

# LA PAROLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ACADIAN MUSEUM

By Warren A. Perrin, Chairman

March 18, 2021

## SHARE THE GOOD NEWS!

If you know anyone else who would like to receive this newsletter, send their name and email address to [darylinb@plddo.com](mailto:darylinb@plddo.com).

## HELP PROMOTE CAJUN HISTORY AND CULTURE

The Acadian Museum is closed due to the pandemic but we have a vision! As part of our 31st anniversary, your tax-deductible contributions<sup>1</sup> can help fund these important projects:

- Find the [lost location](#) of our first Acadian settlement.
- Promote Acadiana as a World Heritage Site “twinned” with [Grand-Pré, NS](#).
- Transcribe and digitize our tapes of rare and valuable interviews.
- Work to promote French immersion schools.
- Expand and categorize our holdings of cultural treasures.

You can donate<sup>1</sup> [online](#) or by sending your check to The Acadian Museum, P.O. Box 53597, Lafayette, LA 70505.

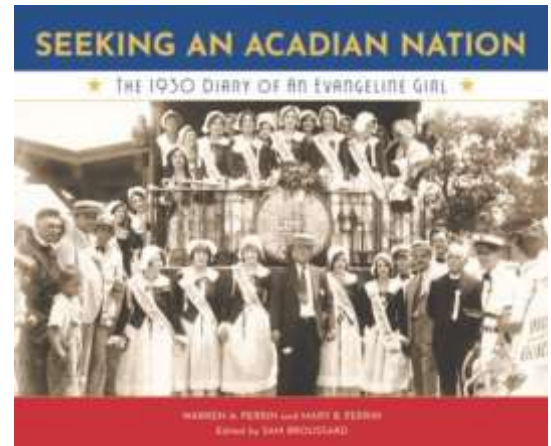
## UNSUBSCRIBE

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please send your request to [darylinb@plddo.com](mailto:darylinb@plddo.com).

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

## NEW BOOK: Seeking an Acadian Nation – The Diary of an Evangeline Girl

Our latest book traces the movement toward Acadian reunification starting in the 1800s, continuing into the 1930s with visits of the “Evangeline Girls” to Canada (organized by Louisiana State Senator Dudley J.



LeBlanc), and culminating in today’s ongoing cultural exchanges between the Acadians of Canada and the Cajuns of Louisiana.

This attractive coffee table book includes a pictorial diary of the 1930 visit compiled in scrapbook form by an “Evangeline girl” named Corinne Broussard. [Visit our museum store on the website](#) to order the book, read more about it, or to see our entire selection of books and souvenirs.

## Visit Us and “Follow” Us

The Acadian Museum is closed during the pandemic, however you can visit us anytime on the web or at Facebook. Special tours can also be arranged by calling 337 456-7729.

Website: [www.acadianmuseum.com](http://www.acadianmuseum.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/AcadianMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/AcadianMuseum)

## Recent Deaths

**Madeline Delino** (Henry High School Class of 1960) passed away on December 21. She and her family were very supportive of the museum.

**Belva LeBlanc** passed away on December 30. She was the first person to volunteer to work at the Acadian Museum. She was always full of joy and a wealth of cultural information. Her husband, Aldon "Shug" LeBlanc, predeceased her.

Zachary Richard's mother **Marie-Pauline Richard** died. Our condolences go to Zachary.

**Gerald Bertinot** died. Bertinot was inducted into the Order of Living Legends on May 8, 2010.

**Don Louis Broussard**, former president of *Famille Beausoleil Association* and an Acadian Museum Living Legend has died.

**Dr. James Dormon**, the husband of Dr. Gloria Fiero, passed away on January 4, 2021, from Covid 19. He had been hospitalized for several weeks with pneumonia. Dr. Fiero was one of four founding faculty advisors for The Friends of the Humanities, and both she and Jim continued as supporters after their retirement and move to the East Coast.

Contributions in the memory of Dr. Dormon may be sent to:

The Friends of Humanities  
P.O. Box 53581  
Lafayette, LA 70505

**Blackie Trahan**, a longtime member of the Acadian Museum, died on February 13. After representing him and his wife Shirley against Iranian terrorists for killing their only child Lex, who was a U.S. Marine, we were able to obtain a judgment in federal court for \$50 million, the largest verdict in U.S. history for the death of a teenager.

**Russell Gary** died on February 2, 2021. Russell was born in 1933 in Erath. In 1954, he opened the popular Gary's Men's Store in Abbeville and



helped many young musicians get started in music, including Warren Storm and Larry Brasseaux. He later helped to form the Fa Tras Cajun Band, which donated all of their fees to

charity. He was a full-time Acadian Museum volunteer for four years. Tragically, on October 19, 2006, while working for the Abbeville Recreation Department, he sustained a devastating injury from a fall rendering him a paraplegic.

Here is Earlene Broussard's tribute to Gary, who worked for CODOFIL as a special appointee of Governor Foster and helped organize *Francofête*:

*"Grand merci pour les nouvelles. Ça c'est triste. C'est un grand homme! His time at CODOFIL was proof of his organizational and networking skills. He had the biggest smile that reflected a big heart! I really liked Russell. When my cousin was in rehab for his stroke, it was Russell who was his roommate! Boy did I have fun over there!"*

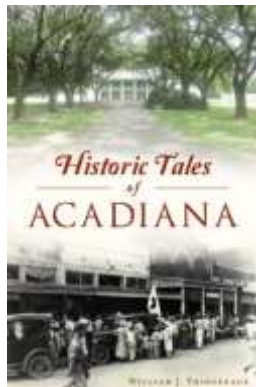
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Museum supporter **Henry L. Hebert** died on January 16. Hebert was co-owner of a farm in the hamlet of Henry in southern Vermilion Parish which had belonged to the McGehee sisters. It was located exactly one mile south of our farm. Hebert was in charge of raising the cattle and knew very little about it when he started and somehow connected with my father, who mentored him on raising Black Angus cattle. For a couple of decades, Hebert drove from Lafayette to Henry to check on his beloved cows. I had gotten to know Hebert because his USL Century Club would make donations to support our weightlifting team in the 1960s. Later in life, I began hosting Acadians from France and Canada at our farm for a Cajun experience and Hebert would open his farm to us for the tourists to experience the beautiful wetlands—and see the alligators!

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### **New Book: Historic Tales of Acadiana**

William Thibodeaux's latest book *Historic Tales of Acadiana* will be on bookshelves March 8, 2021. Due to the virus, there will probably not be any book signings or speaking engagements as in previous years. Like his first book, *Hidden History of Acadiana*, it is also about people, places, and events of long ago from the Acadiana triangle.



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### **Historic Martin Family Cattle Brand**

Joshua Caffery, Ph.D., director of the Center for Louisiana Studies, sent this email:

I thought you'd appreciate the attached image and its story. This recently arrived at my house, sent by my distant relative Gerald Martin.

It's a brand that was apparently found under an oak tree on the original Spanish grant on Bayou Teche of Claude



Martin, the first Acadian settler in what is now Breaux Bridge, and my direct ancestor. I was put in touch with Gerald by

his brother Robert Martin. Robert has also given an incredible collection of historical maps to the Center, based on a collection he built over the years that trace the story of his Acadian ancestors. I need to check the brand book, but this is either the brand of Valerien Martin (1826-1908) or his father Valery Martin (1781-1857). The plan is for it to be kept in the UL Roy House. It will be the first item in a collection of physical artifacts I hope to build there.

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### **Recipient of the Citizen Lawyer Award**

I have been selected the recipient of the 2019-2020 Citizen Lawyer Award by the Louisiana State Bar Association. Thanks to my family and friends who have helped me with many civic projects over the last 50 years.

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## Musician Johnnie Allan Makes Headlines

This article appeared in *OffBeat Magazine* about Acadian Museum Living Legend Johnnie Allan:

Octogenarian Johnnie Allan never thought he would step into a recording studio again at the twilight of his career. That is until Jin Records' Floyd Soileau approached him about waxing a French version of Ernest Tubb's 1965 hit *Waltz Across Texas*. Surprisingly, this had never been covered in Cajun music before, even with the scads of country songs Belton Richard translated into French during his heyday. Nonetheless, "Waltz" was a brilliant Cajun music candidate since waltzes are popular in ... dancehalls. The next day Allan had a beautiful translation of Tubb's classic titled *Valser la Louisiane*. He also informed Soileau he had written two new French songs, so, with his topnotch crew of musicians, Allan found himself back in the studio...

<https://www.offbeat.com/music/johnnie-allan-something-old-something-new-jin-records/>

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## French Teacher to Be Released by ICE

Djibril Coulibaly, a former CODOFIL French teacher and 19-year Louisiana resident [will rejoin his family and avoid deportation for the time being](#). Pointing to his role in the community, the executive director of CODOFIL Peggy Feehan noted: "Although Mr. Coulibaly technically is no longer a CODOFIL teacher, he's part of our larger family, and it's sad for him to be in a situation of this nature. We hope there will be a resolution for him, his family, and his school community." To support his release, I requested the help of Rep. Clay Higgins and his Chief of Staff Kathee W. Facchiano, who was very helpful.

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## Podcast on Traiteurs

Mary Perrin was interviewed on her upcoming book on traiteurs and the healing traditions of Cajuns by Errol LaBorde on his podcast *My New Orleans*. The podcast is titled **Traiteurs – The Traditions of Plants and Prayers for Healing**

[\(click here for podcast\)](#)

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## Pieces of Hope Open Mic

For 16 years, [The Festival of Words Cultural Arts Collective](#) has hosted the Grand Coteau based event featuring writers, musicians and storytellers. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the creative community will gather online this year. If you would like to share an original poem, song or story (5-minute limit), make your request here: [fowmartha@gmail.com](mailto:fowmartha@gmail.com)



[\(click here for Facebook event page\)](#)

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## NuNu Arts and Culture Collective

NuNu's planned New Year's welcome was delayed. Despite much work, the facility is not ready to open to the public. A new date will be announced for a planned second Friday "Artistes et auteurs" photography exhibit, featuring lumen printing by Deux Bayous member Ralph Schexnayder Jr. Currently, the exhibit is being hung and track lighting installed. They kindly ask for your patience and continued support.

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## 16<sup>th</sup> Cinema on the Bayou Film Festival

We received the following from our friends Pat Mire and Rebecca Hudsmith:

The 16th Cinema on the Bayou Film Festival opened January 20th with the "virtual" night screening of *Monkey Beach* and the online screening of more than 140 films available for viewing throughout the eight-day festival. The 16th Cinema on the Bayou Film Festival, like so many film festivals and other community events in the time of COVID-19, has had to make significant adjustments this year. As a result, they will "go virtual" and screen more than 140 Official Selections online beginning on January 20th. These films, which are World, International, U.S. and Louisiana Premieres, include narrative and documentary feature films and narrative, documentary, animated and experimental short films from around the world, including 47 French language films.

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## Cajun and Creole Culinary Museum

Geoff Gjertson, a UL architecture professor, noted on this his Facebook page:

My architecture students are designing a Cajun and Creole culinary museum for Lafayette (on the site of Don's downtown) this semester and I would love to get your thoughts on what should be included and what your vision for this hypothetical museum would be.

To submit ideas and for more information:

[william.gjertson@louisiana.edu](mailto:william.gjertson@louisiana.edu)

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## Digitizing Tapes for the Museum

We are attempting to digitize the over 250 VHS tapes we have accumulated during the last 40 years. It is a wealth of information going back to the middle of the 20th century. Many of these tapes are in Cajun French. As a result of a cooperating agreement with University of Louisiana Center for Louisiana studies, we have executed a Deed of Gift allowing the university to retain copies of the tapes which will be made available to the public. The tapes have also been placed in the UL Archives alongside the materials that were previously donated on my Petition to obtain an apology for the Acadian Deportation.

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## Honoré Heading U.S. Capitol Security Probe

U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has asked retired U.S. Army Lt. General Russel Honoré of Baton Rouge to lead a review of security at the United States Capitol.



Honoré was inducted as an Acadian Museum Living Legend on May 28, 2010.

[\(click here for story on nola.com\)](#)

Also, here is a link to an article about Honoré that appeared in *The Globe and Mail*:

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/world/article-a-ragin-cajun-general-back-on-the-job/>

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## Acadian Cotton Fabrics on Display



Photo: Hilliard Museum

The Hilliard Art Museum in Lafayette is offering an extensive exhibit of Acadian Brown Cotton fabrics woven by local artisans during the latter half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Incredibly, these were all the rage among wealthy East Coast patrons during the Gilded Age, promoted by local gentry such as Sarah Marsh Avery Leeds of Avery Island fame. According to Elaine Bourque, who has done extensive research on the subject:

One of the most well-known Acadian weavers, Madame Therese Meyers Dronet, sold her beautiful bouton and cordon bedspreads from her home in Erath, Louisiana. Madame Dronet made bedspreads for three presidents of the United States during her lifetime.

In addition to *coton jaune* blankets, these women produced beautiful white bedspreads made with *boutons* and *cordones* with elaborate netting as an edging. The blankets are referred to as *couvertes de mariage* or wedding blankets.

While literally dozens of weavers worked in Vermilion Parish alone, Mrs. Leeds most prolific suppliers lived just north of Abbeville, in the Woodlawn Bridge area. Among these was Philomene Trahan Bernard, who was chosen to

exhibit her wares at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. The occasion was Louisiana Day, where, according to the *Meridional* of March 18, 1893:

Mrs. Hypolite Bernard of this parish is to preside at the loom while two fair Acadian girls from Vermilion will spin cotton and put it on the spool.

According to local columnist Jim Bradshaw:

On that day, hundreds of dignitaries and common folk found their way to the second floor of the Louisiana building, [to see] "an Acadian woman weaving in a room fitted up just as in the days of old Acadia settlements in Louisiana. It is as the story of 'Evangeline' and visitors never fail to be much impressed by the picture presented."

The Hilliard exhibit will be open until June 30.

You can learn more and take a virtual tour [here](#).

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## Have a Taste of "Gumbo Diplomacy"

Anyone who has served a big pot of gumbo to family and friends knows exactly what Linda Thomas-Greenfield means when she refers to "gumbo diplomacy."

She captured national attention by using the term on November 24, 2020, while accepting President-elect Joe Biden's nomination of her to be United States ambassador to the United Nations. Her point: you can't help but warm toward someone who has labored over the fragrant, dark brown soup and who is now ladling it into a bowl for you.

To read the full article:

<https://borneobulletin.com.bn/have-a-taste-of-gumbo-diplomacy/>

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## Canadian French Articles on Louisiana

Two articles on Louisiana recently appeared in the Canadian French-language publication *Acadie-Nouvelle*:

One covered a new YouTube animated TV series produced by *Télé-Louisiane*, of which the first episode is titled “*Les Aventures de Boudini et ses Amis: Une Belle Journée de Pêche.*”

[\(click here for article\)](#)

This will be great for children’s French immersion classes. The characters speak in Cajun French. The voices are by Louisiana natives Kirby Jambon, Cedric Watson, and Megan Constantin.

The second *Acadie-Nouvelle* article covered two Acadian films that will appear at the Cinema on the Bayou Film Festival (online this year):

[\(click here for article\)](#)

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## Sweet Cecilia Savors Grammy Nomination

This article appeared in *The Advocate*:

Sisters Laura Berard Huval and Maegan Berard Rankin and their cousin, Callie Guidry, remember Nov. 24, Grammy nomination announcement day, well. Members of *Sweet Cecilia*, an Americana music trio based in the St. Martin Parish community of Cecilia, they stayed in contact by phone while they separately viewed the announcement online.

[How sweet it is: Sweet Cecilia savors Grammy nomination | Music | theadvocate.com](#)

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## LPB’s Beth Courtney Wins Award

The Council for a Better Louisiana (CABL) honored Louisiana Public Broadcastin President Beth Courtney by presenting her with its annual Robert B. Hamm Award for Distinguished Public Service. The presentation was made virtually at CABL’s 58th Annual Meeting and Conference.

[\(click here for article\)](#)

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## Historic Bust Restored after Car Crash

Last December a car crash severely damaged the bust of Farrell Vice which was proudly on display outside of the Acadian Museum reminding everyone of the sacrifices made by some of the native sons of Erath. Vice was killed in action in Vietnam in 1968. Next to this bust is the bust of Brandon Dronet, who was also killed in action.



Thanks to the welding skills of Lovelace Touchet, we are happy to let everyone know that the Vice bust has been repaired and restored to its position where it has stood for several years.

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## Film Premiere: *Mary Queen of Vietnam*

*Mary Queen of Vietnam*, an hour-long television documentary by Bao Ngo and Glen Pitre, offers a lively look at one of Louisiana’s and America’s most fascinating but least understood ethnic cultures by going inside the community surrounding Mary Queen of Vietnam Catholic Church in eastern New Orleans as it prepares for the church’s huge annual Tet Festival. The show

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premiered in February on the LPB network and on WYES Channel 12.

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### **Special Honors for Edouard Glissant**

The Department of French Studies and The Center for French and Francophone Studies has honored its former colleague, Edouard Glissant.

Edouard Glissant was a poet, novelist, and thinker. On the tenth anniversary of his death, they honored him on a Zoom call by reading his written words in French and English translations. Sylvie Glissant spoke and readers included Raphael Lauro, Université de Montréal; Fabienne Kanor, Pennsylvania State University; Alexandre Leupin, Louisiana State University, Emeritus; and Adelaide Russo, Louisiana State University.

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### **Workshop About French Healing Traditions**

Under the sponsorship of the Louisiana Folklore Society and the Louisiana Division of the Arts Folklife Program, Marlene Breaux Toups has prepared workshops about French healing traditions. Marlene is a native of the Central Lafourche area and a resident of Thibodaux who learned many of the methods and materials used in the old-time ways of healing from family members. She will share her knowledge through two ZOOM programs on March 9, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. (in French) and on March 23, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. (in English). Anyone may join either or both programs by registering in advance at [traiteuse2021@gmail.com](mailto:traiteuse2021@gmail.com) to receive a link to join the program. Both programs are free to the public. Please specify which program(s) you wish to attend. Duration of each program is approximately one hour.

Dr. Robin White, Associate Professor in the Department of English, Modern Languages and Cultural Studies is the director/coordinator for the programs. Martha Hodnett is the producer/promotions coordinator. For more information, feel free to call Dr. Robin White at 985-448-4854.

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### **Acadian Activist Has Died**

Acadian activist Jackie Vautour, known for his fight against the expropriation of land for Kouchibouguac National Park, has died.

His son, Edmond Vautour said his father wasn't able to see "the saga" resolved. He vowed to continue his father's court battle to get the families' land back and said he will try to get it to the Supreme Court. [Acadian activist who fought expropriation of land for Kouchibouguac has died | CBC News](#)

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### **Agreement between France and Louisiana**



Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser stated: "We've been honored to sign the renewal of the cooperation agreement between France and Louisiana continuing our 50+ year of partnership and still going on." The document signing was done virtually from The Cabildo in New Orleans.

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## Acadian Brown Cotton Blanket on Display



On February 12, 2021, Chris LeBlanc (left above) of Abbeville loaned his beautiful dark Acadian brown cotton blanket for display in the Acadian Museum as a compliment to its permanent exhibition titled *The Textiles of the Dronet Women of Erath*. The exhibit contains over 30 examples of distinct blanket creations and designs. This complex tri-colored textile had been in the family for many years. Architect Andrew Perrin, chairman of the executive committee of the museum, stated that “these family heirlooms are precious testimonials to the farming, artistic and cultural heritage of Vermilion Parish. The Acadian Museum is very proud to be able to share this beautiful blanket with the public.” Assisting in the preparation of the display was Angela Schoenfeld (right) and Attorney Warren Perrin, who is chairman of the board. Perrin stated: “Although the museum is temporarily closed due to the pandemic, we can offer private tours of the museum at scheduled times

provided that arrangements are made in advance.” For more details, contact the museum’s website at [acadianmuseum.com](http://acadianmuseum.com) or call (337) 456-7729.

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## Biography of Supreme Court Judge Breaux

Thanks to Jean-Robert Frigault for sending me this interesting biography of Judge Breaux:

BIOGRAPHY JOSEPH ARSENE BREAUX  
(February 18, 1838- June 23, 1926)

Joseph Arsène Breaux was born in Bayou Goula (Iberville Parish) in the winter of 1838. He was baptized in St Gabriel Catholic Church at the end of February of that year. This is the church where the *St Charles-des-Mines* baptismal records were found.

His paternal ancestor Joseph Breau (1734-1807) was born in Pisiquit (Acadie), who with his wife Marie Joseph Landry (1738-1807) were deported to Maryland. In 1766, they left Port Tobacco for the Second Acadian Coast.

His grandfather was Arsène Breaux, who born in Louisiana (1772-1830) and married Marie Geneviève Daigre (1773-1842), who sailed from her temporary home on the Atlantic island of Belle-Isle-en-Mer, France on the *Beaumont*.

In 1859, Breaux attended law school in New Orleans. At the young age of 21, he opened a law practice in Plaquemine in Iberville Parish and also founded a newspaper—*The Weekly Magnolia*.

In April, 1861, he married Eugenie Mille (1840-1822), who was the rich orphan of Thomas and Pauline Dupuy-Mille both of whom drowned during the 1865 Last Island Hurricane.

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In 1868, they moved close to their in-laws, Dr. Alfred Duperier and Emma Mille-Duperier, Eugenie's older sister, in New Iberia.

Breaux started a law practice with P. Lawrence Renoudet, with whom he soon opened the Renoudet Lumber Company. The two of them would later incorporate the New Iberia National Bank, where Breaux served as its president until 1922. Even though Breaux did not have children, he became involved in the public schools in the parish with the Iberia Education Society.

Breaux was elected State Superintendent of Public Schools on Governor Nicholls' ticket. In that position, he helped to both increase and stabilize financing of public schools. In April 1890, Governor Nicholls named Breaux an Associate Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court. He was later elevated to become the Chief Justice in 1904.

In August, 1902, he was invited to attend the *Congrès des Acadiens des États-Unis*, in Altham, Massachusetts. Breaux was the first Louisiana Acadian to deliver an address at a congress of Acadians. Breaux would later return to Canada, including visits to Québec.

Breaux left his mark on Louisiana in many ways, including through his extensive civic and philanthropic activities. Breaux was a major benefactor to *Hôpital de la Charité* (Charity Hospital) in New Orleans – the Tuberculosis Clinic there was named after Breaux. He left a sizable portion of his estate to Tulane Law School, Tulane Medical School, and Loyola Law School for yearly scholarships.

On July 23, 1926, Breaux died at Charity Hospital at the age of 88 years. He and his wife are interred in the Metairie Cemetery in New Orleans, Louisiana.

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## First Cajun In Outer Space

Bone cancer survivor Hayley Arceneaux is set to become the youngest American in space. Arceneaux, 29, became a physician assistant at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital nearly a year ago, almost two decades after beating pediatric cancer there herself. Now she's set to reach new heights as the youngest American — and first with a prosthesis — to travel to space. St. Jude announced on Monday that Arceneaux will be one of four crew members on the world's first all-civilian mission to space, which is called Inspiration 4 and is tentatively set to launch at the end of 2021. The Memphis, Tenn. native, who was treated for bone cancer at the hospital as a child, called the opportunity an "incredible honor."

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## Belle-Île en Acadie Wins 100<sup>th</sup> Award

Amazingly, the Acadian documentary *BELLE-ÎLE EN ACADIE* by Moncton filmmaker Phil Comeau won its 100<sup>th</sup> international award recently at Vancouver's French-language film festival.

Like the Acadian people it features, the film that premiered at Moncton's *Festival International du Cinema Francophone en Acadie* in 2019, has since travelled all over the world, said Comeau, who splits his time between Moncton and Montreal.

Separated from Acadie for over 250 years, Comeau said it was "mind-blowing" how connected Acadians from all over the world felt connected to the place their families had been deported from generations earlier.

Making the film, Comeau said he "learned Acadian culture is stronger than I imagined."

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The film focuses on Acadians, in particular those from Belle-Île-en-Mer, an island of the coast of Brittany in France, who travelled to the Maritimes for the *2019 Congrès mondial acadien*, hosted that year by Prince Edward Island and southeastern New Brunswick.

*BELLE-ÎLE EN ACADIE* will be streaming worldwide on Thursday night, March 25. The event is being organized on Facebook by the *Centre culturel canadien* of the Canadian Embassy in Paris, France. You can access details and view the film on March 25 through this direct link: <https://fb.me/e/4cxGFtZw>

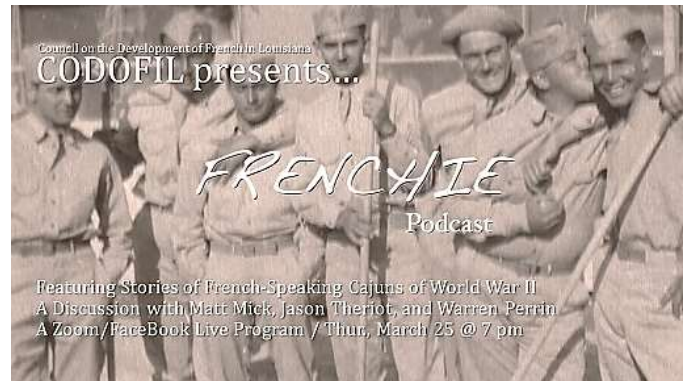
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### Louisiana History Association Meeting

On 24 March 2021, Marty Guidry will be chairing a panel titled "Legacies of the German-Acadian Coast" as part of the 2021 Louisiana History Association Annual Meeting. It will be a Zoom panel from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm CST. The three superb presenters will be Andreas Hübner from Leuphana University in Lüneburg, Germany; Francis Kolb Turnbull of the Tennessee Historical Society (Nashville, TN) and Fernin F. Eaton of St. Francisville, LA. Jay Schexnaydre, assistant manager of Laura Plantation in Vacherie, LA and President of the German-Acadian Coast Historical and Genealogical Society, will offer discerning comments on the presentations. The meeting is free and available to the general public.

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### Jason Theriot's "Frenchie" Podcast



The Frenchie Podcast series is set to launch through a Facebook Live event on Thursday, March 25. For several months, our podcasting team has been hard at work developing the program that will feature actual stories from the French-speaking Cajuns of World War II, as told by the veterans themselves.

Dr. Jason Theriot will host the Podcast series and will provide background content for each episode. Chris Segura and the Center for Louisiana Studies is providing the technical audio engineering for the Podcast. The Museum is providing administrative assistance and is helping to promote the program.

The first episode of the podcast series will feature Abbeville native and Living Legend Brig. Gen. (retired) Robert LeBlanc. Current plans are for the event to be hosted live on the [CODOFIL Facebook page](#). A preview of the podcast can be seen [here](#).

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## Museum Receives Veterans Exhibit



A small portion of the exhibit being donated

The Acadian Museum was delighted to receive a special exhibit from the American Legion Post in Erath, after selling its historic meeting hall near the park. As Commander Boni Suire noted:

The building was erected by members of Derouen-Moss Post 279 in 1958. Many memories have been made [at the hall] during the past 62 years. Due to the generosity of Warren Perrin with The Acadian Museum of Erath our history will be preserved. They have accepted for display our exhibition on all past Commanders and the list of Veterans Memorialized from the Civil War, World War I, World War II and Korean War.

Derouen-Moss Post 279 American Legion was issued a Charter by the National Headquarters of the American Legion on August 20, 1946 and counter signed by The Department of Louisiana on September 3, 1946.

Our meetings will now be held at the Erath Community Building in the Erath Park. We meet every second Thursday of the month at 6pm. Veterans, come and join us and continue to serve your community and country.

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## Coming Soon: AM YouTube Channel!

If you value Acadian/Cajun culture and heritage and want to help preserve it, there is no better way than to help with our latest project! The Acadian Museum has a collection of 250 VHS video tapes of our local heroes, dating back half a century to our founding.

As you may know, VHS tapes are obsolete and DVD formats are right behind. Converting these to a permanent digital (MP4) format will take hours of labor and thousands of dollars. [Your donations](#) can make it happen.

Here is just one of the videos that we are queuing up for your enjoyment: D.L. Menard playing outdoors at Lake Peigneur with the Rees Family Band. <https://youtu.be/9EHP2TV8Y4A>

Once we have a critical mass of these videos ready for viewing, we will launch the Acadian Museum TV Channel. [Click here](#) to help with your donations. In a few more months, we hope to launch the channel.