

# LA PAROLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ACADIAN MUSEUM

By Warren A. Perrin, Chairman

May 2024

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## MUSEUM HOURS

Tue.-Fri. 1-4 pm —Sat. 10-noon

For tours, call 337 456-7729 (weekdays) or 337 501-3049 (weekends or no answer).

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- Expand the museum collection.

Donate [online](#) or by check to Acadian Museum, Box 53597, Lafayette, LA 70505.

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To start or cancel a subscription, email Bruce Perrin [bruce@plddo.com](mailto:bruce@plddo.com).

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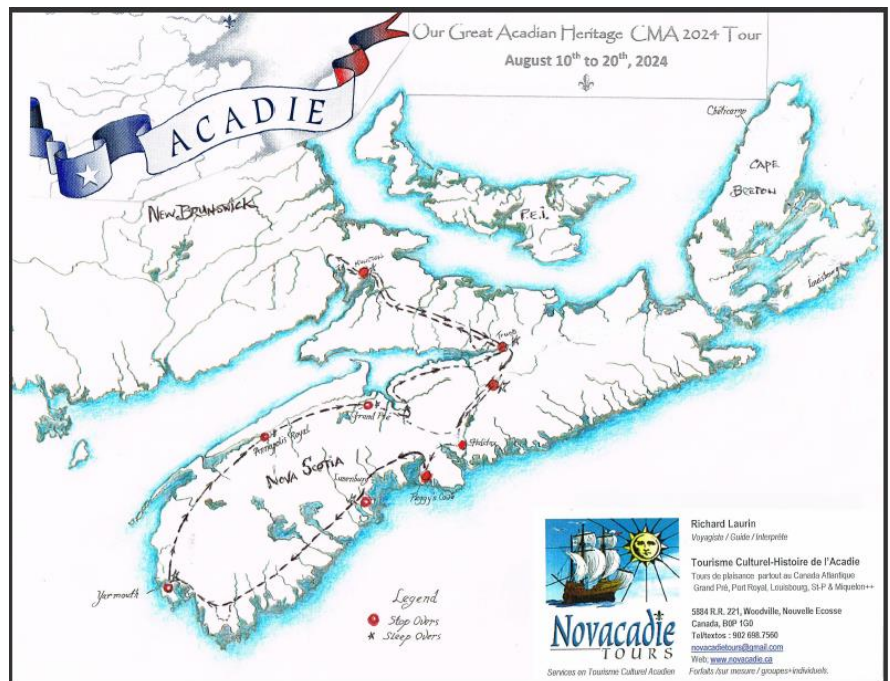
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EDITORS: Bruce Perrin, Mario Lagacé, and Ryan Bernard.

SPONSORED BY: Francophone Section of the Louisiana State Bar Association

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

## Congrès mondial acadien 2024



From Living Legend [Richard Laurin](#), tour director of the CMA 24:

To subscribers of La Parole and all Cajuns! I am the tour operator for this CMA 24 event. Above is a map that shows the itinerary once in Nova Scotia, Canada, where the tour is unfolding next August 10-20. This is a warm invitation from a passionate promoter and guide of Acadie on the local, national and international scene for more than 25 years, Novacadie Tours Inc. invites you to participate in our great Acadian Heritage CMA 2024 group tour. Do not miss this unique chance to join a group of proud and eager travelers from Louisiana to the land of the pioneers of our culture in Nova Scotia's Acadie! Vive l'Acadie et vive the Acadian World Congress!

For complete details, [click here](#). To join Warren and the rest of the group, contact Warren at [perrin@plddo.com](mailto:perrin@plddo.com).

ACADIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE FOUNDATION, INC.

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

## MUSEUM NEWS

### New Acadian Museum Exhibit

Come see our new exhibit on the Marquis de Lafayette as part of the Lafayette Parishes' bicentennial. Either before or after your visit, plan to enjoy a real Cajun meal at the quaint [Moo-Noos Grill](#), which is just one block away from the museum on Hwy 14 in beautiful downtown Erath, LA—the best town on Earth!

On Sept. 10, 2007, the Acadian Museum hosted and honored Comte Gilbert de Pusy La Fayette, as a "[Living Legend](#)." Comte La Fayette is the direct descendant of the Marquis de La Fayette.



*Comte Gilbert de Pusy La Fayette with his wife Irasema de Pusy La Fayette receives his honor from the Acadian Museum. Tragically, in 2011, she and two of their three children were killed in a traffic accident in France.*

September 6, 2007 was the Marquis de La Fayette's 250th birthday and the U.S. Senate approved a resolution honoring the City of Lafayette for its year-long celebration of the heroic French nobleman's life and Acadiana's rich French heritage.

Following the visit to the museum, I brought La Fayette for a tour of the areas adversely affected by Hurricane Rita and the ongoing recovery efforts in Henry, LA. While at the Acadian Museum, the Count toured the current exhibit: "The Overlooked Legacy of La Fayette: The Louisiana Purchase," which examines the role that the Marquis played in bringing about the Louisiana Purchase, which more than doubled the size of the U.S. While the exact borders of the Louisiana Territory have never been entirely certain, approximately 827,987 square miles changed hands when France sold the land to the U.S. for the sum of \$15 million. The Purchase encompassed roughly the land stretching west from the Mississippi River to the Rockies.

The men who were responsible for this outsized land deal, Thomas Jefferson and Napoleon Bonaparte, were themselves larger-than-life characters. Our exhibit shows how La Fayette's close, lifelong friend, Thomas Jefferson, encouraged him to set sail to the aid of the American revolutionaries. La Fayette's involvement undoubtedly made the revolution successful and ensured the enactment of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803—a time when France and the U.S., sister Republics, had survived the agony and triumph of revolution.

## Museum Hosts CMA Chairman

On April 25, we were honored to host the chair of the 2024 *Congrès mondial acadien*, Allister Surette, who is president of Université Sainte-Anne, the only Francophone university in Nova Scotia. Mr. Surette represented the electoral district of Argyle in the Nova Scotia House of Assembly from 1993 to 1998 as a member of the Nova Scotia Liberal Party.



*Allister Surette discusses the upcoming CMA2024 with Rachel Doherty, of the UL Center for La. Studies, and Peggy Feehan, Executive Director of CODOFIL.*

Thanks to the score of local cultural leaders who attended the event and especially museum volunteer Bonnie Broussard, who helped arrange the snacks and refreshments. If you are interested in joining us for the CMA event this August in Nova Scotia, please email us [info@acadianmuseum.com](mailto:info@acadianmuseum.com).

## Museum Visitors



*Chad and Maggie Loesser stopped by the museum today. They are from Ohio but went to Texas for the winter to escape the cold weather. They are on their way back to Ohio and stopped by to visit.*



*Pictured (L-R) are museum visitors Barbara Hebert, June Gautreau, Gayle Boudreaux, and Nell Bliss Delpy.*

## New Donations

Please consider coming to visit our museum which has several thousand items on display. Below is one such beautiful artwork:

*"Evangeline - Milking Time"*

This historically significant painting of the Acadian heroine Evangeline titled "Evangeline - Milking Time" was donated to



the museum by Joseph M. Kochansky who acquired it from the estate of his late father Dr. Joe Kochansky of Lafayette, LA. It was painted in 1870 by Scottish artist Edwin Douglas as part of his Shepherding Series which was first displayed in 1877 at the Royal Academy in London and again that year at the Imperial Jubilee Exhibition in Liverpool. In 1907, the image became an icon in Cajun culture when it was used in the book "Acadian Reminiscences" by Judge Felix Voorhies of St. Martinville, La. The late "Blue Dog" artist George Rodridge purchased the painting in London and sold it to Kochansky.

We also received donations from Andy Reaux (pictured next column): a very interesting dark blue small book promoting HADACOL, four nail sacks and a picture and business card of Warren J. "Puggy" Moity Sr.



*Donations from Andy Reaux.*

Visit our website [Acadianmuseum.com](http://Acadianmuseum.com). If you know someone who would like to receive this newsletter please email [bruce@plddo.com](mailto:bruce@plddo.com).

## Guidry's Cakes in Erath, LA



*Sully Saunier (photo Mario Lagacé)*

Here is a picture of Sully Saunier, a proud member of the family that owns Guidry's Cake

([guidryscakes.com](http://guidryscakes.com))

which is the new

neighbor of Erath's Acadian Museum located at 102 E. Edwards St. They are a three-generation family baking the best specialty cakes. The owner of the shop is Cimi Guidry Saunier.

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## Talking About “Frenchie” —U.S. Veterans Who Translated for the Army During WWII

On April 11, Jason Theriot Ph.D. and I were interviewed at the Roy House on the UL campus by French journalist Fanny Allard, who will be doing a documentary on our Frenchie podcast and Jason’s upcoming book.



*Pictured following their interview by Fanny Allard (center) are Chairman of the Acadian Museum Warren Perrin (left) and historian Jason Theriot Ph.D.*

Children in South Louisiana in the early 20th Century were mostly French-speaking Cajun students who were forbidden to speak French when they went to school. They were made to feel ashamed of their native language. All of that changed in 1941 when America entered WW II and the military leaders learned of the underlying value of Cajun French.

As American troops invaded France, one of the many barriers they faced was communication with the locals. They desperately sought ways to communicate with French villagers and resistance fighters. The officers quickly turn to the Cajuns in their outfits and requested their services in communicating with the Francophones throughout Europe.

“Frenchie was the person who could talk to the French people and get something done,” said retired Brigadier General Robert Leblanc (right), a native of Abbeville, LA who is now



deceased. LeBlanc was one of those Frenchie: Cajun soldiers from South Louisiana who played a crucial role in months of fierce fighting across the French countryside. In 1943, he volunteered for duty with the Office of Strategic Services. He then served in the 3rd U.S. Army, Headquarters, SO, Special Forces Detachment #11 as a Special Operations Liaison Officer between Patton's Army and the French Underground. He also served with the VIII and XII Corp as well as with the Fourth Army Division attached to the U.S. Third Army in France.

## LOUISIANA/CAJUN NEWS

### La Table Française – Come Speak French

South Louisiana locals meet regularly to share their experiences 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 Saturdays, 9:30 am, Arnaudville Community Center. [mavisfruge@aol.com](mailto:mavisfruge@aol.com)
- **Broussard:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays, 8:30 am, Valsin Broussard House, 408 W. Main St. (337) 445-3478
- **Erath:** Fridays, 10 am, Erath City Hall (337) 254-8522
- **Lafayette:** Wednesdays, 7 am, Dwyers Café, 323 Jefferson St. [legauth@bellsouth.net](mailto:legauth@bellsouth.net)
- **Lafayette:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays, 5:30 pm, Petroleum Club, 111 Heymann Blvd. [galatiolais@gmail.com](mailto:galatiolais@gmail.com)
- **Loreauville:** Tuesdays, 7 am, Main Cup Coffee Shop, 101 N. Main St. [joeroe@att.net](mailto:joeroe@att.net)
- **Maurice:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, 10 am, 218 Chief Fred Ave. (337) 652-0166
- **Metairie:** Wednesdays, 6 pm, *Parlons Café*, 1001 Metairie Rd. (504) 982-0800
- **New Iberia:** Thursdays, 8:30 am, Cane River Pecan Company, 254 W. Main St. (337) 519-7942
- **Rayne:** Thursdays, 9:30 am, Bernard-Bertrand House, 1023 The Blvd. [wjthibodeaux@yahoo.com](mailto:wjthibodeaux@yahoo.com).
- **Thibodaux:** Tuesdays, 5 pm, Jean Lafitte Center, 314 St. Mary St. [mbreauxtoups@yahoo.com](mailto:mbreauxtoups@yahoo.com).
- **Via Zoom:** Mondays, 9 am. To connect to the meeting, contact [mbreauxtoups@yahoo.com](mailto:mbreauxtoups@yahoo.com)

### Behind Beyoncé's Louisiana Creole Roots



*Beyoncé Knowles is shown in a promotional image for her 2023 'Renaissance' tour.*

The following excerpt from the article by Julia Guilbeau appeared on the Nola.com website:

Beyoncé's family tree can be traced back to French colonists from Acadia and Afro-Creole survivors of slavery, according to [the Bayou Teche Museum](#) in Louisiana.

The singer's maternal grandmother, Agnez Dereon, was born in New Iberia and her grandfather, Lumas Beyince, was from Abbeville.

Through Dereon's mother Odelia Broussard, Beyoncé is related to the Acadian hero and Cajun pioneer [Joseph "Beausoleil" Broussard](#).

Broussard was a war hero from the 1700s who is credited with relocating French-Canadian settlers in Louisiana during the exile of the Acadian people under British rule. The Broussard line branches into the Knowles line through E.R. Broussard and Josephine Lesse, Odelia's parents, according to Kim Kujawski, a genealogist who runs [The French-Canadian Genealogist](#) website.

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

## Register Now for Folk Roots Summer Kids Camps in June!



Accordions, fiddles, guitars, and rubboards are among the musical instruments that kids will learn to play at Folk Roots summer camps in June. The camps in Opelousas and Lafayette are geared toward ages 8-14 years old.

The Lafayette Kids Camp is June 10-14 and the Opelousas Kids Camp is June 24-28, from 9 am to 4 pm daily. Daily activities include music classes, jam sessions, singing, dancing, games, and folklife crafts. Tuition includes a camp shirt, daily lunch, and snacks. A music showcase and dance party for families is held on the final day of camp.

If any group or individual would like to provide a Scholarship for a child from Vermilion parish or the Acadiana region, that would be truly appreciated. For details, [click here](#) or email [info@lafolkroots.org](mailto:info@lafolkroots.org).

## Seafood Cook-Off Looks for Winning Chefs



*Chef Owen Hohl, 2023 King of Louisiana Seafood, will crown a new seafood champion in Monroe on May 31, 2024.*

The following email came to us from the office of Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser:

The Louisiana Seafood Cook-Off is officially heating up! On May 31 in Monroe, remarkable Louisiana chefs will showcase their ultimate culinary skills as they compete for the prestigious title of King or Queen of Louisiana Seafood. Each chef will be responsible for transforming Louisiana seafood into five innovative, mouthwatering dishes.

The stakes are high, but the rewards are even higher. Past champions have gone on to achieve culinary stardom, hosting their own television shows, gracing magazine covers, and opening successful restaurants. The winner will have the distinct honor of representing Louisiana Seafood at various events around the state and nation, including the Great American Seafood Cook-Off this August 3 at the Louisiana Restaurant Association Showcase in New Orleans, LA. This isn't just a competition; it's a celebration of Louisiana's rich seafood heritage.

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

## George Rodrigue Art Exhibit at the Hilliard



*Jacques Rodrigue leads seventh graders from Our Lady of Fatima on a tour of his father's artwork that is currently displayed at the Hilliard Museum.*

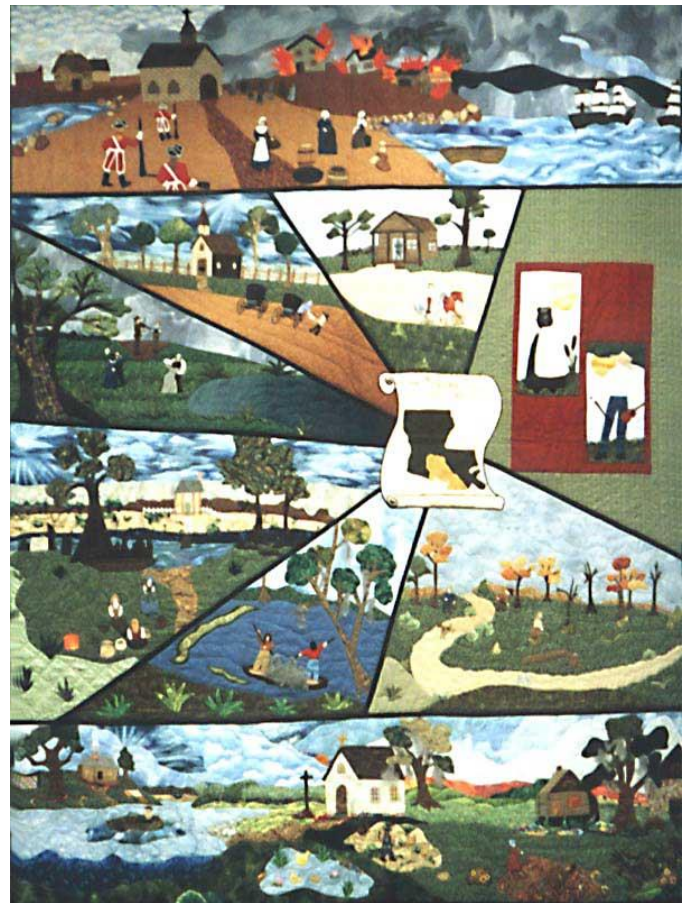
The Hilliard Art Museum in Lafayette is hosting an exhibit of George Rodrigue artworks through July 13, including his famous Blue Dog paintings. This article by Joanna Brown appeared in the *Acadian Advocate*:

For exhibit curator and interim museum director Benjamin Hickey, this exhibit is a way to show the various modes and subject matters that Rodrigue tackled, while introducing his work to a new audience. "It's time to treat his paintings with seriousness, rather than just admiration," said Hickey. "I hope that we can start pushing his legacy in that direction."

The exhibit's layout features the *Saga of the Acadians*, a 17-piece series that he calls the "foundational piece of the exhibition," all uninterrupted on one wall. "It's important that the Blue Dog is separate, but they are in communication with each other very easily. For me, I view the Blue Dog as welcoming Cajun culture into modernity."

For more details, [click here](#).

## Have You Seen This Quilt in St. Martinville?



*This quilt, made by members of the Acadian Quilter's Guild, has been on display at the Acadian Memorial.*

An article by Tim Hebert appeared on the Acadian-Cajun Genealogy & History website:

Nova Scotia, the original home of the Acadians, was settled first by fishermen, then fur trappers, then farmers. Acadie remained their homeland for 150 years until the massive deportation by the British in 1755. The Acadian exiles were dispersed to North America, Europe, and the Caribbean. After years of wandering, the exiles found a new home in South Louisiana. The commemorative quilt was designed by members of the Quilt Guild Acadienne.

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

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## 50 Years of *Festivals Acadiens et Créoles*



Dr. Barry Ancelet, professor emeritus of French and Francophone studies at UL Lafayette, was the original organizer of the festival.

An article by Elliot Wade appeared on *The Current* website:

Surrounded by the pristine beaches of the Mediterranean Sea, Barry Ancelet found himself missing Acadiana while studying abroad. Ancelet, now professor emeritus of French and Francophone studies at UL Lafayette, was in Nice, France, for a year when a chance encounter with folk singer Robert Mason cured his *envie* for Louisiana culture and led Ancelet to an idea that would help reinvigorate the landscape of Louisiana's traditional music scene.

That idea, a marquee stage for Cajun and Creole music, would become *Festivals Acadiens et Créoles*, which this year celebrates its 50th anniversary. There were modest expectations for that first set of performances on March 26, 1974 at Blackham Coliseum. "The place ended up being packed to the gills. Standing room only. I looked around, I thought, wow, we apparently touched on something here. We need to do this again."

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

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## NOLA Festival Features Cajun Fiddle Queen Amanda Shaw



Amanda Shaw

This article by Maggie Flecknoe appeared on the *cw39.com* website:

New Orleans announced their busy, fun, and vibrant upcoming festival season.

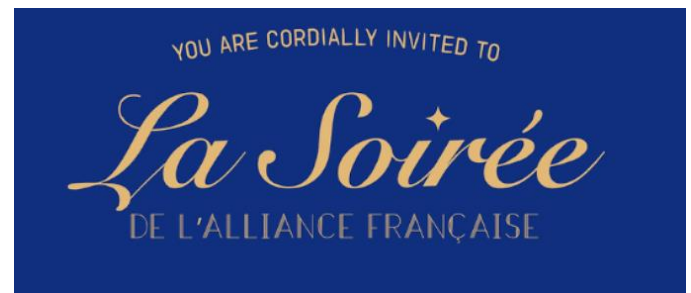
Energetic Louisiana fiddler Amanda Shaw blazes trails with her clever songwriting and

exciting performances. With over 20 years of experience, Shaw blends authentic Cajun culture with endearing local charm, delivering shows that burst with Louisiana flavor.

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

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## 40 Years of the Alliance Française in NOLA



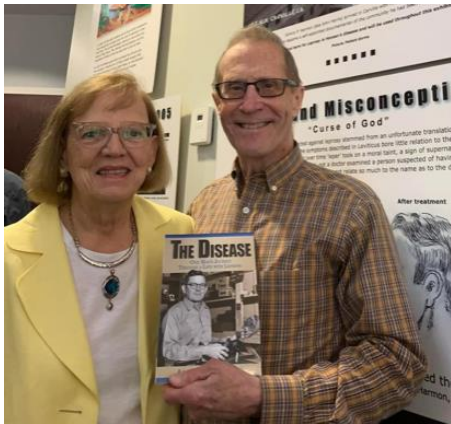
This invitation was published on the Alliance Française de la Nouvelle-Orléans website:

Celebrate 40 years of the Alliance Française de la Nouvelle-Orléans with us at *La Soirée de l'Alliance Française*! Indulge in exquisite food and wine pairings and join us in honoring the visionaries who laid our foundation, including former President Cécile Andry.

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

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## Exhibition: “Leprosy: the Separating Disease” at the Jean Lafitte Center



*Anne Harmon Brett presented me with a copy of her wonderful book about her dad’s dealing—and flourishing—with the world’s most dreaded disease.*

On April 2, I attended the opening of the moving and historical exhibition “Leprosy: the Separating Disease” at the Jean Lafitte Acadian Cultural Center in Lafayette at 501 Fisher Road, presented in partnership with the Friends of Carville Historic District and a grant made possible from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities. The free photographic exhibit will be open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 9:30 am to 4:30 pm through May 28. For details, call 337-232-0789 ext. 201. After the exhibit in Lafayette it will be moved to the Jean Lafitte Acadian Center in Thibodaux.

Leprosy, preferably called Hansen’s disease, is a misunderstood bacterial condition. The Carville Leprosarium, also known as the Gillis W. Long Hansen’s Disease Center, was the nation’s center for Hansen’s Disease research. Johnny Harmon was a photographer and a patient of the Carville Leprosarium, who captured images of the Carville residents. The 19-panel exhibit features Harmon’s images of the Carville residents, including men, women, and children who were hospitalized for life at the United States Public Health Hospital, later called Gillis Long Hansen’s

Disease Center. The exhibit shows the humanity of the people who were unnecessarily and unjustly isolated and seeks to dispel misunderstandings about the disease and educate the public about the community created by Carville’s residents.

Harmon’s daughter Anne Harmon Brett edited his memoir and has published the book “The Disease: One Man’s Journey Through Life With Leprosy” which can be purchased for \$20.

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## Wild Watson Pirogue Tours



Cedric Watson sent this email:

*Mes amis* now is the time to embark on an unforgettable adventure through the heart of Louisiana’s enchanting swamps with Cedric Watson’s guided tours. Set out on traditional wooden pirogues, expertly navigated by Cedric himself, as you explore the hidden treasures of these mystical waters.

Whether you’re a birdwatching enthusiast eager to spot native species or a fishing aficionado seeking the thrill of the catch, Cedric’s tours cater to all nature lovers. Immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of the swamp as Cedric shares fascinating insights into the area’s ecology, wildlife, and heritage.

For more details, [click here](#) or email [cedricwatson83@gmail.com](mailto:cedricwatson83@gmail.com).

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## Louisiana's Connection to Africa



I am introducing everyone to a young man from Cameroon (central Africa) named Maurice Tetne, who is a Ph.D. candidate in French Language & Literature with a Graduate Certificate in Translation

Studies from the Dept. of Romance Languages & Literature at Washington University in St. Louis. He will be coming in November to immerse himself in our Louisiana French language for his dissertation on Louisiana Creole and Cajun French. He wrote:

Dear Warren,

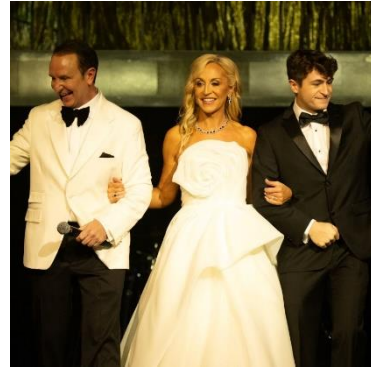
Thank you again for your prompt response and for facilitating a real experience with Louisiana French, a language which I deeply admire. My dissertation project focuses on a comparative study of Louisiana French and African French, particularly their literary aesthetics. I'm interested in how these regional dialects reshape the French language and the cultural dynamics behind that process, examining literature from the 19th century to the present.

As a Cameroonian (Central Africa) who finds Louisiana culture strangely familiar, I'm fascinated by the potential African roots of Louisiana Creole due to the historical deportation of slaves. Works like Joséphine Augustin's *Le Macandal* has words resembling Bantu languages I recognize. Ideally, I'd spend November 2024 in Louisiana for a comprehensive experience.

Maurice Tetne can be reached at [mauricetetne@gmail.com](mailto:mauricetetne@gmail.com)

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## Thanks from the Louisiana Governor



*Gov. Jeff Landry at his inauguration, with wife and son.*

From Gov. Jeff Landry, who appointed me as his representative on the CODOFIL board where I have been proud to serve since 1992:

*"It's been almost three months since the inauguration, and I want to take the opportunity to thank you again for being part of this great day."*

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## Seen on a St. Martinville Lawn



*Submitted by Mario Lagacé from a Facebook page by Matt Vaillancourt..*

## FRENCH/ACADIAN NEWS

### La musique des Acadiens de la Nouvelle-Écosse rayonne à son tour



*Inspiré par le succès remporté par les francophones du N.-B., les musiciens acadiens de la N.-É. se donnent les moyens de percer.*

The following excerpt from the article by Anne-Marie Parenteau appeared on the Radio-Canada website:

Inspiré par le succès remporté par leurs cousins du Nouveau-Brunswick, les musiciens acadiens de la Nouvelle-Écosse réussissent à leur tour à briller sur la scène nationale. Autrefois, lorsqu'on parlait d'artistes acadiens, il existait un sous-entendu pour dire qu'il s'agissait de personnes du Nouveau-Brunswick, constate le musicien et leader du groupe Sluice, Trevor Murphy.

Or, la donne semble aujourd'hui avoir changé et la vitalité de l'industrie musicale acadienne néo-écossaise y est pour quelque chose. De P'tit Belliveau, à Peanut Butter Sunday en passant par Jacques Surette, Sylvie Boulianne et Laura Ray, Trevor Murphy est d'avis qu'il y a bel et bien une vague d'artistes acadiens de la Nouvelle-Écosse qui déferle sur la scène nationale.

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

### «Le français n'est pas mort en Louisiane!»



*Colby LeJeune a appris le français pour se réapproprier la langue de ses aïeux.*

The following excerpt from the article by Étienne Fortin-Gauthier appeared on the Noovo.info website:

Statistiquement, les données semblent inquiétantes. Alors que les francophones étaient environ un million en 1950, ils seraient aujourd'hui quelque 200,000. La politique de 1921 de la Louisiane interdisant l'enseignement du français a, en apparence, porté ses fruits. Mais la réalité est beaucoup plus nuancée, car toute une jeunesse est en train de se réapproprier la langue. Autrefois honteux, c'est dorénavant une source de fierté que de parler français.

«Auparavant, être Cadien, ça signifiait être ignorant et pauvre. Il n'y avait aucune valeur à parler français», explique Zachary Richard. Il estime toutefois que ses compatriotes ont de plus en plus conscience de la valeur «culturelle et économique» du français. «Et quand on parle d'argent, les Américains font attention», lance-t-il. «Puis, nous sommes en train de former une génération de francophones lettrés. Et on ne peut pas dire à quelqu'un comme ça qu'il est ignorant», explique Zachary Richard.

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

## Réunion de la Famille Richard / Richard Family Reunion



**RICHARD 2024**

**Richard Family Reunion**

**August 17th, 2024**

**Club Acadien**  
7191 Nova Scotia Trunk 3  
Ste-Anne-du-Ruisseau  
Nova Scotia, B0W 2X0

**Speakers**

- Denis Savard - The Richard dit Cadet dit Robichaud
- André-Carl Vachon - Port-Royal 1670-1710

**You can register as of today**  
<https://associationrichardnb.com/cma-2024>

**MORE INFORMATION**  
1-506-227-2635

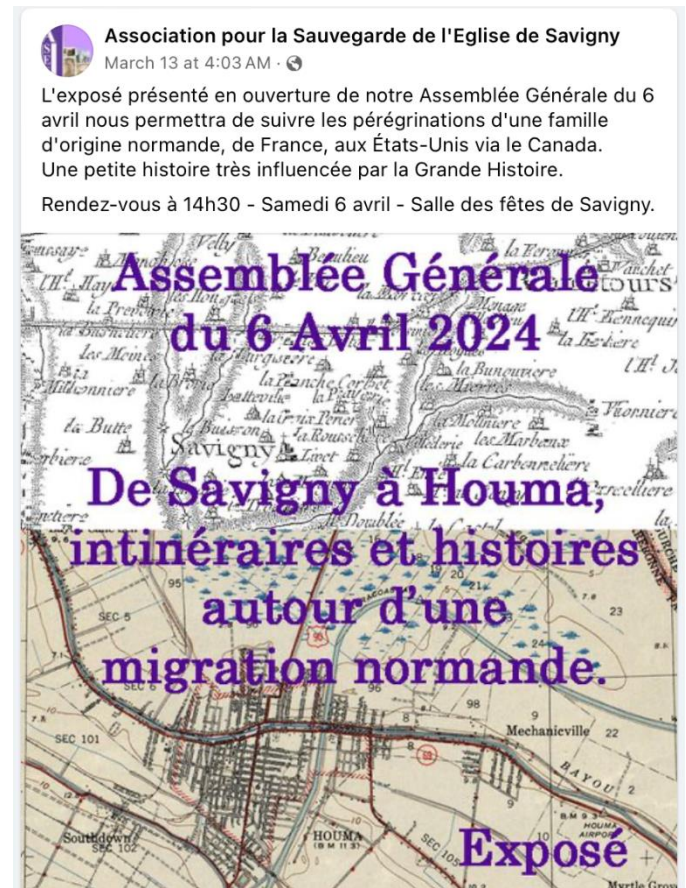
This email came from the Association Richard:

You can now register for the Richard Family Reunion at the CMA 2024 which will take place on August 17th, 2024 at the Club Acadien, Ste-Anne-du-Ruisseau in Nova Scotia by visiting our website. Please share with your family and friends.

Vous pouvez maintenant vous inscrire à la Réunion de la Famille Richard au CMA 2024 qui aura lieu le 17 août, 2024 au Club Acadien, Ste-Anne-du-Ruisseau en visitant notre page web. S'il-te-plaît partager avec vos familles et amis.

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

## Remembering Pierre Martin Lemire in Normandy



**Association pour la Sauvegarde de l'Eglise de Savigny**  
March 13 at 4:03 AM · 🌐

L'exposé présenté en ouverture de notre Assemblée Générale du 6 avril nous permettra de suivre les pérégrinations d'une famille d'origine normande, de France, aux États-Unis via le Canada. Une petite histoire très influencée par la Grande Histoire.

Rendez-vous à 14h30 - Samedi 6 avril - Salle des fêtes de Savigny.

**Assemblée Générale du 6 Avril 2024**

**De Savigny à Houma, itinéraires et histoires autour d'une migration normande.**

**Exposé**

The following email was sent in by Paul Newfield III:

A town In France is celebrating an Acadian ancestor of the entire Louisiana MIRE Family. Big BRAVO to Claire for her dedication and determination for bringing Pierre Martin Lemire's Acadian story to light, after almost 300 years.

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

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## René Arseneault, le député libéral qui ne veut pas prêter serment au roi



René Arseneault est député de Madawaska—Restigouche depuis 2015.

An article by Rosanna Tiranti appeared on the Radio-Canada website:

Le député libéral René Arseneault n’a pas réussi à faire tourner la page du serment au roi dans le livre de la Chambre des communes, mais il refuse de s’avouer vaincu.

Dans les années 1990, le fier Acadien avait réussi un tour de force : être admis au barreau de sa province sans prêter serment à la reine Élisabeth II. Sa [tentative d'imposer le même changement](#) à la Chambre des communes [a échoué](#).

Symbole d’humiliation et douloureux rappel de la déportation des Acadiens entre 1755 et 1764, le serment au souverain est un peu le cheval de bataille du député libéral Arseneault.

Cela me fait mal au plus profond de moi de devoir prêter un serment d’allégeance à un monarque dans un autre pays pour travailler dans l’intérêt supérieur de mon pays, indique le député de Madawaska—Restigouche en entrevue à l’émission *Les coulisses du pouvoir*.

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

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## Acadian Themes in Projects at Cannes



An article by John Hopewell appeared on the Variety website:

Another key Proof of Concept title may be “Sister Inconnue,” asking what Anouk Whissell can deliver without her longterm creative partners at acclaimed Canadian writer-director trio RKSS (“Turbo Kid,” “Summer of 84”).

One answer is a ghost story of political point and female empowerment behind and in front of the cameras, originating in a legend born in the Acadian Deportation of 1755-1764, when some 14,000 settlers were forcibly removed by British troops from Acadia, in modern-day Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Maine. Thousands died in what is classed as a crime against humanity.

“Not only is it led by talented female producers, but [“Sister Inconnue”] also breathes life into a diverse array of strong female characters, both virtuous and villainous. It felt right; this film was destined to become a personal project for me as a solo writer-director,” Whissel told *Variety*.

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

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## LAGNIAPPE

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### Update on the New Acadia Project



This article by Dave McNamara appeared on the FOX8 Local First website:

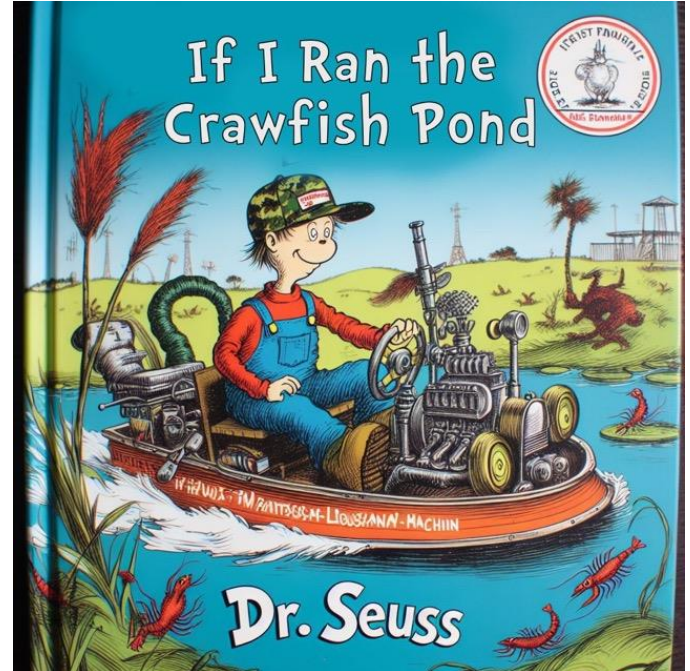
Researchers believe they are finally closing in on the location of the first Acadian settlement in the area of southwestern Louisiana known as Acadiana.

After ten years of research and archaeological digs, the village of Loreauville along Bayou Teche appears to be the site where 200 exiled Acadians began what they called New Acadie.

FOX8 has done a marvelous report laying out the latest findings regarding the long-lost campsights of our Acadian ancestors along Bayou Teche near Loreauville, LA. To watch the news report, [click here](#). For more details on the New Acadia Project, see their webpage [here](#). To follow the project on Facebook, click [here](#). To donate to a GoFundMe for the project, [click here](#).

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## Dr. Seuss for Cajuns



*Submitted by Mario Lagacé.*

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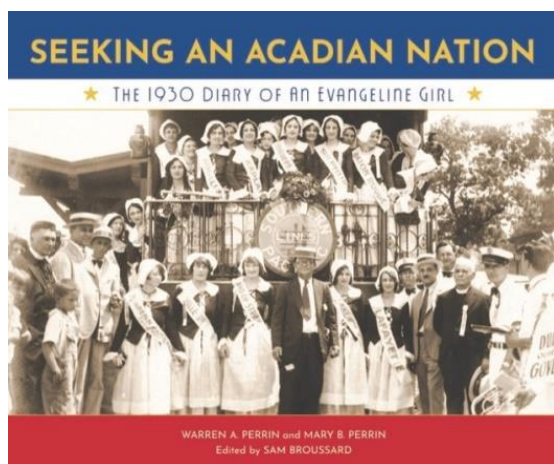
## Dudley LeBlanc's Political Philosophy



*Senator Dudley J. LeBlanc, a native of Erath, Louisiana shares his political philosophy with Groucho Marx on the game show You Bet Your Life (1951).*

*To watch the video, [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 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](mailto: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

## Come and Visit—In Person or Online

You can read more about us on our website at [www.acadianmuseum.com](http://www.acadianmuseum.com) or stop by the Museum at 203 S. Broadway Street in Erath, LA. Museum hours are Tuesday-Friday 1-4 pm and Saturday 10 am-noon.



You can also see our extensive collection of historic Cajun- and Acadian-themed videos at [www.youtube.com/@acadianmuseum](http://www.youtube.com/@acadianmuseum)



*The late D.L. Menard playing at Lake Peigneur near New Iberia, LA*