation at The National WW II Museum



Perrin is shown providing historical perspective on the Acadian/Cajun connection (photo by Frank Arnemann).

On April 27, the National WWII Museum in New Orleans and the Consulate General of Canada presented “Cajun-Acadian WWII Commemoration: A Salute to French-Speaking Veterans,” organized and hosted by Dr. Jason Theriot. The event, which honored the many Cajuns who served as translators for the US Armed Services during WWII, was very well attended and received many accolades. Thanks to everyone for their participation in, or planning of, the event. It was a pleasure working with everyone. With the exceptional work of Jason Theriot Ph.D., we will continue to interview WW II veterans.

Presentation at Breaux Bridge Library



On July 6th I delivered a talk on the 19th Anniversary of the Queen’s Royal Proclamation of 2003 to the Acadian Memorial Genealogy Group in the Breaux Bridge Library. Shown at left is the representative who organized the talk Patty GuteKunst, secretary and former president of the Acadian Memorial Foundation.

Device Used to Prepare Cotton



Elaine Bourque and Austin Clark came to the museum to assemble the spinning wheel donated by Mark Brister (as covered in our [June newsletter](#)). While looking around our exhibit, Austin spotted what we

thought was a bow made for shooting arrows. Actually, it is a rare item used to prepare cotton

by removing the seeds in preparation for cording. We will now remove it from the previous display and included with our textiles exhibit. It is known as an *arc de coton*. If you look carefully you can still see cotton attached to the string.

Small Spinning Wheel Donated to Museum



Patricia Fulmer (L) and Mary Perrin (R)

On June 20, Mary Perrin and I went to New Orleans to pick up this beautiful spinning wheel donated by Mark and Patricia Fullmer.

LOUISIANA/CAJUN NEWS

Bastille Day Celebration



Mark your calendar to join the “Friends of French Studies at LSU” in a Bastille Day Celebration on Thursday, July 14, at the City Club, 355 North Boulevard, Baton Rouge, 5 to 7:00 p.m.

Historic Signing Between Louisiana and Nova Scotia

This article appeared in *The West Side Journal*:

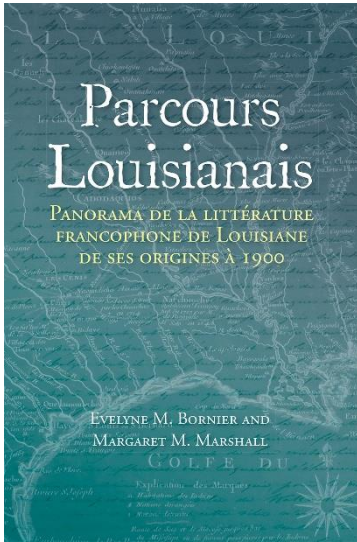
Common ancestry and a desire to preserve and promote the French language and Acadian culture through collaborations, combined with an opportunity to promote economic growth and business development, brought Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser, the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL), and delegates from the Province of Nova Scotia, Canada, together to sign a Memorandum of Understanding.

To read the article, click [here](#).



Shown are (L-R) Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser and the Honorable Colton LeBlanc, Minister of Acadian Affairs and Francophone for the Province of Nova Scotia.

Parcours Louisianais: A Panorama of Louisiana Francophone Literature



In their book *Parcours Louisianais*, the authors Evelyne M. Bornier and Margaret M. Marshall offer a unique collection of Louisiana poems, fables, tales, novels, song lyrics, and historical texts in French in a format

that makes them accessible to anyone with an interest in francophone literature. The authors bring to light works from the 1680s to 1900 that reflect the diversity of voices present throughout Louisiana's history: men and women, explorers, political leaders, Native Americans, Africans and African Americans, and Creoles. Language varieties are also represented in this volume, with passages in Louisiana Creole as spoken by enslaved peoples, their descendants, and the French Acadians who sought refuge following their expulsion from Nova Scotia in 1755. To read the entire press release or to order, click [here](#).

New Institute for La. Culture and History

Miranda Restovic with the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities sent us this notice:

A major grant from the Patrick F. Taylor Foundation will allow the LEH to establish the Institute for Louisiana Culture and History (ILCH), a statewide educational hub providing reliable, accessible Louisiana social studies resources to students and their teachers. The ILCH will oversee a major expansion of the *64 Parishes* encyclopedia and begin offering Louisiana history professional development workshops statewide in 2023.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Marshland Festival Returns to Lake Charles



This article by Mike Soileau appeared on the *Gator 99.5 FM* website:

It's time once again for one of the biggest festivals in Southwest Louisiana and Lake Charles! The 2022 Marshland Festival is back and will take place on Friday July 29 and Saturday July 30. The two-day event at the Lake Charles Civic Center offers live music, food, cold soft drinks, beer, daiquiris. Favorite local artists are back and some surprise new artists will be playing the festival for the first time.

You can see the entire lineup [here](#).

Teacher's Institute Offers Historic Art



The Art of Angela Gregory: Girl Sculptor Making History and Breaking Barriers, July 11 – 13

This year's annual Teachers' Institute, sponsored by the West Baton Rouge Museum in Port Allen, is set for July 11-13. The three-day summer professional development series is based on the life and work of New Orleans native Angela Gregory, a world-renowned sculptor and art professor who is best-known in Louisiana for her work on the façade of the New State Capitol building, murals in the Louisiana National Bank in Baton Rouge, and the bronze Bienville monument in New Orleans. Many of her works can be seen today in parks, on buildings, and in Louisiana museums. Her work has been exhibited in prominent places such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, the Salon des Tuileries in Paris, France, and the National Gallery in Washington, D.C.

You can learn more about the Teacher's Institute program [here](#).

ULL Student Wins Heritage Award and Seeks School Funding

We received this amazing story from Tiffany Thomas, an incredibly high-achieving student at ULL who [deserves your support](#):



I am a student in the French program at ULL right now and am finishing up that degree in a year. I have already studied Spanish and liberal arts at McNeese, having had Latin classes in high school and was happy to

rediscover my first love, French. I was awarded the Catalan Creole Heritage Award on June 12 and have also appeared in an article about language and cultural preservation in the magazine "The Bitter Southerner." I also work in the Louisiana Creole language advancement efforts with Louisiana CREOLE, Inc. and have a major role in a new documentary about the language.

These past few years, I have worked with both Télé-Louisiane, where I appeared in a report on French language in Louisiana on France 24 and with the NOUS Foundation, who cosponsored the new Creole language documentary. I also work with different professors here and in Canada. For example, I appear on the podcast that is produced at Université Sainte-Anne, Acadiversité, along with Dr. Rabalais and Dr. Bruce. I have also been interviewed on the North American Francophone Podcast out of University of Virginia and by the Alliance Française of New Hampshire to name a couple. My grandparents are from Swords and Eunice and spoke Louisiana French,

and I was fortunate that my parents allowed me to take French in elementary school.

I have the opportunity to attend the Middlebury Language School in Vermont this summer. It's very costly, of course, and I have launched a fundraiser to gather the final cost. There's only \$1,900 left to collect. If this pursuit is something you find worthy, please let your colleagues and network know about my efforts. My Go-Fund-Me site is <https://gofund.me/9fad3924> Merci beaucoup!

Local Teen Wants to Advance Cajun Heritage Through His Music

This article by Casey Gisclair appeared in the *Lafourche Gazette*:

For as long as he can remember, Cut Off, La. teen Benjamin Bruce has had a passion for music.



It's a passion that he hopes he can turn into a career someday—a passion that, truthfully, is in his blood.

Benjamin has been playing music since he was 6 when he started playing under the tutelage of his grandfather, the late Vin Bruce, a musical legend in our area who performed for decades at countless venues around the country.

To read the article, click [here](#).

Tapping Into Artistic Passion to Create Acadian Heritage Series

An interesting podcast on *discoverlafayette.net* talks about a local “landman” (lady) who became an accomplished artist, studying at the Art Studio League in New York City:

Ceci O’Keefe Neustrom never pictured herself as an artist. Growing up as an older daughter in a Mississippi family of 13, Ceci was a nurturer who took care of things...she cooked, sewed, and cleaned. “Art was never a part of my life.”

She attended and graduated from USL, and married football star Michael Neustrom, who eventually served as Lafayette Parish Sheriff for 16 years. They have made a good team and the proud parents of six children. A native of Mississippi, Ceci studied to become an educator, and then found her career evolving into being a landman, or as she became known, a “landmam.”

For decades, she researched the ownership of land and mineral rights of families in South Louisiana and became immersed in the interconnectedness of the Acadian families in our region. Her work at the local courthouses inspired her to learn more about the families who had settled here after the 1755 Acadian expulsion and became owners of vast expanses of land in our region. She’d sit at [their descendants’] kitchen tables or on their farms and get to know their stories as she figured out who owned mineral rights to the properties their families had settled on generations before.

...at the age of 55, her husband Mike gave her the gift of art lessons with [local art teacher and painter] Pat Soper.. Ceci had no inkling that she herself had artistic talent and had only doodled before she took up classes. She ended up as a resident artist at the renowned Art Studio League in New York City.

To read more about this, click [here](#).

Festivals Acadiens' Kicks Off Legacy Series

Festivals Acadiens kicked off its new Legacy Series of free monthly concerts on July 7 at Feed & Seed in Lafayette with a concert by Christine Balfa, Steve Riley, and David Greely. This article by Ken Stickney explained the idea behind the Legacy Series in *The Advocate*:



Christine Balfa playing at Festival Acadiens et Créoles in 2019. (photo by Brad Bowie, The Advocate)

Barry Ancelet's got a unique form of teaching people — he calls it “guerrilla education” — and the longtime folklorist, professor and founder of Festivals Acadiens et Créoles will pick up his old practices next week.

Ancelet and festival supporters will introduce the first of their Legacy Series, monthly lectures and musical performances aimed at exploring aspects of Acadiana's music, culinary arts, art and more. The goal: Create a community event that honors the historical, contemporary and future cultural traditions. The series is affiliated with the Festival Acadiens et Créoles. “The Festival team has been considering ways to have ongoing activity and presence throughout the year,” he said. “We didn't know exactly what to do but the Feed & Seed in Lafayette was ... a place to do it.”

The first concert explored “The Legacy of Dewy Balfa,” a Cajun musician and music ambassador born near Mamou. Subscribers to *The Advocate* can read the whole article [here](#).

FRENCH/ACADIAN NEWS

Mixed Reactions After Quebec Premier Notes Decline of French in Louisiana

A recent statement by the Premier of Quebec ruffled a few feathers, both among our neighbors to the north and observers in Louisiana. [This article](#), which appeared in the *Global News* of Canada, explains what happened:

Premier François Legault ... faced accusations of stoking fears about newcomers after he told delegates at his party's convention ... that the survival of the Quebec nation depended on the federal government granting Quebec more power over who can immigrate to the province. The premier even warned that Quebec could become like the state of Louisiana — formerly under the control of France — where only a fraction of the population still speaks French.

While the main feedback from Legault's statement was about the immigration controversy, Journalist Helen Hernandez of the news site [OICanadian.com](#) noted a mixed reaction in Louisiana:

Louisiana House Representative Beau Beaulieu believes Mr. Legault was right to point to the decline of French in Louisiana ... “It's very fair, it's a very good example,” he said. “I don't think it's unreasonable what he's trying to do to protect the language,” he said. “I have colleagues who speak French in the legislature, but they count for 3%, whereas around the 1900s it was probably 90%.”

Louisiana State Senator Jérémy Stine more coldly welcomed the comparison ... he sees a lack of solidarity and sensitivity in it. “Without wanting to disrespect the Premier of Quebec, Mr. François Legault, I speak French better than him.”

Historian Jason Theriot Seeks Contacts Among Historians in Canada

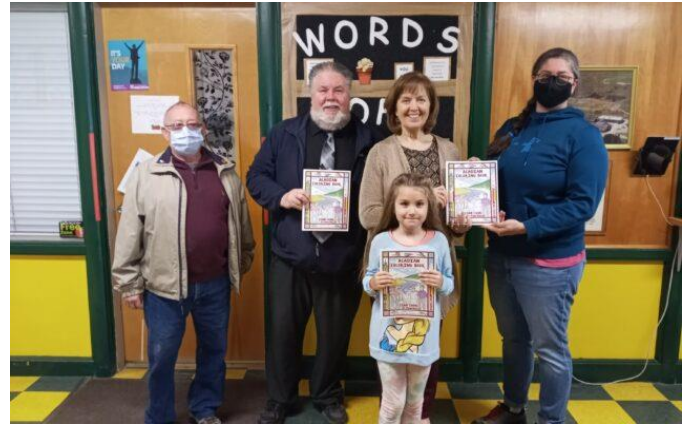


Dr. Theriot interviews a French-speaking WWII veteran at a major event in New Orleans (see page 3).

Historian Jason Theriot has made it his life's mission to interview the fast-disappearing generation of French-speaking WWII veterans who served as important translators for the armed forces in Europe during WWII. With great success, he has created special events (pictured above) and an eye-opening podcast series called [*The Frenchie Podcast*](#).

Now, Jason is seeking contacts throughout the research community in the Canadian Maritime Provinces and is looking to expand his research to include those Acadians from Canada who served in France during the war. If anyone has contact information for historians, archivists, and tour guides in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, please send Jason an email at this address: jpriot@hotmail.com.

Acadian Children Can Now Learn About Their Culture in a Coloring Book



This article by Emily Jerkins appeared in *Fiddlehead Focus*:

A community's effort to keep local tradition alive has resulted in the distribution of a collaborative coloring book to area schools. The Acadian Coloring Book was researched and created over five years by the Greater Grand Isle Historical Society and celebrates the Acadian culture in the St. John Valley region of Maine and New Brunswick. A total of 2,500 copies of the book were [distributed] in an effort to educate the younger generation about their family histories.

Click [here](#) to read the entire article.

French Language Support - New Brunswick

This article appeared in *miragenews.com*:

The Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Official Languages and ... the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, will take part in a press conference on Friday, along with the Honourable Daniel Allain, New Brunswick Minister of Local Government and Local Governance Reform. Together, they will announce significant funding for Francophone post-secondary education, which will support the vitality of the Acadian and Francophone communities in New Brunswick.

To read the entire article, click [here](#).

August Acadian Day Concert in Pubnico NS

This article appeared on saltwire.com:



On National Acadian Day, Aug. 15, 'La fête en Acadie: Havre au tchai' will be held at the Dennis Point Wharf in Lower West Pubnico. Pictured: Édith Butler (contributed photo) Luc d'Eon and Trevor Murphy (Tina Comeau photo) Radio Radio, Les Hay Babies, P'tit Belliveau, Laurie LeBlanc and Caroline Savoie (contributed photos).

To read the article, click [here](#).

Sharing Mi'kmaq and Acadian History On Prince Edward Island

This article appeared on *Newswires*:

The exhibit *Unearthing the Past: Archaeological Discoveries on Prince Edward Island* was officially launched [in June] at the Acadian Museum in Miscouche, P.E.I. The exhibit features artifacts unearthed at four Acadian and Mi'kmaq sites:

- Pointe-Aux-Vieux (Low Point)
- Havre Saint-Pierre (St. Peters Harbour)
- Nikani-ika'taqank (Ram Island)
- Pituamkek (Hog Island)

June [was] National Indigenous History Month... the ideal opportunity to educate Islanders about the rich history of PEI Mi'kmaq and Acadians.

To read the entire article, click [here](#).

100th Anniversary of Cross Site



Madawaska church choir sings during outdoor mass at the cross site in the 1970s (contributed photo).

This article appeared on *Fiddlehead Focus*:

In June, 1785, after an arduous 10-day journey up the St. John River from St. Anne, the first group of Acadian families set foot on the south shore of the St. John River on land that had been granted to them by the New Brunswick government. They had landed their boats some two miles east of the Wolastokuk village of Matawaskiyak.

Legend has it that the supposed leader of the group, Joseph Simon Daigle, erected a cross of birch at the place where they landed, both as a marker to anyone who would come later, and as a sign of thanks to God for granting them a place they might finally call home. They had hope for the future.

To read the article, click [here](#).

Three Islanders Win 2022 Order of P.E.I.

This appeared in *CBC News*:



Gary Schneider, Claudette Thériault and John Wallace Andrew are the 2022 recipients of the Order of Prince Edward Island. (CBC/Rachelle Richard-Léger)

Three people have been selected to receive the 2022 Order of Prince Edward Island Insignia, which is considered the highest honour that can be accorded to a citizen of the province.

Gary Schneider of Stratford, Claudette Thériault of Abram-Village and John Wallace Andrew of Charlottetown were chosen from 38 Islanders nominated to receive the honour this year, according to a written release Wednesday.

Thériault is well known throughout the Acadian and francophone non-profit sector in P.E.I., and in Canada, and has contributed to many causes involving her community. In 2019, she became the first woman to be named chair of the Congrès Mondial Acadien organizing committee in P.E.I.

She is presently a member of the Games Services Committee for Canada Games 2023 and acting executive director of La Coopérative Le Chez-Nous Ltée.

Andrew is a fourth-generation resident of East Royalty who has led a distinguished career as a medical physicist in both P.E.I. and Nova Scotia.

To read the article, click [here](#).

Beloved St. Bernard Church Set for Deconsecration

This article appeared on *cbc.ca*:



The future of St. Bernard Church is uncertain following its deconsecration on Sunday. The Digby County church saw attendance drop from thousands on a weekend to dozens. (Vernon Ramesar/CBC)

Louise LeBlanc grew up in the tiny community of St. Bernard, N.S., and remembers how the grand Gothic church was the pride of the Acadian community and at the centre of many milestones in her family. "My sisters and brothers got married in the church," she said. "My little brothers and sisters were baptized in that church. It was really very much part of us."

With a dwindling population, falling attendance, and a building needing many repairs, those community traditions will come to an end Sunday as the landmark church is deconsecrated.

The purpose of deconsecration is to make the building not usable as a church or for profane use.

To read the whole article, click [here](#).

Maine Cookbook Shares Acadian Recipes

This article by Charlinda Banks appeared in *Frenchly*:

The [Maine Community Cookbook, Vol. 2](#), compiled and edited by Margaret Hathaway and Karl Schatz... builds “on the success of the award-winning *Maine Bicentennial Community Cookbook...*” and “is a brand new collection of more than 200 family recipes, stories, and photos.

The [book] is filled with dishes and stories from home kitchens in all of Maine’s 16 counties, including recipes from well-known Mainers such as Senator Olympia Snowe, historian Heather Cox Richardson, 101-year-old lobsterwoman Virginia Oliver, Olympic gold medalist Joan Benoit Samuelson, best-selling author Abdi Nor Iftin, and summer resident and humorist John Hodgman. At the heart of the cookbook are recipes and stories from everyday Maine families. Breaking bread together gives us comfort and strength, in good times and bad. Whether we’re teaching our kids to cook family recipes over Zoom, or gathered together and sharing them at the table, our food traditions help define who we are, and bring us together as a community.”

To view the authentic Acadian recipe for *poulet et saucisse en cocotte*, click [here](#).

Maine French Heritage Marks Historic Anniversary

This article appeared in the *Bangor Daily News*:

On July 3, 1922, Bishop Louis S. Walsh of Portland stood before hundreds of devoted Catholics in St. David, in present-day Madawaska, and consecrated a large cross overlooking the St. John River. The landmark honored the Acadians who, after decades of tragedy and uncertainty, began building new communities in the region in 1785.

The ceremony deserves to be remembered for the events it commemorated but also for the context in which it happened—context that still resonates a century later.

This religious celebration offered overdue recognition of Acadians’ history and culture. Walsh, an Irish American, may have had his own agenda. In 1913, he had traveled to Bar Harbor to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the first Catholic mission in what would become Maine. At a time when anti-Catholic bigotry was rampant, recognition of this multacentennial history could confer legitimacy. French Jesuits had preceded the Pilgrims in the northeastern colonies.

Subscribers can read the article [here](#).

Grand-Pré Officially Launches 2022 Tourism Season

This article appeared in *Mirage*:

Grand-Pré National Historic Site is pleased to welcome visitors for the 2022 season. This year, several festivities are planned at Grand-Pré NHS to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Grand-Pré Memorial Church.

To read the entire article, click [here](#).

LAGNIAPPE

New Leadership at NUNU

We received this email from NUNU Arts and Culture Collective:



*Peg Ramier,
new leader at
NUNU*

After 12 years of leading the NUNU collective, George Marks has stepped down as executive director. During Marks tenure as executive director, NUNU Arts and Culture Collective proved itself to be an influential regional leader in the practices of Creative Placemaking.

"I am beyond confident that with new energy, NUNU Arts and Culture Collective will thrive in new and unique ways. That being said, I will continue to volunteer my time, but just in a different capacity. My newfound time will allow me to focus more on my career as a visual artist. And I can't think of a better, more rounded person to lead the organization than Peg Ramier. I have come to know her and her ability to navigate the multiplicity of NUNU, and I am grateful that the NUNU collective Board of Directors agrees."

Peg Ramier, a NUNU collective member and Deux Bayous potter, comes to NUNU collective as a founder of the Frozard Cultural District in the Corridor des Arts. Her skill as a humanist and dedicated volunteer was quickly made evident during these past few years. Ramier's background is varied with experience renovating homes, sitting on several boards, and as a professional architect and realtor.

Palmer Hailed as One of World's Top Comparative Law Scholars



Tulane Law Professor Palmer was honored in Paris as one of "Five Great Comparatists" by the International Academy of Comparative Law for his landmark contributions to the field. The award designated Palmer as one of the leading scholars of the world's legal systems by the International Academy of Comparative Law (IACL).

Palmer joins a select few international scholars – and the only American – honored as "Five Great Comparatists" for his landmark contributions to the field, an honor created in 2017 by the Academy and awarded to only one other group of five scholars to date.

Attorney David Marcantel Receives the T-Jean Hernandez Francophone Award

On Friday, June 11, the executive committee of the Francophone Section of the bar association presented the T Jean Hernandez Francophone Award to Attorney David Marcantel of Jennings.



Shown above are Tom Angers, Warren Perrin, David Marcantel and Judge Durwood Conque.

UL Alumni House Address



On June 6, Amanda Gary (left) and Warren Perrin are shown at the UL Alumni House addressing graduating seniors on the functions and benefits offered to them by the UL Alumni Association.

Last of the Ya-Yas Divine Sisterhood

This article written by Louisiana native Megan Broussard appeared on *marieclaire.com*:



Like Siddalee Walker in *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*, I come from a long line of ya-yas—the elusive and nearly-extinct breed of native, Cajun-French speakers.

When Sandra Bullock played Siddalee Walker 20 years ago, I was 15, going into ninth grade in Lafayette, Louisiana. It was the first time I'd seen any semblance of my people on screen. Not the city-dwellers of New Orleans or the Southern Belles from *Steel Magnolias*, but the spicy Bloody Marys hailing from the “bottom of the boot.” Those are the women who molded me.

There's a distinct difference between Cajun Country and the rest of the Deep South. They say yeehaw, and we say aiyee. They wear cowboy boots, and we wear waders. They whip up a mean white gravy, and we spend all day perfecting a dark roux. Their grandmas serve sweet tea and our *maw maws* make coffee milk.

[Remembering "Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood" | Marie Claire](#)

James Beard Award Recognizes Best Cajun Cookbook

This article appeared in the *StarTribune*:



Hawa Hassan's "*In Bibi's Kitchen*" was recognized as the best international cookbook.

All eyes were on Minnesota chefs at the recent James Beard Awards, but the foundation also recognizes the best in food media, which ranges from cookbook authors and podcast producers to journalists and television hosts. This year's ceremony recognized work from 2020 and 2021.

U.S. Foodways: "Mosquito Supper Club: Cajun Recipes from a Disappearing Bayou," by Melissa M. Martin (Artisan Books)

To read the article, click [here](#).

New Book Covers History of Acadians in Maryland



Greg Wood, friend of Louisiana and Maryland Acadian historian, has just finished an extensive study comprising nearly 1,600 pages. *Becoming the Frenchified State of Maryland: An Exploration of the Lives and Contributions of Acadians, Saint-Domingue Refugees, and Émigrés from France* (Baltimore; Otter Bay Books, 2022) is a hardbound, two-volume set, with index and map end sheets, and covers the years 1755 to 1940. The books greatly complement his previous *Acadians in Maryland in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries* (1995). The work is now available for \$70 (which includes Maryland sales tax and media rate postage) from Maryland Francophone Studies, 17560 Gatsby Terrace, Olney, MD 20832-2300, or at a slightly higher price on Amazon in July.

Kentucky Man's Post-Hurricane Help Spurs 'Cajun Chefs' To Aid Tornado Victims

This article by Elizabeth Wong Barnstead appeared on [cruxnow.com](https://www.cruxnow.com):



Some of the Cajun Chefs from Louisiana organize packages of cookies April 6, 2022, during their trip to Dawson Springs, Ky., to feed people involved with tornado recovery. (Credit: CNS photo/Sarah Hayden-Thomas via Western Kentucky Catholic)

OWENSBORO, Kentucky — Those who have experienced a natural disaster are all too familiar with the timeline of public response.

“The media, people come ... then everyone pulls out,” said Sarah Hayden-Thomas, who brought a team — dubbed the “Cajun Chefs” — from Louisiana to assist western Kentucky tornado relief efforts.

[Ky. man's post-hurricane help spurs 'Cajun Chefs' to aid tornado victims | Crux \(cruxnow.com\)](https://www.cruxnow.com)

LPB Presents: *Cinéma Français*

Colleen Spillane, Public Information Officer, Louisiana Public Broadcasting sent us this news:



EXPLORE FRENCH FILM WITH LPB PRESENTS: *CINÉMA FRANÇAIS*

A Classic LPB Fan-Favorite Series Returns for a Limited Run

(Louisiana Statewide) – Louisiana Public Broadcasting’s (LPB) mission to showcase our state’s unique culture and history includes our ongoing support of French heritage and language. We are happy to announce the return of our series *LPB Presents: Cinéma Français* – a late night exploration of classic French films. The limited series began airing on LPB-HD Sunday, July 3 at 10:00pm and 11:00pm on WLAE in New Orleans.

The series consists of six films and is hosted by Dr. William Arceneaux, the founder of *La Fondation Louisiane* and board member of The Foundation for Excellence in Louisiana Public Broadcasting. He will introduce the films, providing a bit of history and humor each week.

LPB has also developed a Spotify playlist of iconic French music from movies and beyond. Stream the playlist by searching for Louisiana Public Broadcasting on Spotify. For more information, go to www.lpb.org/cinemafrancais.

Godfather of Cajun Music, Harry Choates Missed Out on *Jolie Blon*

This article appeared in *The Orange Leader*:



Jolie Blon became the only Cajun song to make the Billboard Top Five charts. In 2014 *Rolling Stone Magazine* rated *Jolie Blon* at 99 on its list of the top 100 country songs of all time. The song was a moneymaker, but not for Harry Choates.

He had sold the song for \$100 and a bottle of whiskey. Neither he nor Quinn had bothered to copyright the song and as a result, neither ever received any royalties.

On July 11, 1945, Choates married Helen Daenen. He met her while he was living at the Sikes Hotel in Orange and playing “Across the River” at the Show Boat nightclub.

To read the article, click [here](#).

Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival Features Cajun Guitar Workshop

This article by David West appeared in the *Natchitoches Times*:



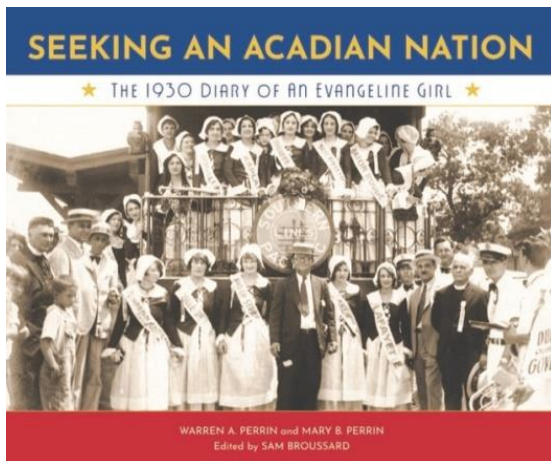
Yvette Landry

The 42nd Annual Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival has announced the addition of an interactive workshop entitled “Beginning Cajun Guitar,” which will feature instruction by Lafayette-based guitarist and songwriter Yvette Landry with support from fiddler Beau Thomas.

The workshop will be held at 12 p.m. on Saturday, July 23 in the N-Club Room of Prather Coliseum on the campus of Northwestern State University in Natchitoches. Guitarists of all experience levels are encouraged to bring their instruments. Admission to the workshop is included with paid admission to the festival. The 42nd Annual Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival will be held, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., on Saturday, July 23 in Prather Coliseum at 220 South Jefferson St. on the NSU campus. Admission is \$10 for the entire day, \$6 after 5 p.m., and free for children 12 and under.

To read the entire article, click [here](#).

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.

Acadian Museum YouTube Channel Still in the Works

For most of last year, we've been announcing that we would release our own YouTube channel of Cajun and Acadian treasures. Well, we are about halfway through uploading our collection of over 150 historic videos. Our intrepid videographer Kermit Bouillion is hard at work cleaning up the old tapes and putting them online—a very slow and tedious process. Even if we knew how hard this would be, we would still be doing it, because we are a dedicated bunch and we don't give up easy!

While you're waiting, here is one that Kermit uploaded on July 9: a clip from French television investigating what the Cajuns are doing to preserve their culture. Featuring: Zachary Richard, Dr. Barry Jean Ancelet, Earlene Broussard, Lise Lagacé, Judge Allen Babineaux, and more—all in French, from 1995.



Click to watch: <https://youtu.be/-goysvd7Mac>

We want to make sure we have a great selection for you when we "go live" with the channel, so please stay tuned and watch for the announcement in another month or two...