

LA PAROLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ACADIAN MUSEUM

By Warren A. Perrin, Chairman

June 2026

CONTENTS	Page
Museum News	2
Louisiana/Cajun News	3
French/Acadian News	5
Lagniappe	7

MUSEUM HOURS

Tue.-Fri. 1-4 pm —Sat. 10-noon

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

HELP PROMOTE CAJUN CULTURE!

Your tax-deductible donations¹ help:

- Find the [lost location](#) of the first Acadian settlement
- Archive rare tapes and interviews
- Give inspiring [talks and presentations](#) to clubs and civic groups
- Support French “immersion” and other cultural programs
- Expand the museum collection.

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

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS!

[Start a new subscription](#) or [unsubscribe](#).

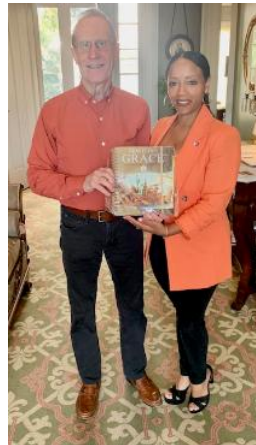
CONNECT WITH US! [Help/Volunteer Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Museum Store](#) | [Video](#)

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.*

National Television Premiere of “America 250” Travel Show Segment Will Showcase Louisiana’s Role in Shaping our Nation



Warren Perrin with Danella Ri'chard

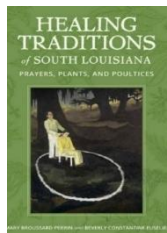
The Acadian Museum is proud to announce our participation in a unique event commemorating America’s 250th anniversary. On Wed., June 3, Lafayette Travel, in partnership with our museum and the Galvez Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, will host a free screening of [Traveling With Denella Ri'chard](#) focusing on the topic of “America 250.”

The event, being held at Acadiana Center for the Arts in Lafayette, LA will start at 5 pm.

Welcoming remarks will begin at 5:30 p.m. from Lafayette Travel President & CEO Ben Berthelot, Lafayette Mayor-President Monique Blanco Boulet, and Ms. Denella Ri'chard herself.

At the event, I will take part in a panel discussion exploring our region’s unique contributions to American history and its connection to the nation’s 250th anniversary commemoration, along with John François from Sons of the American Revolution and Michael Martin, professor of history at UL Lafayette. We hope to see you there.

Book: Healing Traditions of South Louisiana



Healing Traditions of South Louisiana is the most comprehensive history available on the healing arts, including details on the mystical arts of Cajun *traiteurs* and their *traitements*. To order, call (337) 456-7729 or go [online](#).

ACADIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE FOUNDATION, INC.

203 S. Broadway, Erath, Louisiana 70533 | (337) 456-7729 | [acadianmuseum.com](#)

MUSEUM NEWS

Wade Benson and Teresa Bowe Landry: Our Newest "Living Legends"



Wade Benson Landry and wife Teresa accept their Living Legend awards presented by Warren Perrin (L).

In May, we hosted a ceremony inducting two outstanding musicians into the Order of Living Legends: **Wade Benson Landry** and his wife **Teresa**. Wade is a native of Vermilion Parish who recently moved back to his roots in South Louisiana. Teresa is "a Missouri Cajun" from Laredo, MO (NE of Kansas City).

Wade Benson Landry toured the world with some of the greatest country performers including George Jones, Tammy Wynette, Mel Tillis, Hank Thompson, Dotty West, Jimmy C. Newman, and Bob Wills' Texas Playboys. He also led his own show called "Swingin' Cajun Style" for a decade.

Starting in the 1970s, by the age of 13 years old, he won the Louisiana Junior State Fiddle Championship. By the time he graduated from Abbeville High School, he had already recorded in Nashville and went on to a career that included performances at the Grand Ole Opry, Vegas casinos, the Hollywood Bowl, Carnegie Hall, the New Orleans World Fair, London's Wembley Arena, the New Orleans Jazz Festival, and the London Palladium including a performance for President Ronald Reagan at the Indianapolis 500.

His international tours took him to Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland, Austria, France, Switzerland, and (he adds jokingly), "Mamou, Louisiana." TV appearances included The Nashville Network (TNN). Live from the Grand Ole Opry (TNN), Good Morning America, the Johnny Carson Show, and the Bob Hope Show. He also appeared in the Oak Ridge Boys Video, "It's Gonna Take a Lot of River," which won a Grammy Nomination for Video of the Year.

In 2009, he married Teresa Bowe in Laughlin, NV while playing Las Vegas shows with Mel Tillis. They have now been married for 17 years. This year, he and Teresa signed a recording contract with Neon Star Records out of Sacramento, CA through a new marketing manager, Mae McCoy.

Since 1997, the Acadian Museum Living Legends program has recognized and honored over 250 individuals who helped shape and define our culture. You can learn more about the program and read bios for each of the historical inductees on our website at acadianmuseum.com/legends.

Book Talks/Special Events

The following talks will be presented by Warren or Mary Perrin, unless otherwise noted. All times are US Central. To schedule a talk, just pick a [topic](#) and a date that isn't already taken.

- June 3, 5 pm – Panel discussion and special screening of *Traveling with Denella Ri'chard: America 250*, Acadiana Center for the Arts 101 W. Vermilion St., Lafayette, LA.
- June 5, 11 am – hosting French delegation from Loudon, France (twinned with Thibodaux since 1978) at Jean Lafitte Park 314 St. Mary Street, in Thibodaux, LA.
- June 6, 9 am - Go West Tour bus at the Acadian Museum, 203 South Broadway, Erath, LA.
- June 26, 6:30 pm, *Vermillion Parish Patriot 250* with actors portraying famous people in US history, Courthouse Square, Abbeville, LA.

Talk in Terrebonne Parish

On Saturday, May 30, I gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Terrebonne Genealogical and Historical Society at the Terrebonne Parish Library, 151 Library Drive in Houma, LA.

In this talk, I explained my efforts to bring about the [Queen's Royal Proclamation](#) of 2003. In her proclamation, Queen Elizabeth II acknowledged for the first time the wrongs committed in the name of the English Crown during the Acadian deportation of 1755. The proclamation established July 28 of each year as "a day of commemoration of the Great Upheaval."

We are always available to give presentations to your group. To schedule a talk, just pick a [topic](#) and a date that isn't already taken (above).

LOUISIANA/CAJUN NEWS

Lafayette Named Among the South's Most Iconic Music Towns



Advocate staff photo by Robin May

An article by Joanna Brown appeared on *The Advocate* website:

Lafayette is home to more than an instantly recognizable regional sound and vibrant music community — it's also just a great place to enjoy music as a listener.

There's nothing better than live music paired with cold drinks, great food and friendly faces, and that's exactly what Acadiana communities specialize in. Whether you're at Hideaway on Lee in Lafayette, or enjoying an afternoon at Arnaudville's Bayou Teche Brewing, visitors might find Grammy-gilded players rocking the stage while families eat and dancers twirl across the dance floor — and that's the kind of scene that makes the music really sing in your blood.

Garden & Gun magazine recently shared their list of the South's "best music towns" ... and Lafayette was given pride of place in a spread that includes Asheville, NC and Clarksdale, MI.

To continue reading, [click here](#).

Cajun Filmmaker Pat Mire Screening His Latest Film: *Pointe Noire*



Cajun filmmaker Pat Mire will hold a screening of his latest film, *Pointe Noire*. Photo : KLFY.

[An article](#) by Scott Yoshonis appeared on the KLFY-TV website:

An acclaimed filmmaker from Acadiana is holding a public screening of his recent work. Acadia Parish Tourism and the City of Crowley invite the public to a free community screening of “Pointe Noire,” a film by Pat Mire, on Friday, June 12, at 6:30 p.m. at the historic Rice Theater in downtown Crowley.

The screening is free and open to the public. Filmed in Acadia Parish, “Pointe Noire” is the story of Cajun filmmaker Louis Leger and attorney Dolores Arceneaux, who join forces in the community of Pointe Noire in an effort to save the life of Joel Richard, a falsely accused Cajun man on Louisiana’s Death Row.

Following the screening, Mire and screenwriter Rebecca Hudsmith will be in attendance for a question-and-answer session with the audience.

Doors will open at 6 p.m., and guests are encouraged to arrive early for seating.

To continue reading, [click here](#).

Acadian Cultural Center: Where Exiles Found a New Home



The Acadian Cultural Center at Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve in Lafayette. Photo : AOL.

An article by Aaron Gonsoulin appeared on the AOL News website:

Tucked along Bayou Vermilion, the Acadian Cultural Center preserves the story of the Acadians—French-speaking settlers expelled from Canada in the 18th century who rebuilt their lives in Louisiana. Part of the larger Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, the center explores how exile shaped identity and how resilience shaped a region.

Through immersive exhibits, music, and storytelling, visitors trace the journey from Nova Scotia to the bayous. The result is a portrait of adaptation, faith and cultural pride that continues to define Cajun Louisiana today.

To continue reading, [click here](#).

Cultural Incubator Accepting Applications

“Le Lab” is a cultural incubator supporting Louisiana’s Creole, Cajun, and Indigenous heritage cultures, as well as minority language cultures across the U.S. Laureates receive professional workshops, monthly mentorship, and a tailored fundraising and communications strategy to bring their projects to life. Since 2021, Le Lab laureates have raised \$350,000, secured grants from Guggenheim and Mellon, presented at the Library of Congress, and launched their own nonprofits and startups. [Apply](#) by July 10.

LARC Acadian Village in Lafayette Preserves Cajun History

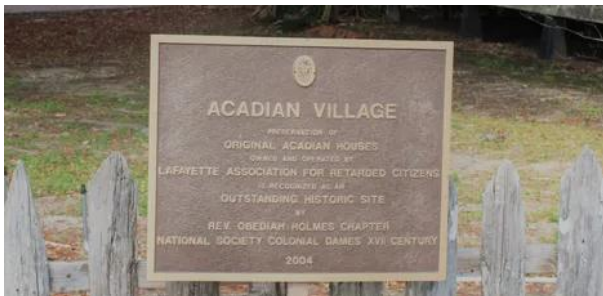


Photo : Lafayette Daily Advertiser.

An article by Aaron Gonsoulin appeared on the Lafayette Daily Advertiser website:

At LARC's Acadian Village, history unfolds beneath moss-draped oaks. This reconstructed 19th-century Cajun village preserves authentic homes, a blacksmith shop, a chapel, and a general store —many relocated from surrounding parishes. Operated by LARC, the nonprofit supports individuals with developmental disabilities while safeguarding heritage. Walking its shaded paths feels like stepping into a living postcard of rural Louisiana.

To continue reading, [click here](#).

FRENCH/ACADIAN NEWS

Nova Scotia Offers New Tourist Guide



From the Visitez la Baie Sainte-Marie / Visit Clare Acadian Shore facebook page:

Planifiez votre séjour à la Baie aujourd'hui ! Le guide touristique bilingue de la Baie Sainte-Marie 2026 est maintenant disponible en version papier et en ligne comme un flipbook et un PDF pour télécharger.

Plan your getaway to la Baie today! Our bilingual 2026 Clare Visitor Guide is now available in paper format and online as a flipbook and PDF download!

The new flipbook can be ordered [here](#).

Dartmouth Community Garden Finds Its Roots in Acadian History



(Photo: Stephanie Blanchet/Radio-Canada)

An article by CBC News appeared on their website:

A community garden in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia is reconnecting residents with Acadian and francophone history. Organizers say the garden serves as both a food-growing space and a cultural gathering place, helping preserve language, heritage and community ties. People of all ages met at the Dartmouth Common to take part in celebrations, spending time outside tending to a plot that will include carrots, herbs and tomatoes.

Marina Turbide, communication and marketing co-ordinator for the Conseil communautaire du Grand-Havre, said this garden is inspired by traditional Acadian gardens dating back to before 1775. "Acadians had a very precise way of gardening," Turbide told Radio-Canada. "The goal was to create a garden that could ... sustain itself and have natural repellents for hungry bugs." She said that a traditional Acadian garden would include up to 22 types of herbs to serve as natural insecticides.

To learn more in English, [click here](#) (ou en français, [cliquez ici](#).)

Abrogation du Code noir en France



Le président français Emmanuel Macron (Photo: Thibault Camus ©2026 All rights reserved)

Un article de Serge Duchesne est paru sur le site de MSN:

Le président Emmanuel Macron a approuvé jeudi l'abrogation symbolique des décrets royaux régissant l'esclavage dans les colonies françaises, tout en appelant à la prudence concernant les réparations. Il a insisté sur la nécessité du travail de mémoire et de justice, tout en soulignant la complexité de la question des réparations.

Promulgué en 1685 sous Louis XIV, le "Code noir" organisait et encadrait l'esclavage dans les colonies françaises. Bien que devenu juridiquement caduc depuis l'abolition de l'esclavage en 1848, il n'a jamais été formellement abrogé. Aujourd'hui encore, des voix s'élèvent pour demander sa suppression officielle, au nom d'un travail de mémoire et de justice.

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

Élèves de Saint-Quentin, NB



Les membres de la troupe de théâtre vont en France jouer leur pièce (Photo : Gracieuseté/Marie-Josée Thériault)

Un article récent de Pierre Phillippe LeBlanc sur le site de Radio-Canada explique comment des élèves d'un petit village acadien du Nouveau-Brunswick se sont rendus dans leur ville jumelle en France pour y présenter une pièce de théâtre.

Des élèves de l'école polyvalente Alexandre-J.-Savoie, à Saint-Quentin au Nouveau-Brunswick, [récemment présenté] à Saint-Quentin en France leur interprétation de la pièce de théâtre intitulée *Partis pour la chasse*.

Partis pour la chasse est un texte de Maud Chouinard, ancienne élève de cette école. La pièce a notamment remporté le prix du public au Festival de théâtre jeunesse en Acadie, qui s'est déroulé à Caraquet du 23 au 26 avril.

« C'est une histoire entre un groupe d'amis qui s'en va à la chasse. Il se passe plein de péripéties. Ça raconte un peu l'histoire de Saint-Quentin parce que Saint-Quentin, c'est pas mal la chasse. On va faire découvrir ça aux petits Français, » explique la jeune actrice Lily-Rose Paquet.

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

LAGNIAPPE

Festival to Celebrate Acadian Music, Dance



The Acadia Festival of Traditional Music & Dance is dedicated to promoting education and appreciation of traditional music and dance by producing a week-long summer festival composed of intensive classes, workshops, concerts, and dances.

This summer's festival starts June 21 through June 27 in Bar Harbor, ME. The festival's goal is to build community, celebrate artists, and carry forward traditions using music and dance of Acadian, Cape Breton, Irish, Québécois, Scottish, and other origins to build bridges between generations and cultures.

To learn more about the festival, [click here](#).

The Retirement of an Acadian Jurilinguist



Our longtime co-editor Mario Lagacé, an Acadian by birth who grew up in St. Quentin, NB, recently retired as a jurilinguist (legal translation specialist) for the Canadian Courts Administration Service.

Mario helps us by providing Acadian-themed story ideas and correcting our French. Here is his account of how it felt to retire after 32 years in the civil service:

On a cool March day in Ottawa, I showed up early at the office and spent most of the day putting final touches on a document I had been working on the week before. I watched a Zoom call meeting, cleaned up old computer files, and—once all that was done—grabbed my laptop, left the office key on my desk, and headed to the security office, handing my laptop and ID badge to the security staff. Then I crossed the turnstile on the first floor, never to return, knowing an important part of my life was over.

How did I feel at that moment? Strange. Neither happy to be free from the shackles of work nor sad to see the end of a career that defined me professionally. I was emotionally in a “twilight zone.” My employer left it to me to decide on my own terms what would be the most convenient moment for me to leave. It was as painless as could be. That was it, after 32 years!

How did it all start, you may ask? The Canadian 1960s very much shaped me: a new national flag, the centennial of the Canadian federation, Expo 67 in Montreal, Pierre Trudeau, our dynamic

Prime Minister, and the Official Languages Act. Those events led me to move to the national capital, Ottawa. I arrived there in the 70s as a university student to complete a degree in translation, followed by a civil law degree. With those diplomas under my belt, finding work wouldn't be too difficult. A job at Ottawa U. led to another one at the Tax Court of Canada.

I remember being summoned on my first days of work to the Personnel Office of the Tax Court to sign my new employee papers. One of them included a loyalty oath to Queen Elizabeth II that every new employee of the Federal government had to sign! Yes, a loyalty oath to a British Monarch! Déjà vu? I felt, as an Acadian, that I was put in a bind. Should I sign it and keep my job or refuse by principle and live with the consequences? What I should have done, at least, is question the validity of this requirement and, in turn, put my employer on the spot and get his answer “on the record.” That was for me a lost opportunity to raise this historical issue. It turns out that even the British government does not ask its civil servants to sign such a loyalty oath! Talk about being more Catholic than the Pope, so to speak! As it turned out, ten years later, this archaic oath was dropped by Canada under the “Public Service Employment Act.”

One thing I can say for sure is that you cannot work for 32 years in the civil service without having to deal with changes, lots of them. New management, new work philosophy, new work conditions, including working at home, new work technology, including software, internet tools and artificial intelligence, you name it! Contrary to expectations however, technology did not impact my unit negatively. Quite the opposite. From a team of four jurilinguists, we grew to eight, then twelve and, at last count, to about

sixteen! Oh yes, as it turns out, AI is not a job killer for jurilinguists! And our work? More, better and faster! When I started in the Revision Service 32 years ago, our situation was precarious and, when I finally left, the Service was in a stronger position it had ever been in. Mission accomplished!

Lobster Feast in Montréal



90-year-old Georges LeBlanc (L) with Rodrigue Gauthier from Bonaventure in the Peninsula of Gaspé, QC

As always, we received a monthly report from our Acadian friends in Montréal:

Acadians from La Fédération acadienne du Québec in Montréal shared a delicious Lobster feast on April 9 organised by ninety years old Georges LeBlanc, originally from Cap-Pelé, New Brunswick. Acadians attendees were from Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Québec as well as France.

La Table Française – Come Speak French

South Louisiana locals meet regularly to improve their language skills. CODOFIL has a [list](#) of these events, but here are some of our favorites:

Arnaudville: Last Saturdays, 9:30 am, Arnaudville Community Center. [email](#)

Broussard: 2nd Fridays, 8:30 am, Valsin Broussard House, 408 W. Main St. (337) 445-3478

Dulac: 3rd Wednesdays, Parish Library, call (985) 563-2014

Erath: Fridays, 10 am, Erath Library. [email](#)

Lafayette: Wednesdays, 7 am, Dwyer's Cafe, [email](#); or 2nd Thurs, 5:30 pm, Petroleum Club. [email](#)

Lake Charles: First Fridays, 4 pm, Central Library, 301 W. Claude St. [email](#)

Loreauville: Tuesdays, 7 am, Main Cup Coffee Shop, 101 N. Main St. [email](#)

Maurice: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10 am, 218 Chief Fred Ave. (337) 652-0166

New Iberia: Thursdays, 8:30 am, Cane River Pecan Co., 254 W. Main St. (337) 519-7942

New Orleans: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 5:30 pm, 1519 Jackson Ave. [details](#)

Rayne: Thursdays, 9:30 am, Bernard-Bertrand House, 1023 The Blvd. [email](#)

St. Martinville: Wednesdays, 10 am, Longfellow-Evangeline State Park, 1200 N. Main. 337-394-3754

Scott: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 1 pm, Begnaud House, 110 Benoit Patin Rd. [email](#)

Thibodaux: Tuesdays, 5 pm, Jean Lafitte Center, 314 St. Mary St. [email](#)

Ville Platte: Mondays, 2 pm, Hundred Fold Coffee Shop on Coreil St. [email](#)

Ville Platte: Tuesdays 1 pm, EPL Ville Platte Library. [Email](#).

Via Zoom: Mondays, 9 am. To connect to the meeting, contact [email](#).

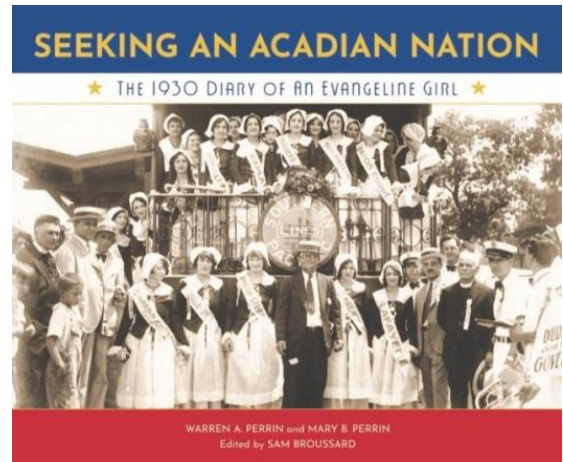
Stay At Our Guesthouse!



Vermilion Parish is known as a “birding paradise” and there are many fabulous Cajun places to visit where you can still experience French being spoken by the locals, as well as authentic Cajun cuisine. The Perrin Farm in Henry, LA, is only five miles from the Cajun food mecca of Abbeville, and an easy ride to the Acadian Museum in Erath.

Situated in a bucolic setting on the edge of rice fields and crawfish ponds, our Cajun family farmstead has been converted from a family retreat to a rural farm guesthouse. Our party barn accommodates up to 100 for parties, family reunions, crawfish boils, weddings, and more. To reserve, email perrinfarm18@gmail.com.

Visit the Boutique and 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
- 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

Come and Visit—In Person or Online

You can read more about us on our website at 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.



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