

LA PAROLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ACADIAN MUSEUM

By Warren A. Perrin, Chairman

March 2024

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MUSEUM HOURS

Tue.-Fri. 1-4 pm —Sat. 10-noon
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337 501-3049 (weekends or no answer).

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- Fund French “immersion” and other cultural programs
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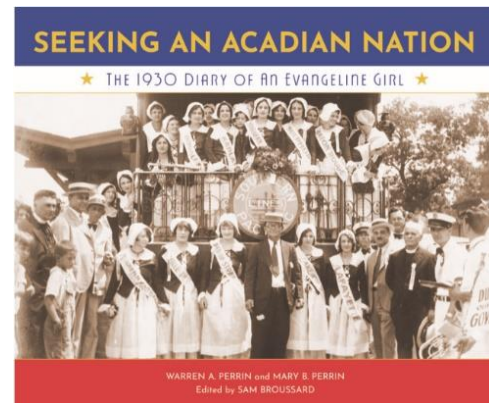
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EDITORS: Bruce Perrin, Mario Lagacé, and Ryan Bernard.

SPONSORED BY: Francophone Section of the Louisiana State Bar Association

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

Seeking Donations for Cajun Studies Auction



Couvillion Rd., Arnaudville, LA 70512.

I will donate a copy of our book *Seeking an Acadian Nation*, (pictured above), which tells how Sen. Dudley J. LeBlanc took 25 “Evangeline Girls” on a pilgrimage to Nova Scotia in 1930 for the 175th anniversary of the 1755 Deportations. The book explains Acadians’ attempts at reunification beginning in the 1800s and womens’ contributions to the culture. Rare photos and backstory come from the diary of Evangeline Girl Corinne Broussard from Breaux, Bridge, La. Some historic photos were donated to the museum by Claire Comeau of New Brunswick who found them in her uncle’s

attic. The book sells for \$50 and can be [ordered online here](#) or by calling 337-233-5832.



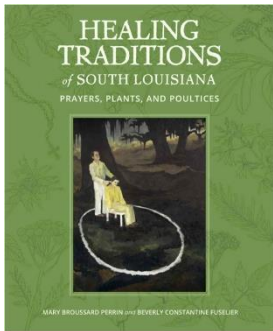
Local cultural activist Bailey Suire is collecting Cajun-related items for an auction to benefit Cajun Studies at Dartmouth University. Donations of books or objects can be sent to: The Cajun Revival Project, 105 Coach

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



On March 24, 2pm, at The Vincent Senior Living Center, 2201 Verot School Rd. in Lafayette, Beverly Fuselier and Mary Perrin, both *traiteurs* and authors, will share insights and stories from their

book, "Healing Traditions of South Louisiana, Prayers, Plants, and Poulitices." The book delves into the wild medicinal plants of Acadiana, and how the Native American, Acadian, and Creole communities used them. Both Beverly and Mary, who maintain the Healers Garden at Vermilionville for the Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners, have compiled a wealth of knowledge about the area's traditional healing practices and the power of medicinal plants. They will explore ancient remedies, shed light on the role of Cajun *traiteurs*, and delve into the healing properties of these remarkable plants. Don't miss this unique opportunity to learn about the fascinating history and enduring wisdom of our ancestors.

On April 13, 11am, Warren Perrin will give a talk on the *New Acadia Project* at the St. Landry Parish Library, 212 E. Grolee St. in Opelousas.

Would your group like a talk? See page 15.

Museum Visitors

On February 16, we hosted a number of visitors from places such as California, Texas, Missouri, Florida, and local towns.



Ron and Susan Lognion of Texas with Warren Perrin (right).



Four delightful visitors from Kansas City, MO toured the Acadian Museum for four hours. Shown here are Anna and Jim Daugherty (left) Shane

and Linda Christensen. They are friends of Frank Arnemann, my fraternity "brother" from New Orleans, who referred them to the museum after meeting them at his favorite restaurant Commander's Palace.



On February 23, Jackie Vincent had a busy afternoon. Elaine Bourque stopped by and gave a talk to visitors on the ancient skill of using brown cotton to make beautiful blankets on spinning wheels.

Two parent volunteers Andrea Norris and Jessica Fusell from Our Lady of Fatima school in Lafayette selected some of the museum's artifacts which we loaned to them for a display during their educational symposium from March 4-8. Their theme this year is "Encounter Louisiana: Our Faith, Our Culture, Our Home."



The Acadian Museum was founded in 1990 and has been open to the public—free of charge—by the kindness of many local Erath volunteers who take turns hosting visitors five days per week. We are the largest Acadian Museum in the US with more than 6,000 artifacts.

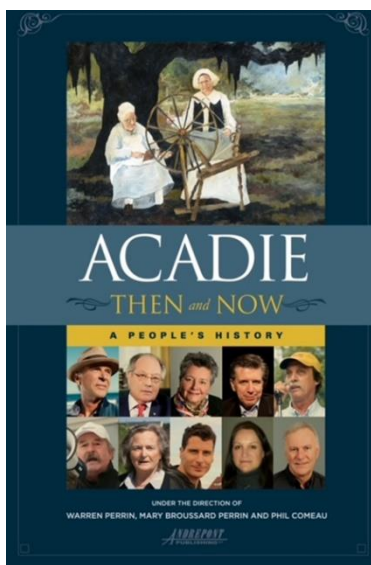
If anyone would like to schedule a tour of the museum at a special time simply contact me at this email: perrin@plddo.com. There is no charge. We are open Tuesday-Friday from 1-4 and Saturday mornings 10-12.

Upcoming Fundraiser for the Museum

We are inviting everyone to consider supporting our annual fundraiser which will be held this fall at the Erath Community Center. As usual, we will honor a dignitary by an induction into our Order of Living Legends. This year it will be Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser. Details to follow in our newsletter and on our website

acadianmuseum.com

The Story of Acadie: Then and Now



In 2012, Mary and I started working on a book on the diaspora of Acadians and their present situation throughout the world. We wanted to launch it for the 2014 World Acadian Reunion in New Brunswick.

It quickly expanded into a much larger project than we anticipated because we decided to do a French and English version simultaneously which required a lot of translators being hired. As the date of the event got closer, we realized we would not be able to finish it in time to ship it for the scheduled book launch on August 18 at Grand Falls, NB as part of the *Congrès mondial*.

Recently, I hosted three wonderful friends who agreed to bring some of our books to Canada for us as promotional gifts (see photo, next page)!



Here are Ronald Gaspard (left) holding his grandson, Carson Waller, along with Jim and Caron Trotter from Florida. The Trotters are holding the English and French versions of the book *Acadie: Then and Now* that they helped to bring to Canada.

Acadie: Then and Now includes 65 articles written by 50 Acadians from Louisiana, Texas, Maine, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec, plus the French region of Poitou and Belle-Île-en-Mer. This international perspective provides readers with new insights on the past, present, and future of the Acadian diaspora. In 2014, the French version won the prestigious Prix France-Acadie award in Paris. Sales of this and all our books are used to keep our museum free to visitors. The book can be ordered through our website acadianmuseum.com.

Kudos from a Fan

Rachael Boudreaux Novak wrote:

My mother (Beverly Hebert) and I visited the Acadian Museum last Friday. What a treat to have you there to share some of your fantastic personal experiences!! You mentioned that you would be taking a group to Nova Scotia in August. Please send me the details as I am interested in attending the trip. Merci beaucoup!

New Acadia Project Plans for the Future



Pictured on September 18 are, left to right, UL President E. Joseph Savoie, Loreauville Mayor Brad Clifton, Donald Arceneaux, Marty Guidry, Ray Trahan, Vice President Cheryl Perret, Brenda Broussard, Brenda Trahan, Nelwyn Hebert, Alan Broussard, Secretary Mary Perrin, Treasurer Kim Viator Broussard, Dr. Mark Rees and President Warren Perrin.

A New Acadia Project (NAP) board meeting was held February 18 at the La. Public Archeology Lab on the UL campus. Importantly, UL President Dr. E. Joseph “T-Joe” Savoie was present at the meeting to show his support. Also present was the mayor of Loreauville, Brad Clifton and a large crowd of interested and enthusiastic supporters.

Dr. Mark Rees, the ULL archeologist who leads the project, had some artifacts on display that his team recovered by digging along the Bayou Teche in Iberia Parish. He gave an informative presentation on progress over the last 10 years, described efforts that led to the location of one of the Acadian campsites, and indicated where additional testing should take place. The campsite is now identified by a historical marker that NAP erected.

At the meeting, we celebrated the 10-year anniversary of forming our Steering Committee to raise money to support ULL’s archeological

work in this project. Through the hard work of our members, we have raised and donated \$246,000. Dr. Shane Bernard was lauded for having raised \$75,000 alone.

We are launching a new campaign for NAP donations—that will include a gala fundraiser at the Erath Community Center where we will induct Lt. Gov. William “Billy” Nungesser as a Living Legend. Date still to be determined.

NAP’s work will hopefully result in a major recognition for the Acadian culture. We have been working with others, including the Lt. Governor’s office, for several years to seek recognition for Acadiana to be added to the US list of properties to be considered by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site—like our “sister area” of Grand-Pré achieved in 2012.

As president of NAP, I highly recommend that you read [this very interesting article](#) about the work that we have been supporting during the last decade. You can also donate to fund the project on our [GoFundMe web page](#). NAP is a project of the Acadian Museum of Erath, a nonprofit 501-C-3, which allows for donations to be tax-deductible.

LOUISIANA/CAJUN NEWS

La Table Française – Come Speak French

Southwest Louisiana locals meet regularly to share their experiences, speaking only in French. This is a great way to meet others and improve your language skills. CODOFIL provides a [list](#) of these events, but here are some of our favorites:

- **Arnaudville:** Last Saturday, 9:30 am, at Arnaudville Community Center. Contact navisfruge@aol.com.
- **Broussard:** 2nd Fridays, 8:30 am, at the Valsin Broussard House, 408 W. Main St. (337) 445-3478.
- **Erath:** Meetings resume Dec. 8 and every Friday after that, 11:00 am, Erath City Hall (337) 254-8522.
- **Lafayette:** Wednesdays, 7:00 am, Dwyer’s Café, 323 Jefferson Street.
- **Lafayette:** 2nd Tuesday of the month at 5:30-7pm., Petroleum Club, 111 Heymann Blvd. Contact Ginger Latiolais at galatiolais@gmail.com
- **Loreauville:** Thursdays. 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM, Cane River Pecan Company, Pie Bar. [Info](#)
- **Maurice:** 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10 am, 218 Chief Fred Ave. (337) 652-0166.
- **Metairie:** Wednesdays, 6 pm, *Parlons Café*, 1001 Metairie Road, (504) 982-0800.
- **New Iberia:** Every Thursday, 8:30 am, Cane River Pecan Company, 254 W. Main St. (337) 519-7942
- **Rayne:** Every Thursday, 9:30 am, Bernard-Bertrand House, 1023 The Blvd. wjthibodeaux@yahoo.com.
- **Thibodaux:** Every Tuesday, 5 pm, Jean Lafitte Center, 314 St. Mary St. mbreauxtoups@yahoo.com.

Bayou Ramblers and Buckwheat Zydeco Bring Home the Grammy in Rare Tie



The Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra performs with the Lost Bayou Ramblers at the Orpheum Theater in New Orleans in 2023 (photo courtesy LPO).

The following article by Joanna Brown and Keith Spera appeared in *The Advocate*:

Acadiana came out on top during the 66th Grammy Awards on Feb. 4. In the 33rd tie in the show's history, Lost Bayou Ramblers with the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra and Buckwheat Zydeco, Jr. and the Legendary *Ils Sont Partis* Band were both named winners in the Best Regional Roots Music category for their albums "Live: Orpheum Theater Nola," and "New Beginnings."

Both bands received local support for travel to Sunday's ceremony in Los Angeles. Last month, [Lafayette resident Sami Parbhoo hosted a sold-out fundraiser at Wild Child Wines](#) to help the Cajun and Zydeco groups with Grammy-related travel costs.

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

Celebrating Louisiana Luminaries



The following article appears on the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities website:

Every spring, the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities celebrates the brightest lights in Louisiana humanities at the Bright Lights Awards Dinner. The annual event recognizes the recipients of the [LEH's Humanities Awards](#), honoring individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to the study and understanding of the humanities.

The LEH and Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser will host the 2024 Bright Lights Awards Dinner, presented by Entergy, on Tuesday, April 23, at the Capitol Park Museum in downtown Baton Rouge. Cellist Helen Gillet will provide musical accompaniment during the patron party.

The evening features a silent auction with items like art, unforgettable travel opportunities, festival passes, and more goods that reflect the diversity and richness of Louisiana.

For more information and to purchase tickets, [click here](#).

The *Lâche Pas* Initiative: Preserving Louisiana's Rich Cajun and Creole Heritage



Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser speaks at a meeting.

The following article appeared on *The People's Network* website (bnn.com):

In the heart of Louisiana, a cultural renaissance is underway. Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser recently celebrated the introduction of the Louisiana Heritage Connections curriculum, known as *Lâche Pas*, a program designed to educate students about the state's unique Cajun and Creole culture.

Developed by Madeline DeHart, the *Lâche Pas* curriculum focuses on seven aspects of local heritage: music, art, dance, history, language, traditions, and cuisine. This initiative, which began in 2022, is more than just an educational program; it's a mission to document and preserve the rich cultural history of Louisiana, with particular emphasis on its French aspects which attract tourists from around the globe.

Funded by a \$1 million federal grant through the La. Dept. of Education, the curriculum is currently taught in three Vermilion Parish schools. Over the next three years, plans are in place to expand this program to more schools, fostering a deeper connection to cultural heritage among the students.

[Click here](#) for the rest of the story.

Meet Les Flamboyants!

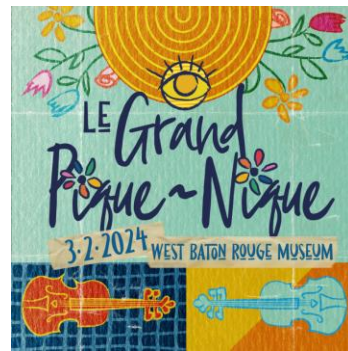


The following article appeared on the *Alliance Française de la La Nouvelle-Orléans* website:

We are delighted to welcome back Florient Jousse, playwright and actor from Reunion Island. During his 2023 tour, he met Big Chief Juan Pardo. Since then, they have been working on a new theater project on Creole language and culture. Come and hear them talk about this incredible project!

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Le Grand Pique-Nique



Alliance Française de La Nouvelle-Orléans is calling on Baton Rouge next month for the annual *Grand Pique-Nique*! Open to all Louisiana French immersion

students, this includes French storytelling and a spelling bee. Plus, AFNO will host a series of discussions, to present study abroad opportunities, local university programs, and career paths in French. [Click here](#) for more details.

Dr. Phebe Hayes, Receives Prestigious Prize in Louisiana Studies



*Dr. Phebe Hayes,
Founder of the Iberia
African American
Historical Society*

The following announcement was posted on the Center for Louisiana Studies' [Facebook page](#):

The Center for Louisiana Studies proudly announces that Dr. Phebe Hayes, retired Dean of General Studies from ULL and founder of the Iberia African American Historical Society (IAAHS), has been named the distinguished recipient of the 2023 James William Rivers Prize in Louisiana Studies. This esteemed accolade recognizes Dr. Hayes for her exceptional work as a public historian and community leader, particularly in her efforts to further the study of African American history in south Louisiana.

The James William Rivers Prize in Louisiana Studies, one of the most prestigious awards in Louisiana Studies, honors individuals who have exhibited extraordinary commitment and excellence in the exploration and dissemination of Louisiana's unique history, heritage, and culture. Dr. Hayes joins an impressive lineage of past winners, each of whom has played a pivotal role in advancing our understanding of the complexities that define Louisiana's rich historical narrative. Previous recipients include A. Hays Town, Ernest Gaines, Nick Spitzer, Gwendolyn Midlow Hall, Leah Chase, James Lee Burke and many more.

[Click here](#) for more details.

BeauSoleil Cajun Music Farewell Tour



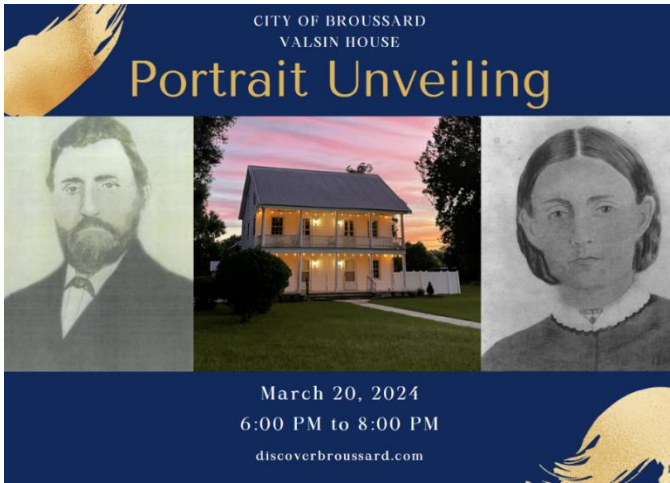
The following article by Nitish Verma appeared on [bnn.com](#):

Imagine a sound so potent it travels through time, from the heart of Louisiana's Acadiana to the grand stages of the world, merging the past with the present. This is the legacy of BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet, a band that has not only preserved the rich tapestry of Cajun music but has also redefined it. As they embark on their farewell tour, we delve into the impact and nuances of a journey that spans over four decades, leaving an indelible mark on music and culture.

The BeauSoleil farewell tour isn't just the end of an era but also a celebration of a legacy that transcends music. The band's journey from local festivals to iconic venues like Carnegie Hall underscores a resilience and commitment to their roots while embracing change and innovation. Their performances are more than concerts; they are vibrant, living histories of the Cajun people, shared through the universal language of music. This farewell tour is a final homage to their fans and the rich musical heritage they have championed.

[Click here for the rest of the story.](#)

Supporting Restoration of Broussard's Valsin House



We received this from John H. Broussard, VP of the Broussard Economic Development Corp.:

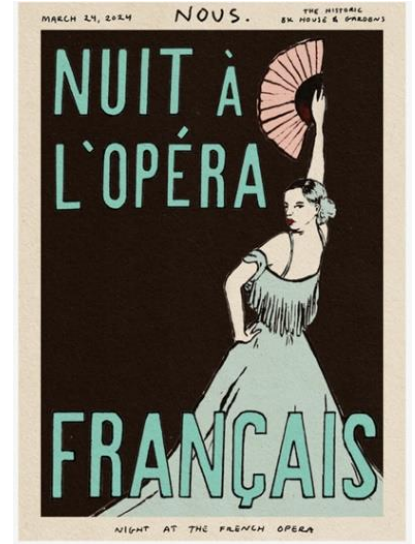
The city of Broussard is excited to announce plans to revitalize the Valsin House to its historical condition. We will officially kick off the campaign to support this project by unveiling a recently commissioned portrait of the esteemed founder of our great city, Valsin Broussard, and his wife, Emma. This momentous event is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, March 20, from 6 to 8 pm at the Valsin House, 408 West Main Street.

The Valsin House, steeped in history, serves as a portal to Broussard's past, providing visitors and residents with an immersive experience of the city's rich culture. Our vision for this project includes displaying historical artifacts that tell the captivating story of our city's heritage. This initiative aims to preserve and celebrate the unique cultural tapestry that has shaped Broussard. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

For more information please contact mnorbert@broussardla.com.

Un Air de Belle Époque

On March 24, the Nous Foundation invites you to join them at the Old French Opera House for an unforgettable evening based on the theme "New Orleans, 1900, *un air de Belle Époque*." The



once venerable institution of Francophone culture in New Orleans will come back to life for one night in the French Quarter with music, champagne, and *un peu de folie*. As you dress to the nines for a night of high culture and fun, your support will be going to the best of causes: furthering the mission of the Nous Foundation and bringing world-class culture here to Louisiana. Click [here](#) for tickets and details.



An item from the museum collection

FRENCH/ACADIAN NEWS

CMA 2024 Unveils Opening Day Program



Les Hay Babies, friends of our museum, will help open CMA 2024.

Unveiled just this week, the opening day schedule for the *Congrès mondial acadien 2024* includes a full day of Acadian celebrations on Saturday, August 10 at Université Sainte-Anne in Church Point, NS. Starting at 1pm, participants will experience music, food, children's games, poetry, theatre performances, and interactive installations on the campus grounds.

Later music and concerts will feature bands like *Les Amis du Teche*, an up-and-coming Cajun band from Louisiana, along with co-headliners *Les Hay Babies* who stayed with us last year as well as Acajonne superstar P'tit Belliveau, who has prepared a special show just for CMA 2024 featuring a number of surprise guests.

For more details, check the CMA 2024 website at www.cma2024.ca.

CMA 2024 Acadian Heritage Tour



Many of you expressed an interest in going to Canada on the *Congrès mondial acadien* tour co-sponsored by the UL Alumni Association and the Acadian Museum. The tour

is being organized by one of our Living Legends, [Richard Laurin](#). Dr. Josh Caffery, head of the Center for Louisiana Studies, will be bringing several UL professors who will be participating in the August 13th La. symposium with several historians/authors who will be on our tour. As soon as Richard confirms that the first 10 people have committed to the tour, we will negotiate with Sallye Scheufens, a local travel agent who will arrange for a reduced airfare from La. to Halifax. I urge you to register for this wonderful tour. You can find details and prices at:

<https://novacadie.ca/tours/cma-24-group-tour>

For an added bonus on this trip, you will be invited to join Mary and me to celebrate our 55th wedding anniversary on August 16!

Broussard Family Reunion

The Broussard family reunion will be held in



conjunction with CMA 2024 on

August 14. A

complete schedule will be published in

future issues of *La Parole*. If you want to attend, please contact mgarrettbroussard@gmail.com.

Nova Scotia Was a “Paradise Lost”



This patchwork of fields near Grand-Pré was marshland when Acadian settlers arrived (photo ©Jamie Robertson)

This article by Daniel Weiss appeared previously in *Archaeology* magazine:

Starting in the early seventeenth century, the French began settling the colony of Acadia... where they established prosperous agricultural communities. A key to their success was a system of dikes they created, particularly in Nova Scotia, that allowed water to drain out of the marshes but prevented seawater from flowing back in. Once rain washed the salt away from this reclaimed land, it became extremely fertile thanks to the rich organic material that had been deposited by the tides over thousands of years.

The Acadians’ ambitious land reclamation project reached its apogee at Grand-Pré, or “great meadow,” a village founded by a group of extended families around 1682. The Acadians’ expertise allowed them to tame the tides and transform this salt marsh into robust farmland.

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

Genealogical Research Center Reopens



Le Centre acadien, a genealogical center at Université Sainte-Anne, is reopening. This article on *Radio-Canada* website explains the history:

Fondé en 1972, le centre possède une importante collection d’archives et une base de données généalogique des familles acadiennes de Clare. Avant sa fermeture temporaire, pendant la pandémie, le centre était devenu surtout un centre de ressources sur la généalogie acadienne. Un consultant avait alors été embauché, afin de trouver des pistes pour aider le centre à revenir à sa mission principale.

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

Restoring Ancient Portage Trails in New Brunswick



Dave McLeod, field biologist working on species inventory. Photo by Tim Humes

Mario Lagacè sent us [this link](#) with a map of restored portage trails that Natives and Acadians would have used to crisscross that part of Acadie (NB) on canoe. Some of those trails are said to be up to 3,000 years old.

Canada's 15th Saint Was Born in the Acadian village of L'Acadie, in Québec



Mère Marie-Léonie deviendra la 15e sainte canadienne lors de sa canonisation. – Gracieuseté

Mario Tardif wrote about an Acadian saint on the *Acadie Nouvelle* website.

She moved to Memramcook, N-B in 1874, and founded a religious community in 1880, called "Petites Soeurs de la Sainte-Famille." Her name was Élodie Paradis, but went under the religious name of Mère Marie-Léonie. She has a monument with plaque in Memramcook and was béatified in 1984 by Pope Jean-Paul. No date is scheduled yet for her canonization.

Click [here](#) to learn more (en français).

Pomquet fête les 50 ans de son Carnaval d'hiver avec beaucoup de neige



La mascotte du Carnaval d'hiver de Pomquet salue les participants.

L'article suivant de Rebecca Martel est paru

sur le site de *Radio-Canada*:

Le Carnaval d'hiver de Pomquet entame samedi la 50e édition de son Carnaval d'hiver avec amplement de neige pour célébrer. Il y a beaucoup d'années qui n'avaient pas de neige, remarque Charlie Macdonald, membre du

comité organisateur. Il y a même des années qu'il n'y avait pas assez de neige pour faire la glissade. Ce ne sera pas un problème cette année avec les deux dernières grosses tempêtes de février. Des conditions parfaites pour la journée de glissades qui va donner le coup d'envoi, du Carnaval, à l'école de Pomquet.

Pour en lire plus, [cliquez ici](#).

Daniel Léger donne un second souffle à une chanson centenaire louisianaise



Facebook/Daniel Léger

L'article suivant est paru sur le site de Radio-Canada:

L'artiste pluridisciplinaire acadien Daniel Léger lance une nouvelle chanson. *Amédée Breaux* rend hommage au chanteur louisianais du même nom en redonnant vie à la chanson centenaire *Jolie blonde*.

Daniel Léger explique le concept de la chanson qu'il a composé avec Mario Robichaud au journaliste Jérémie Tessier-Vigneault.

Pour lire plus, [cliquez ici](#).

Homage to Brian Mulroney



On March 1, Liane Roy, president of the *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne (FCFA) du Canada*, issued a statement commenting on the recent death Brian Mulroney, who served as the 18th prime minister of Canada from 1984 to 1993. Mulroney is remembered for his support of the Francophone community in Canada.

Pour la FCFA, le nom de Brian Mulroney demeurera toujours rattaché à la Loi sur les langues officielles de 1988, qui a élargi la place faite aux communautés francophones et acadiennes dans la politique linguistique canadienne. C'était un homme qui croyait profondément à la francophonie partout au pays et qui l'a montré en étant disposé à inclure des dispositions en faveur de nos communautés, tant dans l'Accord du Lac Meech que dans celui de Charlottetown.

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

LAGNIAPPE

Search for Acadian Campsites in Louisiana



This article by Daniel Weiss, which appeared on the *Archaeology* website, talks about the search for the first major settlement of Acadians from Nova Scotia, led by Joseph “Beausoleil” Broussard, who came to Louisiana in 1765:

Dr. Mark Rees, an archaeologist at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, who leads the New Acadia Project, is attempting to uncover traces of Camp Beausoleil and two other clusters of homesites. These sites are thought to be located around the village of Loreauville on the natural levee of Bayou Teche, which was once a channel of the Mississippi River. Rees has excavated at a location he believes was one of these camps. Tin-glazed and other eighteenth-century ceramics have been found at three sites in all, including a location that may be Joseph Broussard’s final resting place. “The site is protected by the bayou on three sides and sits on the relatively higher ground of Teche Ridge,” Rees says. “It appears to be the perfect strategic location for Camp Beausoleil.”

To read the whole article, [click here](#). To donate to a GoFundMe campaign to help in the search [click here](#). For more information about Dr. Rees, [click here](#).

Planning for America's 250th Anniversary



Declaration of Independence (1819), by John Trumbull

The U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission was established by Congress in 2016. America250 is a nonpartisan initiative working to engage every American in commemorating the 250th anniversary of our country.

We at the museum are helping this multi-year effort, from now through July 4, 2026, which is an opportunity to pause and reflect on our nation's past, honor the contributions of all Americans, and look ahead toward the future we want to create for the next generation and beyond.

According to Margaret Trahan, Chairperson, the Galvez Chapter of the DAR will seek to commemorate the anniversary by placing a bronze marker at their burial sites in recognition of Jean Baptiste Broussard (1727-1825), Pierre Dugas (1736-1826) and Jean Mouton (1754-1834), who were all part of the Attakapas Militia

and are buried in the cemetery. Author John Francois and I provided letters documenting the accuracy and significance of the facts, such as the confirmation of their service in the American Revolution—which will be part of the formal application. The approval process will be lengthy and so we are getting started now in hopes of placing the marker in 2025.

Acadiana Memories

William Thibodeaux writes:

Please don't forget that exciting sessions of Acadiana Memories—an interactive history program—is held on the second Monday of each month where we reminisce about people, places, and events of long ago.

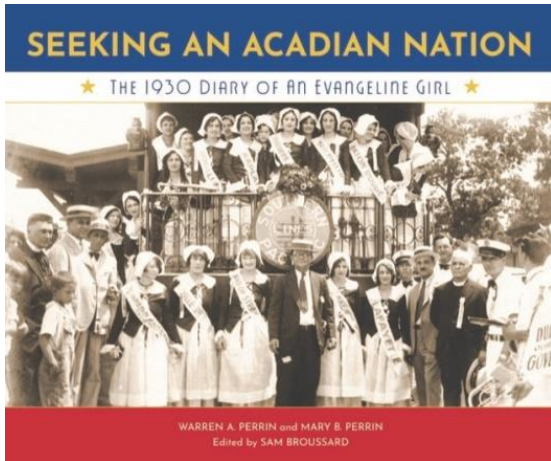
The program is from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon in the conference room of Hospice of Acadiana, 2600 Johnston Street, Lafayette 70503. We hope to see you there.

Good Try, But ... Uh... This Ain't Jambalaya



My granddaughter Lily Ouellet reports that the cooks at her college (Columbia University) tried to give her classmates a little taste of Mardi Gras by attempting to cook a so-called Cajun jambalaya in the cafeteria in New York City. Unfortunately, the gallant effort fell far short of its mark. Lily reports that it was "horrible!" She should know because she can make a mean four-meat Vermilion Parish-style jambalaya!

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 souvenirs. Here's just an example of what you will find:

- [Acadie Then and Now: A People's History](#) with articles by Cajun and Acadian authors from around the world, edited by Warren Perrin, Phil Comeau, and Mary Perrin
- [Acadian Redemption - From Beausoleil Broussard to the Queen's Royal Proclamation](#) by Warren Perrin
- [Healing Traditions of South Louisiana](#) by Mary Perrin and Beverly Fuselier
- *A Century of Acadian Culture, Erath (1899-1999)* by General Curney Dronet
- [The USL National Championship Weightlifting Teams](#) by Warren Perrin
- Histories of Vermilion, Iberia, and St. Landry parishes by Warren Perrin
- T-shirts, posters, and reproductions.

Would You Like a Group Presentation?

As you can see from our [event calendar](#), the Acadian Museum gives regular presentations to groups around the region, and we would be happy to speak to your group. Here is a sampling of topics—or [click here](#) for a complete list. Send all requests to info@acadianmuseum.com.

- Acadian History and Culture
- The Queen's Proclamation – History of an Apology to the Acadians
- Folk Healing Traditions and the Traiteurs of South Louisiana
- The Development of Cajun Music
- Acadian Resistance Fighters and Beausoleil Broussard
- Louisiana: the French Renaissance: 1900-2000
- Longfellow's Evangeline: The Birth and Acceptance of a Legend
- Acadians' Role in the American Revolution
- Frenchie: Cajuns' Contributions in WW II
- Post Deportation Migrations of Acadians 1755-1800