

LA PAROLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ACADIAN MUSEUM

By Warren A. Perrin, Chairman

September 2023

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SHARE THE GOOD NEWS!

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

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Your tax-deductible contributions¹ can fund these important projects:

- Finding the [lost location](#) of the first major Acadian settlement.
- Finding and restoring historic videos for our [YouTube channel](#).
- Promoting French through our [talks](#) and "immersion" program.
- Expanding and categorizing our holdings of cultural treasures.
- Publishing this newsletter.

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

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STAFF: Darylin Barousse, Lafayette; Ryan Bernard, Houston; Mario Lagacé, Ottawa.

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.

Acadiana Culture Day at Vermilionville



Mary Perrin is shown making a presentation at Vermilionville on Acadiana Culture Day on the book *Healing Traditions of South Louisiana*. Perrin and Beverly Fuselier co-authored the hot-selling book in its 3rd printing. The book sells in US for \$35 plus \$6 shipping (more internationally). To place an order, call (337) 456-7729, or visit our [museum boutique](#).

Four Different Ways to See Us and Support Us

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Museum Store](#) | [YouTube Video Channel](#)

The museum is open Tues.-Fri. 1-4 pm and Sat. 10-noon or visit us using these links. For tours, call 337 456-7729 (weekdays) or 337 501-3049 (weekends or no answer).

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

Talks are presented by Warren or Mary Perrin, unless otherwise noted. All times are US CT. To request a talk, pick a [topic](#) and unreserved date.

- Sep 5, noon & 7:30pm, WWNO/WRKF, *Louisiana Considered* radio program: *The Weight of History, the Power of Apology—Remembering Lifter David Berger 50 Years After the Munich Olympics*.
- Sep 11, 11am, “The New Acadia Project: World Heritage Site,” Louisiana Association of Museum’s Conference, Southern University, New Orleans, LA
- Oct 5, 6pm, *The Weight of History, the Power of Apology*, Roundtable Club, 6330 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA
- Oct 9, 2pm, *Healing Traditions of South Louisiana*, Vermilion Parish Retired Teachers Assn., LSU Ag Center, 1105 W. Port St., Abbeville, LA
- Oct 10, 7pm, *The Weight of History, the Power of Apology*, Main Library, 16500 Van Aken Blvd, Shaker Heights, OH
- Oct 17, 5pm, with Gary Salathe “Saving the Abbeville Red Iris” at Chenier Plain Levee District meeting, LSU Ag Center, 1105 W. Port Street, Abbeville, LA
- Oct 19, 6pm, *New Acadia Project*, Lafayette Genealogical Society, 6101 Johnston St, Lafayette, LA
- Oct 27, noon, *The Weight of History, the Power of Apology* and *Healing Traditions of South Louisiana*, Metairie Country Club, 580 Woodvine Ave.
- Oct 28, TBA, *The Weight of History, the Power of Apology* and *Healing Traditions of S. Louisiana*, State Capitol Library, La. Book Festival, Baton Rouge, LA
- Nov 13, 3:30pm, *Healing Traditions of South Louisiana*, Thibodaux Garden Club, Thibodaux, LA
- Nov 16, 2:45pm, *The Queen’s Royal Proclamation*, to UT Austin Lifelong Learning Institute members, Acadian Museum, 203 S. Broadway, Erath, LA

Let Us Entertain You... Subscribe Now!

Our YouTube video channel continues doing quite well, with 850 subscribers now getting us within reach of our 1,000-subscriber goal. If you haven’t joined yet, please help and [do it now here](#). Here’s one of our latest offerings:



On Apr 14, 2002, DL Menard celebrated his 70th birthday at Lake Peigneur and sang four songs. [Click here](#) to view this popular new video, and then please press the **Subscribe** button (free).

Our YouTube Top Five Videos

Here’s a list of the top five videos on our YouTube channel! [Click here](#) to go the site and check these out and more:

	Views
1. DL Menard Sings at Lake Peigneur	43,988
2. Zydeco Music: A Film by Nick Spitzer	7,119
3. Mae & Mavelly Aucoin Talk French	6,225
4. Expulsion: A Canadian Experience	1,879
5. Native Americans: the Houma Nation	1,357

Museum Visitors

Recently, the Abbeville Rotary After Hours visited the Acadian Museum where they enjoyed a lecture on the Queen's Royal Proclamation of 2003.



Front (L-R): Warren Perrin, Kelsey Frederick, Elliot Norby, Davelyn DeMarcy-Norby (club director). Back (L-R): Rotary President Brady Broussard, Madeline DeHart, Kelly Stewart, Lance Savoie, NVHS student Hayes Stewart and Rotary Past President John Suire.



On August 11, we hosted Louis Bance (right) from Paris, France, at the museum. He had just arrived in Lafayette to work on his Ph.D. at the University of Louisiana's French department. He will be studying 19th century Francophone literature of Louisiana. We loaned him several books from our library for his research.

Acadian Memorial Honors the Perrins

On July 28, 2023, the Acadian Memorial of St. Martinville inducted Warren and Mary Perrin into the Order of Living Legends. Here are some photos taken at the event:



Pictured (L-R) are Joan Boudreaux, member of the board of the Acadian Memorial, John Harold Broussard, president of the Acadian Memorial, Warren and Mary Perrin.



Museum volunteer Jackie Vincent (left) is shown helping to induct the Perrins into the Order of Living Legends.

LOUISIANA/CAJUN NEWS

La Table Française – Come Speak French

Locals in Southwest Louisiana meet regularly to share their experiences, speaking only in French. This is a great way to brush up on your language skills. CODOFIL now provides a complete schedule for most of the French Table events in the state, which you can find by [clicking here](#).

Meanwhile, here are some of our favorites:

- **Arnaudville:** Last Saturday of the month, 9:30 – 11:30 am at Arnaudville Community Center, 291 Guidroz St. Hosted by Mavis Frugé.
- **Baton Rouge:** 1st Mondays and 3rd Tuesdays, 6pm, La Madeleine, 7707 Bluebonnet Blvd.
- **Broussard:** 2nd Fridays, 8:30 am, at the Valsin Broussard House, 408 W. Main St.
- **Erath:** Every Friday, 11:00 am, Erath City Hall, 115 W. Edwards St.
- **Maurice:** 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10 am, 218 Chief Fred Ave.
- **Metairie:** Wednesdays, 6 pm, *Parlons Café*, 1001 Metairie Road, Contact Ed Fleischmann (504) 982-0800.
- **New Iberia:** Every Thursday, 8:30 am, Cane River Pecan Company, 254 W. Main St.
- **Rayne:** Every Thursday, 9:30 am, Bernard-Bertrand House, 1023 The Blvd. Contact William Thibodeaux wjthibodeaux@yahoo.com.
- **Thibodaux:** Every Tuesday, 5 pm, Jean Lafitte Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center, 314 St. Mary St. Contact Marlene Touns mbreauxtouns@yahoo.com.



Pictured (L-R) are Warren Perrin, Mary Perrin and Fr. Jason Vidrine, who celebrated a French Mass at St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church before the event.

Acadian Museum Collaborates with UL

On August 11, Warren Perrin had a working lunch with two officials in the UL Office of Development, Christiana Lake Ph.d. (center) and Katherine Kennedy Burlette (right). We discussed several projects and programs of potential collaboration between the Acadian Museum and UL.



Recent Deaths

Sadly, longtime Lafayette City Marshal Earl “Nickey” Picard has died. He was 92 years old. Picard was inducted into the Order of Living Legends on September 26, 2009.



Picard served as marshal for 30 years. He was first elected as the city’s tenth marshal on June 1, 1984, and went on to be reelected to five six-year terms. Before his time with the marshal’s office, Picard worked as a Louisiana State Police trooper. He joined the state agency in 1953.

Appointment to the Steering Committee to Commemorate the Bicentennial of the 1825 Civil Code



SUPREME COURT
OF LOUISIANA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Attorneys Louis Koerner and Warren Perrin have been appointed by the Louisiana Supreme Court to the Steering Committee to Commemorate the Bicentennial of the 1825 Civil Code.

2023 Crescent City Blues & BBQ Festival

We received this news release:

The Crescent City Blues & BBQ Festival returns to Lafayette Square Park (602 St. Charles Ave.) in New Orleans — October 13-15, 2023. Samantha Fish, Tab Benoit, and Shemekia Copeland will headline the festival, which is presented by the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation, the nonprofit that owns Jazz Fest. Festival admission is free and open to the public.

For more details, visit crescentcitybluesfest.com

Louisiana Holds Summer Mission to France

We received this from the Louisiana Office of Tourism (LOT):



This summer, LOT hosted a sales mission to Paris and Lyon with Lafayette Travel, New Orleans & Company, and Louisiana's River Parishes. The delegation held trade meetings,

training presentations, and events for product managers, travel agencies, media, influencers and airline representatives. The mission was a great opportunity for LOT and its partners to showcase Louisiana and build relationships with French travel professionals.

Photos: Acadian Culture Day

This article by Brad Kemp appeared in *The Acadiana Advocate*

Vermilionville held its 21st annual Acadian Culture Day.



The Tintamarre Parade, an Acadian tradition of marching through one's community making noise with improvised instruments and other noisemakers, usually in celebration of National Acadian Day, makes its way to the church during the 21st annual Acadian Culture Celebration at Vermilionville on August 13 in Lafayette. The event focused on celebrating, demonstrating, and honoring Acadian heritage in Acadiana and beyond. Perrin represented the Broussard family.

To view more photos, click [here](#).



Shown at the Boudreau Family Association table are (L-R) Larry Boudreaux, who is the Boudreaux Family Association Vice President, and owner of the Cousin Boudreaux's general store, Warren Perrin and Floyd Boudreaux.

Madeline DeHart Presented with Acadian Heritage Preservation Award



Pictured at Vermilionville on August 13, 2023, for the presentation of the Acadian Heritage Preservation Award to Madeline DeHart are (L-R) Warren Perrin, the honoree Madeline DeHart and Darlene Louviere, Madeleine's aunt. Madeline is the Supervisor Vermilion Parish Program of Fine Arts and World Languages and is credited for developing a thriving French immersion program in the parish.

A New 2023 Evangeline

This article by John Dupont appeared in *Plaquemine Post South*:



Mackenzie Grace Janet was named the 2023 Evangeline during the 55th International Acadian Festival social gathering at the Knights of Columbus Plaquemine Council No. 970 home.



Plaquemine Council No. 970 home. John Dupont.

Janet's formal presentation will be at 6 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 21, at Plaquemine Community Center. The presentation will follow a 4 p.m. Mass at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church.

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

A few of the many artifacts on display at the Museum:



Bayou Fest & Boat Parade – September 30



Get ready to float your boat and celebrate Bayou Vermilion District's Bayou Fest and Boat Parade, on Saturday, September 30! For details, registration, and boat rental info, [click here](#).

Reconstruction in Louisiana



On September 19, at Louisiana's Old State Capitol, discover a pivotal chapter often overlooked in history books: the Reconstruction Era in Louisiana. Join us for a talk by distinguished historian Dr. Charles Vincent, as he uncovers the impact of this period on the Black community. [Click here](#) for more information.

FRENCH/ACADIAN NEWS

Join ULL at the Next *Congrès mondial*



The Acadian Museum is partnering with ULL Alumni Association (represented by Jean-Claude Arceneaux) for a tour group to attend the next *Congrès mondial acadien* August 11-20, 2024. To join us, email info@acadianmuseum.com.

The tour will include Halifax, La Have (birthplace in 1632), Port Royal, Grand Pré / Piguit / Minas region and Cobequit (Truro), Glooscap Trail and Beaubassin. These are the key areas where most Cajuns had ancestors from the mid-1600s until 1755.

Annapolis Royal Celebrates Acadian Roots

This article appeared in *Radio-Canada*:



Photo: Facebook/Town of Annapolis Royal

The city of Annapolis Royal does all sorts of things to connect with its Acadian roots.

Acadians from the region around Annapolis Royal organized the first official ceremony to commemorate the deportation of the Acadians at Fort Anne's Queen's Wharf on July 28.

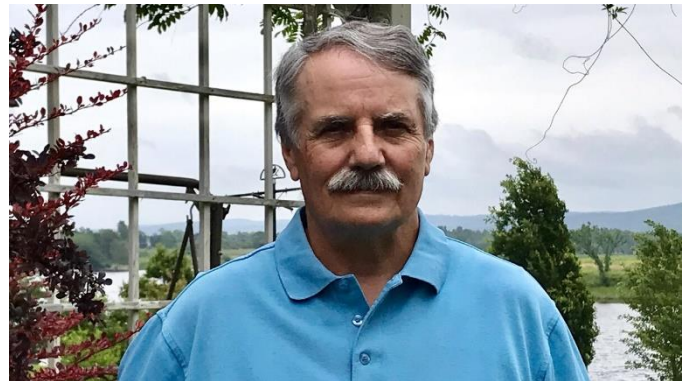


Photo courtesy of Robert Surette

Robert Surette founded the *Association des familles acadiennes de Port-Royal 1632-1755* to bring the culture and history of his ancestors to the forefront in the Annapolis Royal region.

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

We also received this description of the July 28 event from Robert Surette:

Le 28 juillet 2023, la Ville d'Annapolis Royal a hissé le drapeau acadien pour souligner ce jour important de notre histoire où 1,664 Acadiens furent déportés de cette région en 1755. Par après, la crieuse municipale Christine Igot a conduit tout le monde au quai de la Reine, a fait sonner sa cloche et a lu la proclamation officielle de cet événement à 17 h 55. Un bouquet de sept roses représentant les sept navires fut déposé au bout du quai en mémoire de nos ancêtres déchirés de Port-Royal, le berceau de l'Acadie. Ce fut une commémoration mémorable pour la communauté acadienne.



St. Bernard's Church Returned to Acadians on Deportation Remembrance Day

This article appeared in *Archyworldys.com*;

Nation Prospère Acadie and *Héritage Saint-Bernard* have purchased the former Saint-Bernard church in Baie Sainte-Marie, Nova Scotia. The agreement was ratified by the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth on the day of the commemoration of the deportation of the Acadians.

"For years, the future of Acadia was in the hands of the church, and there it is the Acadians who take the future in their hands," said Jean Le Blanc, president of *Héritage Saint-Bernard*.

"As heirs of this remarkable Acadian heritage, we are proud today to undertake this new safeguarding project," said Michel Cyr, Chair of the Board of Directors of *Nation Prosper Acadie*.



Michel Cyr (photo courtesy of Michel Cyr)

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

The Gold Star Standard—Our Lady of the Assumption



This appeared in The B.C. Catholic:

The Acadian flag, with its gold star in honour of Our Lady of the Assumption, flies in Nova Scotia. Most people of Acadian heritage still feel connected to the Catholic Church, or at least to their patron Our Lady of the Assumption, Star of the Sea.

From 1755-64, the Catholic French settlers of Nova Scotia, known as the Acadians, were expelled from their homes along the Bay of Fundy by the ruling British soldiers. While many landed in foreign lands as far away as Louisiana and the Caribbean, several families were dispersed within the Maritimes, or made their way back there eventually, and a stronger Acadian culture was forged.

Later, in 1881, a convention of Acadians occurred, the result of which was the choosing of the Feast of Assumption as their national day. A few years later, they chose their flag, a tri-colour similar to the flag of their native France, but with a gold star on top of the blue section, a symbol of Our Lady, Star of the Sea.

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

Top Five Reasons to Visit the Cabot Trail

This article by Stephanie Holmes appeared on [AcadiaNow.com](#):



The Cabot Trail, winding its way through the picturesque landscapes of Nova Scotia's Cape Breton Island, is more than just a road. It's a journey through nature, culture, and adventure. Named after the explorer John Cabot, this 298-km loop offers a treasure trove of experiences that can fill your soul and offer memories to last a lifetime.

From the steep cliffs and sparkling waters to the rich history and vibrant communities that dot the trail, every twist and turn is a gateway to something new. If you've never explored the Cabot Trail before, you might wonder what makes it a must-visit destination, especially during the summertime. Here are the top 5 compelling reasons, each diving into what makes this place so special.

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

Francophonie en Nouvelle-Écosse

This article appeared in *Radio-Canada*:



Photo courtesy of Hajar Hahjouji

The sixth immigration fair was recently held in Halifax. Members of *Immigration francophone de la Nouvelle-Écosse* participated.

Nova Scotia wants to attract more and more Francophones to its territory and more and more are answering the call of Eastern Canada.

Lyes Kadiri took the plunge in May 2022. At 45, he arrived in Halifax with his wife and two children, ages 7 and 15.

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

Pre-Expulsion Acadian Residence, Recognized by the Government of Canada as a National Historic Site

On August 19, Parks Canada and the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada commemorated the national historic significance of the de Gannes-Cosby House of Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia, with a plaque unveiling ceremony at the property.

Five Things About Antonine Maillet

This appeared in *ici.artv.ca*:



Acadian novelist and playwright Antonine Maillet, born May 10, 1929 in Bouctouche, New Brunswick, highlights her homeland in her books. A major figure in Francophone literature, she has published a number of novels, plays and monologues for the theatre, as well as non-fiction. Her work, translated into eight languages, has been awarded many times. A look back at her prolific career.

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

Canada Officially Recognizes Beausoleil

This came from the government of Canada on this year's National Acadian Day (Aug. 15):

Born in Port-Royal, NS, in 1702, Joseph Broussard dit Beausoleil was a leader of the Acadian resistance and holds an important place in the collective memory of Acadian communities in both Louisiana and the Maritime provinces. National historic designations encourage us to acknowledge the full scope of our history, both the triumphs and the struggles that define the story of Canada and help us

reflect on how to build a more inclusive society for present and future generations.

Today, the Honourable Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Environment and Climate Change and Minister responsible for Parks Canada, announced the designation of Joseph Broussard dit Beausoleil as a person of national historic significance under Parks Canada's National Program of Historical Commemoration.

Click [here](#) to read more.

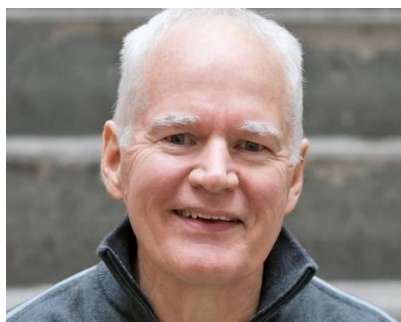
New Acadian Novel



Author and historian A.J.B. Johnston has just launched a new Acadian historical novel.

The children's novel *Into the Wind: A Novel of Acadian Resilience* tells the story of the deportation of the Acadian people to Grand-Pré through two fictional characters, children Marie and Charles. This new book is the culmination of several years of reflection and writing.

The author wishes to begin a reflection with the reader on the common points between the Great Upheaval and certain tragic events of our time.



Author/historian A.J.B. Johnston

For more information, contact the author [here](#).

Acadian Day Celebrated in Poitou, France

This article appeared in *Radio-Canada*:



Maison de l'Acadie is located in La Chaussée, France.

National Acadian Day, August 15, is also celebrated outside Canada's borders. In Poitou, in France, many activities are planned from 13 to 15 August to continue to make this history known and lived. These are 250 years of relations between this French region and Acadia. "The Vienne department has the exceptional opportunity to be one of the places from which the French who became Acadians left, and where the Acadians returned after the Great Upheaval," says Catherine Servant, co-president of *Maison de l'Acadie*, in La Chaussée, north of Poitiers.



The flag of Acadia and the Cajun flag unfurled by visitors to Maison de l'Acadie, in France.

"Each year, *Maison de l'Acadie* welcomes nearly 500 visitors. It is a place of memory," says Catherine Servant. "We receive many American Acadians who come looking for their roots. We have a great international clientele."

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

Acadian Monument Defaced

This appeared in *Radio-Canada*:



Photo:
Radio-
Canada /
Serge
Bouchard

The Acadian Resistance Monument in Campbellton, NB was vandalized. The cross was stolen. The precise date of its disappearance is not known. Citizens noticed the absence of this cross and reported it to the City on Saturday, August 12. Without being able to identify a precise date, it is estimated that the theft took place between August 4 and 12.

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

August Named Acadian Heritage Month

This article appeared on *EIN Newswires*:

Nova Scotia will officially celebrate Acadian Heritage Month for the first time in August 2024, honouring more than 400 years of Acadian history, culture, language and traditions.

“Acadians have contributed greatly to the cultural diversity of Nova Scotia, and they continue to make economic, creative and social contributions to our province,” said Premier Tim Houston. “Today, on National Acadian Day, I am pleased to recognize the historical significance of Acadians to our province by proclaiming August as Acadian Heritage Month.”

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

Tintamarre à Petit-Rocher



Yvon Godin sent this photo taken at the big *Tintamarre* in Petit-Rocher in the town of Belle-Baie, NB in Acadie on Aug 15. Godin was distributing pamphlets for the *Fédération acadienne du Québec*. He is holding a trophy he received for his work on behalf of the Acadians in Montréal. Attached to the net of in his costume are many Acadian symbols like a light house, shell, lobster trap, and he is wearing a T-shirt with the words “Proud to be an Acadian.”

American Football in French : Allez les Saints!!!!

Les Saints auront une couverture en français en Louisiane, selon cet article de *Radio-Canada*:

L’excitation est palpable dans la voix de Will McGrew, qui s’apprête avec son équipe à couvrir en français, dans quelques jours, un premier match de saison des Saints de La Nouvelle-Orléans. Grande nouveauté pour le marché, les activités de l’équipe seront suivies dans la langue de Zachary Richard par le réseau Télé-Louisiane. Comment un petit média local, qui compte six employés et quelques pigistes, est-il devenu partenaire de la ligue la plus populaire des É-U?

Cliquez [ici](#) pour continuer.

Une République acadienne?

Mario Doucette, a visual artist from Moncton, started a movement on Facebook to declare *Acadie* a republic, with stamps, an official animal, and a map.



Doucette is using art to question what he was taught in school about Acadian history and what he learned while doing his own research. His work shows an alternate reality focused on the issues of colonization, history, politics, and propaganda. You can read more about it here:

[République acadienne \(Facebook\)](#)

[CBC: Acadian History is a Mess](#)

Broussard Family Reunion

On August 14, 2024, during the CMA 2024, the Broussard Family Reunions will be held in Church Point Nova Scotia and Granville Ferry, Nova Scotia. For information, contact Daniel Boucher: 506-866-4682; djeanboucher@hotmail.com.

LAGNIAPPE

Festival of Words Fundraiser

September 9 is the annual “Words for You” fundraiser for the Festival of Words, which honors writers in Grand Coteau, LA.

FESTIVAL OF WORDS NEWSLETTER

Last year's Words for You artists.

September 9th is the date for our annual "Words for You" fundraiser. Soon you can commission an author to write for you on our website! We love our partners!

WWW.FESTIVALOFWORDS.ORG
FOWMARTHA@GMAIL.COM

For more information: fowmartha@gmail.com; or see www.festivalofwords.org.

Louisiana Poet Laureate

The Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, along with Gov. John Bel Edwards, is proud to announce Louisiana's newest Poet Laureate, Alison Pelegrin. Following Mona Lisa Saloy's successful tenure as Poet Laureate from 2021 through August 13 of this year, Pelegrin will assume the post beginning August 14 and serve for two years. Click [here](#) for more information.



Former CODOFIL Teacher Hosted

Here are a few pictures from a dinner party Mary and I recently hosted to entertain former CODOFIL teacher Celine Couplier, who taught French immersion in New Iberia 10 years ago. While still in Lafayette she married Thomas Guilliot, who accompanied her from France. Our son Bruce was “best man” (garçon d'honneur) at their wedding.



Mary Perrin and Celine Couplier



Thomas Guilliot and Bruce Perrin



(L-R) Celine Couplier, Thomas Guilliot, Bruce Perrin, Tekiya Jones, Sam Broussard, Lea Wyler and Mary Perrin.

Festivals Acadiens Et Créoles to Commemorate Clifton Chenier’s Legacy

This appeared in *OffBeat Magazine*:



Festivals Acadiens et Créoles, the annual Cajun and zydeco music festival, is preparing to pay tribute to the renowned King of Zydeco, Clifton Chenier. The festival, which celebrates the Cajun and Créole culture, is scheduled from October 13 to 15 at Girard Park in Lafayette.

Clifton Chenier, who performed at the inaugural festival in 1974, holds a special place in the history of *Festivals Acadiens et Créoles*. Clifton, often called the “King of Zydeco,” was a notable musician celebrated for his accordion skills and distinctive vocals, which introduced many new audiences to the rhythms of South Louisiana’s Creole and zydeco music. Born in 1925, Chenier’s upbringing in the Bayou region shaped his musical journey and also helped to create Chenier’s reputation as a “Louisiana Music Master.”

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

The “Little Cajun Saint” Charlene Richard



On August 1, 2023, this group went to Father Floyd Calais' house in Lafayette and interviewed him discussing with Warren Perrin his early life and relationship with the Little Cajun Saint Charlene Richard. Oscar Reed Jr., Mary Perrin, Warren Perrin, and Kathy Hardy are shown with Father Calais (seated), following the recording.

This article appeared on [KLFY.com](https://www.klfy.com):

Charlene Richard, a Catholic servant of God, was memorialized Friday at St. Edward Catholic Church in Church Point.

Richard, known as the “Little Cajun Saint”, was born in January of 1947 and died in 1959 when she was 12 years old. She died at our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, where she was treated briefly for acute lymphatic leukemia.

“She works miracles for people, so we know her as our ‘Little Cajun Saint’,” Nanette Reiners, a Church Point parishioner, said. “And no matter what time of the day, night, there is always someone at the grave. It can be 2 or 3 o’clock in the morning, but someone is always around praying to her.”

If Richard is canonized, she would be the first official saint from Cajun Country.

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

Mass Celebrates ‘Little Cajun Saint’

This article by Harlan Kirgan appeared in *The Eunice News*:



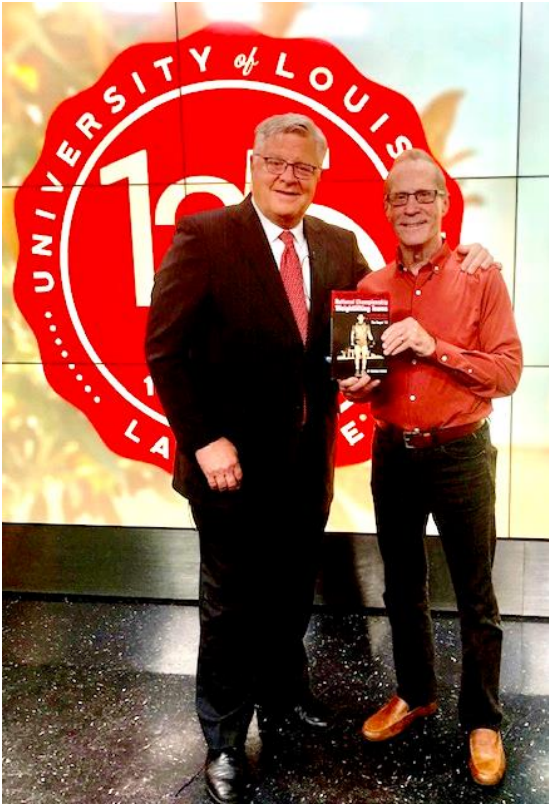
By the time the Rosary began prior to the 64th anniversary Mass for Charlene Richard, “The Little Cajun Saint,” every seat in St. Edward Catholic Church in Richard was filled. Richard was born Jan. 13, 1947, and After being diagnosed with acute lymphatic leukemia, she passed away on Aug. 11, 1959, at the age of 12. While receiving treatment at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Lafayette, the young...

[Mass celebrates ‘Little Cajun Saint’](#)

We received this email from John Dale Richard, Charlene’s older brother, describing her anniversary Mass:

Amazing story! The Mass was beautiful, the church and the hall were standing room only. Father Corey said 550 communions were distributed at the Mass. He also said over 700 people had visited the church and Charlene’s grave during the day . The Mass and the reception were a great success. Bishop Deshotel was present at the Mass and gave a short talk before the closing prayer. A wonderful day and a very special celebration.

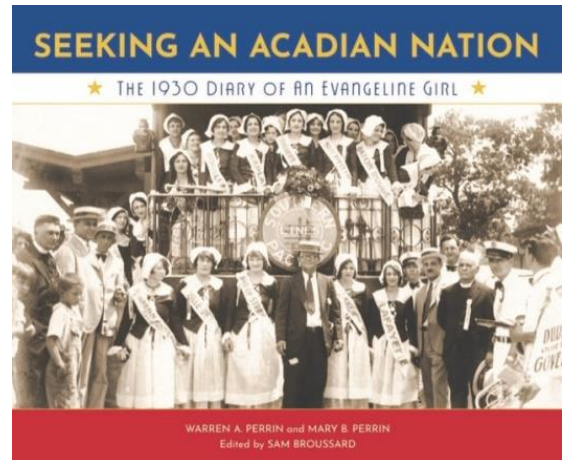
Warren Perrin and Amy Armstrong Interviewed on Fox 15



Warren Perrin (R) presents a copy of his weightlifting memoir to TV host Scott Brazda (L)

On August 17, Amy Armstrong director of the UL Alumni Association and I appeared on the Fox 15 morning show hosted by Scott Brazda. We discussed the recent induction of UL Olympic Weightlifter Walter Imahara and sportswriter Bruce Brown into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame. After the segment, I presented a copy of my book, *The University of Louisiana National Championship Weightlifting Teams* to Brazda.

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, Warren Perrin, Phil Comeau, and Mary Perrin, editors.
- [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 University of Louisiana's 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