

LA PAROLE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ACADIAN MUSEUM

By Warren A. Perrin, Chairman

November 2022

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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.

HELP PROMOTE THE CULTURE

Your tax-deductible contributions¹ can fund these important projects:

- Finding the [lost location](#) of our first Acadian settlement.
- Transcribing and digitizing tapes of rare and valuable interviews.
- Developing videos and podcasts for distribution online.
- Promoting the French language and "immersion" programs.
- Expanding and categorizing our holdings of cultural treasures.

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

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STAFF: Darylin Barousse, Ryan Bernard, Mario Lagacé.

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

Healing Traditions – A New Book About Traiteurs



(L-R) Mary Perrin, Cindi Axtell, and Beverly Fuselier with the new book.

A new book *Healing Traditions of South Louisiana* written by experts Mary B. Perrin and Beverly Fuselier, talks about the French *traiteurs* or faith healers, who minister to the restorative health needs of the community with secret prayers passed from one traiteur to another, a special knowledge of medicinal plants, or both. A podcast interview with the authors is

scheduled to be hosted Thursday, Nov. 3 on the [Louisiana Insider](#) podcast series hosted by Errol Laborde.

The book sells for \$35 plus \$5 (domestic only) shipping and handling. Orders may be placed by calling (337) 456-7729. You can read more about the book [here](#) and on page 3.

Visit Us, "Like" Us on Facebook, or Shop in Our Store!

The Acadian Museum is open Tues.-Fri. 1-4 pm and Sat. 10-noon or visit us online using the links below. For tours, dial 337 456-7729 (weekdays) or 337 501-3049 (weekends or no answer).

Website: www.acadianmuseum.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/AcadianMuseum

Museum Store: www.acadianmuseum.com/boutique.html

MUSEUM NEWS

Book Talks/Special Events

We are accepting invitations to give presentations. Here are some scheduled talks:

- Nov. 2, 10 am. "The Revolution of 1768: Acadians Force Out Spanish Governor," Jean Lafitte Visitor Center, 419 Decatur, New Orleans
- Nov. 5. 1 pm. "Acadiana/Cajun Women: Then and Now (1604-present)," La. Folklife Festival, Evangeline State Park, St. Martinville, LA
- Nov. 5, 1:30 pm. *Healing Traditions of South Louisiana* by Mary Perrin and Beverly Fuselier, Folklife Festival, St. Martinville, LA
- Nov. 16, 5:30 pm. "David Berger: Reflections on a Jewish-Asian-Cajun Friendship 50 Years After His Murder at the 1972 Munich Olympics," New Orleans Athletic Club, New Orleans, LA
- Nov. 30, 10 am. "Acadians in the American Revolution: Amand Broussard and the Spanish Militia" Jean Lafitte Visitor Ctr., 419 Decatur, New Orleans
- Dec. 6, 2 pm. Induction of Living Legend Marlene Breaux Toups. Acadian Wetlands Cultural Center, Jean Lafitte National Historic Park and Preserve, 314 St. Mary St., Thibodaux, LA
- Dec. 14, 10 am. "The Marquis de Lafayette: His 1825 visit to New Orleans," Jean Lafitte Visitor Center, 419 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA
- Dec. 17, 10 am. A talk by the authors of *Parcours Louisianais*, LSU Rural Life Museum, 4560 Essen Lane Baton Rouge

- Mar. 20, 2023, 4 pm. "Cajuns: Then and Now," University of Auburn, Montgomery, AL.

Let Us Entertain You... Subscribe Now!



DL Menard sings at Lake Peigneur from Acadian Museum TV Channel

One way to help the museum is by subscribing to our [YouTube channel](#). If you haven't seen it yet, our TV Channel has tons of video treasures including music (24 videos), Cajun culture (58 videos), history (55 videos), education (51 videos), with more being added all the time. As a subscriber, you get a notice every time we add a new video like [this one](#).

Our goal is 1,000 subscribers and so far we have 162. Do us a favor and [click this link](#), then click the Subscribe button to get started. We do appreciate it.

More About *Healing Traditions*

Healing Traditions of South Louisiana, prayers, plants, and poultices is a book just out by Mary Perrin and Beverly Fuselier.

Part One discusses folk healing in Louisiana and other places. The South Louisiana traiteurs, or folk healers, minister to the health needs of the community with secret prayers passed from one generation to another. They also use healing hands and knowledge of native Louisiana medicinal plants.

Part Two of the book discusses those medicinal plants in detail, plants that contain healing properties that are still relieving symptoms today. The plants are identified by their common names, Latin names, and local French names. The plants' descriptions, growing practices, and folklore are included and bring the plants to life.

Annie Friou Won Statewide Volunteer Award



Here's the statewide award recently granted by the Louisiana Association of Museums, given to our very own treasured volunteer Annie Friou for her 40 years of dedicated service.

Museum Hosts Visitors during GRA



On Oct. 6, two visitors from Prince Edward Island toured the museum Angèle Arsenault (left) and Léona Arsenault. The two Acadian artists are from the Evangeline Region of Î.P.É. They donated an artistic souvenir for the museum. Their visit was covered in the provincial newspaper.



That same day, we enjoyed hosting Prof. Noah Arceneaux (left), now living in California and a Professor of Media Studies, San Diego State University, who is researching for a

book on the history of Cajuns on the radio. We loaned him some archival materials of Sen. Dudley J. LeBlanc's radio program at KROF in Abbeville, La.



On Oct. 11, Allie Guidry, from Fairfax, Virginia, visited the museum and was hosted by volunteer Jackie Vincent. Allie edits the *Generations* newsletter for *Les Guédry et Petitpas d'Asteur*. She sent

this nice comment on her tour: "I really enjoyed the museum and look forward to stopping by on our next visit to Louisiana. It was very interesting to learn more about Erath and surrounding areas. My daughter and son-in-law helped me find the land that my Leleux ancestors owned in Iberia Parish in the early 1800s so we explored that area for the first time. We'll be back! Jackie was terrific and she gave an excellent tour of the museum." Many thanks to Allie, who donated a collection of nine beautiful *Evangeline* books, shown exhibited in our museum below.



More Visitors to the Museum



On Oct. 27, museum volunteer Ron Bodin (left) hosted two visitors from France. Shown are Cynthia Breaux Seitz from Belle-Île-en-Mer, France, Dr. Mike Vincent, CODOFIL Board, and H  l  ne Jugeau also from Belle-Île-en-Mer.



L. J. and Alice LeBlanc of Breaux Bridge were hosted at the museum by Natial d'Augereau on Oct. 19.



On Oct. 22, docent Bill Comeaux hosted three visitors from New Iberia: Johnny and Darlene Soule and Doretta St Martin. They have been all around the Acadiana region visiting various museums. They

assured Bill that they would be back as there was so much for them to see in the museum.

Photos: GRA Celebration in Broussard, LA

This appeared in The Acadiana Advocate:

Attendees chat while enjoying live music and demonstrations during the *Grand Réveil Acadien* on Oct. 7, at the Valsin Broussard House in Broussard, La. The *Grand Réveil* is a nine-day celebration of the Acadian people that brought together Acadians and their descendants to experience the culture and history of Acadiana.



Serge Léger, mayor of Broussard's twin city Cap-Pelé, NB, (left) shakes hands with Broussard Mayor Ray Bourque following their reading of proclamations redeclaring their towns as twin cities.

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

Broussards Galore

Early last month, we met new distant cousins at the Valsin Broussard House, 408 Main St. in Broussard. Valsin was the town's founder; his house is being converted to a museum. Later, we tasted some jambalaya and listened to Grammy-winner Chubby Carrier at Arceneaux Park.



Broussard descendants gather in front of the house. Front-center holding sign is Johnnie Broussard, 102, of Baton Rouge. Photo by Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court Louis Perret.

Millicent Norbert (shown below) has been tasked by the City of Broussard to convert the house to the Broussard Museum for an opening in 2023.



The Acadian Museum is helping her in this effort.

Millicent Norbert gave a tour of the Valsin Broussard house.

Family Reunions

On Oct. 8, we went to Breaux Bridge for the Breaux Family Reunion then to Rayne for the Hebert and Guidry Reunions. We made lots of new friends and sold several books.



On Oct. 8, shown at the Breaux Family Reunion are, left to right, Mary B. Perrin, Clifford Hebert and Emmeline Hebert Thibodeaux; the siblings are interested in opening a museum in their hometown of Breaux Bridge, La. which is known as the Crawfish Capitol of the World.

On Oct. 9, the Acadian Museum representatives attended the GRA closing ceremonies and again presented the play *The Birth of Cajun Culture* in Lafayette, La. Thanks to the following friends who participated in the play: Rebecca Landry, Don Landry, Mary Perrin, Ray Trahan, Richard Landry, Barry Toups, Gregory Wood, Dr. Michael Vincent, Earlene Broussard, Brenda Trahan, Marty Guidry, Melissa Bonin, Natial d'Augereau, Don Arceneaux, and musicians Sam Broussard, Jonno Frishberg and Katie Rees.



Pictured following the performance are Warren Perrin (left) and Dena Denbo, artist from Broussard, La., who has loaned to the Acadian Museum some of her historical Valsin Broussard artifacts from the mid-1800s.

Queen's Letter on Display at the Museum

We recently added several objects in the museum's displays. Jackie Vincent helped reorganize the display on the Queen's Royal Proclamation. Please make plans to come see the expanded exhibit, which will include the letter mailed to the museum just eight days before Queen Elizabeth's death.



LPB Film Crew at the Acadian Museum

On Oct. 21, a Louisiana Public Broadcasting film crew came to film at the Acadian Museum.



Senior Producer Lily Keber and Archivist Jennifer Samani (*L-R above*) did a lot of research, filming, and interviews at the museum as part of an upcoming LPB project entitled *Why Louisiana Ain't Mississippi*. The piece is a 4-hr documentary written by former Lt.-Gov. Jay Dardenne, which will air on December 11-12.

“We’re producing a history of Louisiana based upon the many cultures that settled here,” said Keber. We loved interviewing you about the *Grand Dérangement* and about how you secured the apology from the Queen. Thanks for talking on camera with us about this.”

French Immersion Scholarship Available

We received this from Lloyd Doré III, Abbeville Cultural and Historical Alliance:

The Acadian *Centre Acadien* and the Abbeville Cultural & Historical Alliance jointly announce the availability of the *Russell Gaspard French Immersion Scholarship* to be awarded to a Vermilion Parish high school student, for the 2023 summer French immersion study program in Nova Scotia from July 2 – August 5, 2023.

The scholarship will be awarded for study at the University Sainte-Anne, located in Church Point (Pointe-de-L’Eglise), Nova Scotia (Nouvelle-Ecosse) and covers tuition, books, room, board, transport to and from the airport, socio-cultural activities, and side trips included through the program (a \$4,200+ value). Students will be responsible for their personal expenses and transportation to and from Nova Scotia. Students must be at least age 15 at the time of attending the program.

Applications can be obtained by contacting Lloyd Doré III at 337/893-5400 or by email at L3Dore@doretax.com. Completed Applications will be due by Friday, December 30th, 2023, with interviews scheduled to be held on Saturday, January 8th, 2022, at the Abbeville downtown museum building.

New Host of 'Bonjour Louisiane' (KRVS)

This article by Megan Wyatt appeared in *The Advocate*:



Ashléé Michot hosts her radio show (photo: Leslie Westbrook).

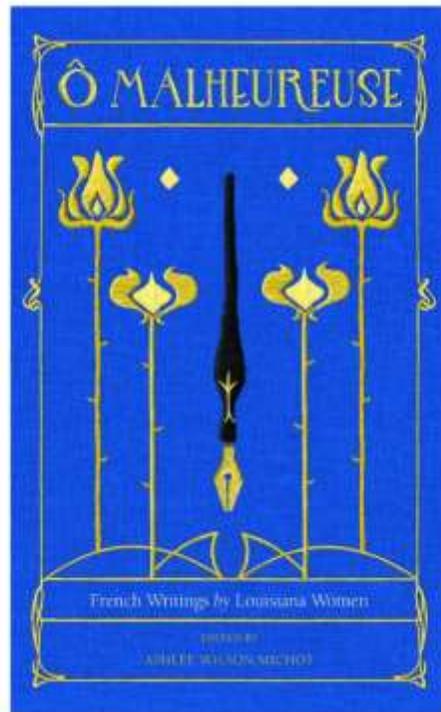
As a child, Ashléé Wilson Michot listened to Louisiana French on 92.5 KVPI, the radio station in her hometown of Ville Platte.

She remembers feeling a curious longing to learn the local language, which she also heard in the homes of her friends' grandparents.

"The richness of Louisiana French really piqued my interest as a kid," Michot said. "But it was something that was off limits to us, our generation, to the point where it seemed impossible. It was like hearing a native language, an indigenous language, and being like 'I'll never learn that.' I remember having that thought as a kid."

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

O Malheureuse by Ashlee Wilson Michot



O Malheureuse, a recent book published by the ULL Press, is a first-of-its-kind collection of womens' writings, including songs, poems, and prose by Louisiana women in French. This collection is an intuitive and unselfconscious look at some of the Louisiana women now writing in French. It was produced as a way to provide more art and dialogue in Louisiana French, and to right a temporary imbalance in the public voice of women in Louisiana French literature for current and future generations of Louisiana French speakers.

Acadiana Memories

William Thibodeaux sent this to remind us of his frequent *Acadiana Memories* folk reminiscence sessions:

Please mark your calendar for Mondays for more exciting sessions of *Acadiana Memories*. These are interactive history programs 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. to 12:00 noon in the conference room of Hospice of Acadiana located at 2600 Johnston St in Lafayette, LA. Everyone is invited. We hope to see you there.

Recent Deaths

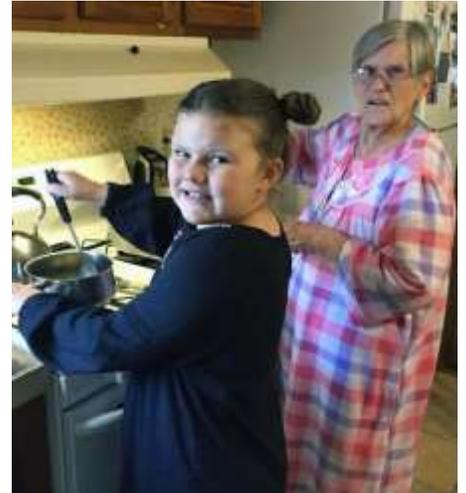
Sadly, Carroll L. Langlinais, has died. Langlinais was born on June 9, 1935, in Vermilion Parish and was a lifelong resident of Acadiana. After graduating high school, he went on to serve his country in the United States Army. He was a tough and hardworking man with a heart of gold. Carroll's kind, generous, and humble spirit will be remembered by all of those who had the pleasure of meeting him. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather.

Also, [Living Legend Cajun musician August Broussard](#) died. Broussard was a native of Westlake and an influential Cajun music artist. Click [here](#) to read the article about Broussard that appeared on *Gator 99.5*.

Ms. Dot's Rice Dressing: A Classic Cajun Dish

This article by Darryl Richardelle appeared in *Vermilion Today*.

Ms. Dot's great-great granddaughter, Knoah Hebert, is among the family members learning to prepare her rice dressing.



You've had it if you attended Erath High School between 1968 and 2000. If you bought anything from the deli at Champagne's Supermarket in Erath between 2000 and 2017, you've had it. You may have grabbed a taste while visiting for Erath High's homecoming. What is it?

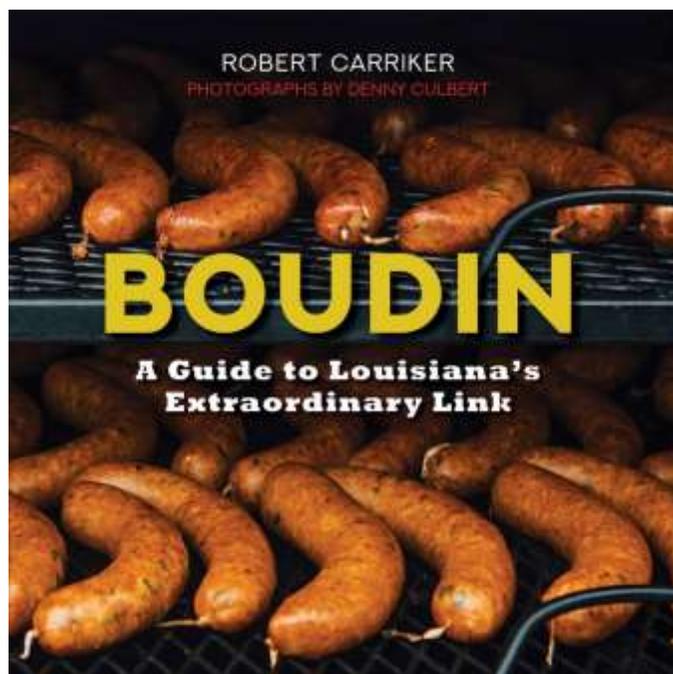
Made by one of the most well-known cooks in Vermilion Parish, it's referred to as "Ms. Dot's Rice Dressing."

Dorothy "Dot" Mergist of Erath was the cafeteria manager at Erath High School from 1968 until she retired from the school system in 2000. She then took her talents to Champagne's Supermarket for another 17 years. Over the years, she has also catered numerous weddings and social events.

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

A Guide to Boudin? *Oui, S'il Vous Plait...*

UL Press indicated that the book *Boudin, A Guide to Louisiana's Extraordinary Link* by Dr. Robert Carriker is now available.



This new edition of the so-called "Bible of Boudin" delves deep into the history and mystique of Louisiana's most exclusive Cajun food [and] provides historical synthesis of boudin's transportation and transformation from France in the 1700s to Louisiana's Acadian, Creole, and Cajun populations. The new edition features new photography by celebrated local photographer Denny Culbert.

Click [here](#) to read more and order the book.

More Books That We Recommend

UL Press has an exciting slate of new releases, with some wonderful projects on tap for the spring.

Another new release is *Parcours Louisianais: Panorama de la littérature francophone de Louisiane de ses origines à 1900*, a new anthology of Louisiana French literature, designed to both teach French language enthusiasts and intermediate French students as well as provide an introduction to Louisiana's French literary heritage. I was honored to have been asked to write the Preface for the ground-breaking book.

An exciting forthcoming release to look out for is *From Behind the Mask*, a collection of the scholarly essays of folklorist Dr. Barry Ancelet on the subject of south Louisiana's rural *courir de Mardi Gras*.

Be on the lookout for a release date for this as the Mardi Gras season comes into view. Check out new and forthcoming UL Press books at [University of Louisiana at Lafayette Press – UL Press](#).

Veteran Heritage Festival Nov 11-12

We received this from Dr. Elista Istre about the upcoming Veteran Heritage Festival in Abbeville:

The Louisiana Military Museum will host its 2nd Annual Veteran Heritage Festival on Veteran's Day weekend on Friday, November 11 and Saturday, November 12, 2022 from 10 am – 4 pm both days, with a variety of programs designed for guests of all ages to honor our veterans and remember their stories. Free admission, open to the public, donations appreciated.

The museum is located in the green hangar of the Chris Crusta Memorial Airport (911 Revis Simon Loop, Abbeville, LA). For more information, follow them on Facebook, visit LaMilitaryMuseum.org or call 337.898.9645. This event is free and open to the public. Groups of 10 or more can make a reservation at 337.898.9645 or email info@LaMilitaryMuseum.org. Donations are appreciated and 100% of all proceeds support the 501(c)3 nonprofit museum.

Historic Tales of Acadiana Book Signing

William Thibodeaux sent this information about his new book:

I am having a book signing for my new book *Historic Tales of Acadiana*, a collection of fascinating short stories that chronicle actual events with actual people from the Acadiana region. For instance, in one of the narratives, *Gerrymandering, the Assassination, and Conspiracy to Assassinate Huey Long* some folks claim that straws were pulled to see who would exterminate U.S. Senator Long. In another tale, *The Shooting of St. Landry Parish Sheriff* some individuals claim Louisiana executed a dead man, but the state executioner would not be denied.

I will have a PowerPoint presentation/history talk followed by book sales at the Youngs-Sanders Center, 104 Commercial Street, Franklin, LA. 70538. The event is scheduled for Saturday, November 5, 2022, beginning at 1:30 p.m. Come and enjoy the excitement!

If you're interested, the price for book two is \$20 tax included. Books can also be purchased through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Books A Million, CVS Pharmacy, and many other book sellers either locally or from the web. E-Book (Electronic Version) are also available.

Le Grand Hoorah Celebrated in Eunice



A group of fiddle players jam out at Le Grand Hoorah opening ceremonies at Lakeview Park in Eunice, LA.

This [interesting interview](#) appeared on the website for WRKF89 *Baton Rouge Public Radio*:

WWNO's Alana Schreiber traveled to Lakeview Park and Beach in Eunice, Louisiana to attend Le Grand Hoorah. She brought back this story on the more intimate festival and hog roast.

ALANA SCHREIBER: If you really want to understand Le Grand Hoorah, you have to talk to the two masterminds behind the event:

GILBERT 'WINKY' AUCOIN: My name is Gilbert Winky Aucoin and I'm from Ville Platte.

MARGARET 'CHICKEN' AUCOIN: my name is Margaret Chicken Aucoin.

WINKY: The community she was raised in right down the street – there are no streets here – right down the pasture, is called Durald. And we're Winky and Chicken.

SCHREIBER: That's right. Winky and Chicken. A beloved married couple who have been putting this festival on since around the year 2000. But for them, it's not just a celebration of Cajun music and culture. It's also personal.

Read the rest of the story [here](#).

The Experience and History of *Festivals Acadiens et Créoles*

This article by Bjorn Morfin and Zane Hogue appeared on the KLFY website:

The rich Cajun and Créole culture has come a long way throughout the centuries and there is no better place to celebrate it than at *Festivals Acadiens et Créoles*.

French colonists began to settle in Nova Scotia in 1604, where they would prosper as fishers and farmers. In 1713, Great Britain gained permanent control of Acadie (Nova Scotia), and in 1755, the Acadians, not called Cajuns, were exiled from Nova Scotia.

Despite having only a few possessions, something that did move with the Cajuns was their rich cultural heritage. A heritage that blends French, Celtic, Native American, and Scots-Irish influences and is evident in oral tradition, songs, and dances, according to the Festivals website.

While many of those exiled found new homes in France, the Caribbean, and various British colonies, many created their new homes in South Louisiana.

According to *Festivals Acadiens et Créoles*, by the turn of the twentieth century, several generations of Créoles and Cajuns began to move away from their French language. Especially in the approach of the First World War, as national unity outweighed regional diversity.

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

LSU French Class Keeps Heritage Alive

This article by Mary Page Wood appeared in *Tiger TV Sports News*:

Cajun roots run deep in Louisiana, and the French department at LSU is doing their part to keep those roots alive. LSU French professor Erin Segura is preserving a significant cultural language by creating an archive of student interviews with native speakers.

“These interviews have been conducted for 23 years now, and we recently inherited a collection of never-before-digitized interviews,” Professor Segura said. “We preserve them at the T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History here at LSU – the largest and most comprehensive oral history archive in the south.”

The Department of French Studies asked LSU to change the name of the class to Louisiana French to include others who speak the same dialect that do not identify as Cajun.

“It’s just a way to be more inclusive” Segura said. “The number one recourse that we have on this language is called the diction of Louisiana French as spoken in Cajun, Creole and Native American communities.”

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

FRENCH/ACADIAN NEWS

Poutine and Lobster Rolls vs. Gumbo? *Poo-Yie and Vive la Difference!*

Our old friend Mario Lagacé, a native of New Brunswick who works in Ottawa, sent us this treatise on some aspects of Canadian cuisine:

Let me share part of my culinary experiences from my first trip to France 30 years ago. To be sure, I must warn you, I'm no Anthony Bourdain. But I do remember focusing on the menus, trying to guess how much work went into writing them, (such prose, such vocabulary). Still they left me a bit puzzled, because I didn't always understand what was offered! So I had three choices 1) order that *mouclade charentaise* and find out what the hell it was; 2) admit my colonial ignorance to the waiter and beg for an explanation; 3) skip it and order (yet another) *croque-monsieur!*

One dish I remember was a dessert at this little seaside restaurant in St-Martin-de-Ré called "*glace tabernacle*". An unusual name for an ice cream dish, but as soon as I saw the words "*sirop d'érable*" in the description, I knew this was a French wink to visiting cousins from the other side of the Atlantic—'tabernacle' being a popular curse word in parts of the former French colony of Canada! (The French use more crude, sexual or scatological curse words, but I digress).

I share this simple story to make a point: there are (at times) overlaps between food, cultures, and geography. Take the word *poutine* for example (which sounds like a certain Russian leader in the news). It is roadside-shack food from Québec that took the rest of Canada by storm. The ultimate consecration for the lowly

poutine is that it has been added to the menu at McDonald's Canada restaurants! That says it all!

The recipe is simple: french fries with cheese curds and BBQ sauce. But, in parts of *Acadie*, you get something different: a potato dumpling that looks like a dirty snowball. That type of poutine, called *poutine râpée*, hasn't caught on anywhere else yet. But it's been a food staple for Moncton-area Acadians since the *Grand dérangement*. Other key dishes include *râpure* (wrongly named *rappie pie* in English) and *ployes brayonnes* or buckwheat pancakes. (Yes, I admit, in terms of food, it does look like we are your poor cousins).

Yet, there is one dish that rules over the Eastern Maritimes—from New England to Québec—and that is *lobster roll*: a mix of lobster meat and mayonnaise on a grilled hot-dog bun invented in Milford, CT. It is called *guédille au homard* in Québec and even served at Eastern Canadian McDonald's as *McLobster* (*McHomard* in French).

In 2018, a contest was held in Portland, Maine, called the Lobster Roll World Championship—a contest to determine, once and for all, who serves the best roll. Sadly, no Canadian entries made the finals, nor were the winners from New England! One was a chef from the BeetleCat restaurant in Atlanta! Even more surprising, the other winner hailed from Paris, France!

So, here we end up, back in France. *La boucle est bouclée*, as they say. The French champion, Chef Moses Sfez, made the most of his title via a chain of restaurants where he serves outrageously expensive but extremely delicious French-style lobster rolls.

I am not going to say that the lobster roll is better than Louisiana dishes... All I will say is: *vive la différence!*

NB Comedienne Receives Culture Award

Jeannita Theriault sent this to us:

Marie-Jo Thério, acadian singer, composer, musician and comedienne from Moncton, NB, recently received *L'insigne de Chevalière de l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres* from the French government for her French artistic contribution towards the arts and culture sector from the hands of the French Consul, Johan Schiterrer, in Moncton.



French Consul Johan Schiterrer and Marie-Jo Thério.

Members of her immediate family and many friends attended the ceremony which was held at the Centre Culturel Aberdeen. Marie-Jo lives in France with her husband, Olivier, but they often visit Canada and Acadie where her parents, Paul and Jeannita, and her three brothers, Louis, Marc and Stéfán also live. Marie-Jo participated in various musical performances in Louisiana as well as animated a series of interviews conducted in Louisiana called *Gumbo-Oh-la-la!*

Calling All LeBlancs!

The LeBlanc Association of Nova Scotia asked us to share this information with our readers:

The LeBlanc Association of Nova Scotia is responsible for the upkeep and continued improvement of the family monument in Belle Isle, NS. We depend on donations for this. We

are registered with NS Joint Stock Non-Profit Organisations. Visit our [website](#) and our [Facebook page](#) for more details.

Evangeline Seniors Get Knitting to Help Children in Need this Winter

This appeared on *CBC News*:



The Acadian and Francophone Chamber of Commerce of P.E.I. is asking seniors in the

Evangeline and surrounding areas to knit socks, mittens, toques and other crafts for children in need. (Submitted by Raymond Arsenault)

Elderly Islanders with a passion for knitting may have an opportunity to put their hands to work for a good cause. The items will be donated to the Summerside Salvation Army, which will distribute them to children ahead of Christmastime.

Acadian Museum of Prince Edward Island Hosted Bernard Day Oct. 23

This article appeared in *Saltwire*:

The Acadian Museum of Prince Edward Island hosted a Bernard Day on Oct. 23.

The event, which was organized by the sister Antoinette DesRoches historical committee, gave people the chance to learn about the history and genealogy of the Island's Acadian Bernard family.

According to historian Georges Arsenault, many Islanders have a Bernard branch in their family tree.

He also noted that, with few exceptions, the Acadian Bernards on the Island are descendants of Joseph Bernard and Nathalie Arsenault, a couple who married around 1755.

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

Indigenous and Acadian Groups March on NB Legislature

This article by Nathalie Sturgeon appeared in the [Global News](#) recently:

The *Société de l'Acadie du Nouveau-Brunswick* and the Wolastoq and Mi'kmaw Nations marched in a traditional Acadian Tintamarre to the legislature in solidarity for language and cultural rights ahead of the first throne speech in two years.

More than 300 people took to the streets in Fredericton, marching from city hall to the legislature on Tuesday, banging on pots and pans, using ceremonial drums, cow bells and horns.

A Tintamarre is exactly that, taking to the streets dressed up and making as much noise as possible with instruments, and is typically held on National Acadian Day.

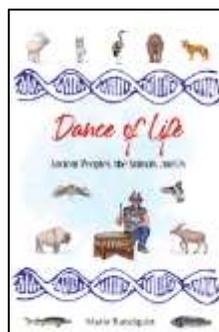
"We are all treaty people who've come to this space, this safe space, to send a message," said Sitsansisk First Nation Chief Allan Polchies.

The groups said there is an inattention to minority rights in the province. Together, the groups said the Higgs government "has repeatedly suppressed minority rights regarding language, cultural recognition, and reconciliation."

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

New Book: *Dance of Life*

After six years of writing and research, Marie Rundquist, president of DNA Genealogy History, LLC, has published what may be one of the happiest nonfiction books of the season, if not the year. US and Canadian readers are downright joyful after they read the book (and watch the animated video that goes with it).



The new book, *Dance of Life: Ancient Peoples, the Animals, and Us* (first announced when Marie Rundquist gave a talk about the Acadian experience in Maryland last month), is the culmination of a journey of discovery that began with

Revisiting Anne Marie, continued with *Cajun By Any Other Name*, and reached its peak with this book. Click [here](#) for more details.

Une Lettre du Québec

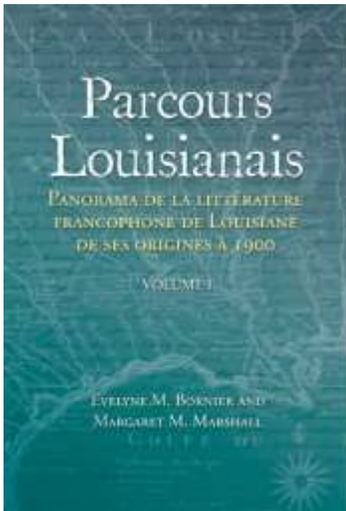
Nous avons reçu une lettre écrite par Christian Poupart au sujet des travaux d'aménagement paysager effectués sur le site du parc des Ancêtres par la ville de Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu.

Bonjour à tous,

Pour faire changement des nouvelles, je vous présente aujourd'hui le travail de la ville qui nous a fait un magnifique parc des Ancêtres! Côté travaux, ça avance au presbytère, après réparation et plâtrage, ils sont rendus à la peinture. Bonne et belle fin de semaine d'automne! Suivez-nous sur [Facebook](#)

La littérature francophone de Louisiane

Rendez-vous avec Drs. Evelyne M. Bornier and Margaret M. Marshall, auteures de *Parcours Louisianais: Panorama de la littérature francophone de Louisiane de ses origines à 1900* (The UL Press. June 2022. 390p.)



Premier livre en son genre, *Parcours Louisianais: Panorama de la littérature francophone de Louisiane de ses origines à 1900* offre une sélection d'auteurs représentatifs de la

période 1682-1900 écrivant en français ainsi qu'une gamme de genres littéraires variée, comme la poésie, le théâtre, le roman, les essais, etc. Lors de ce rendez-vous, les auteures présenteront leur livre et montreront comment aborder ces textes à partir d'activités qui mettent l'accent sur le vocabulaire, la grammaire, la phonétique, la métrique, la compréhension, l'histoire et la culture.

La présentation sera suivie d'une séance de dédicaces par les auteures.

LAGNIAPPE

Jolie Blonde – 75 Years Later

This appeared on *myneworleans.com*:



Harry Choate with his fiddle

Somewhere on a fall night, when the sudden chill in the air betrays the truth that there will still be warm days ahead, the melody might hit

you. If you're in a Cajun dance hall it begins with a rollicking fiddle solo either on stage or as an aged juke box begins to play. The scratchiness on the recording adds patina to the sound. On a football field at Lake Charles, the song's opening bellows with the blast of a marching group as the McNeese Cowboy band takes to the field. Then comes the up-tempo and all the Cowboy fans know to sway to what is the university's fight song and Cajun music's acknowledged anthem.

Before 2022 fades way, let it not be overlooked that a Cajun waltz born out of Louisiana passion climbed high on the national country charts 75 years ago, in 1947. There were several versions of the song on Billboard's Top 100 Country Music ranking that year. Cajun/ French spellings of the title varied with different recordings but the most popular rendition, and spelling, *Jole Blon*, (Pretty Blonde) was by Cajun fiddler Harry Choates.

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

Ceci Neustrom – Acadian Heritage Series

Ceci Neustrom, Ambassador of Art for the Acadian Museum, recently unveiled two paintings in her Acadian Heritage Series at the Hilliard Museum on the UL campus in Lafayette, LA. These newest paintings represent descendants of the Bergeron and Trahan surnames and will now share the stage with the other descendants previously painted: Broussard, Breaux, Comeaux, Babineaux, Hebert, Guidry, Prejean, and LeBlanc.



The life-size portrait paintings depict the descendants, outfitted in period clothing, with their family name and crest painted along the bottom of the canvas. The impetus for the series evolved from Ceci's admiration of the

resolve and resilience demonstrated by the Acadians after their expulsion and deportation from Nova Scotia in the 1750's. Her 30-year career researching the lands and family histories of the Acadians furthered that interest. Upon retirement and learning to paint, all of these facets merged and evolved into the Acadian Heritage Series. It was through the Acadian Museum's artifacts and historical memorabilia that Ceci recently became aware of the earliest documented listing of the original Acadian settlers in Louisiana, dating back to 1765. She was delighted to see that the majority of the family names in her series was included in that list. Her present goal is to paint a descendent or representative of each of those individual family names appearing on the 1765 list.

An interview with Ceci was aired on the *Discover Lafayette* podcast:

This is a re-release of our interview originally conducted with Ceci Neustrom in May, 2022. Since our first interview, Ceci [unveiled] two new portraits representing the Bergeron and Trahan families at the Hilliard Art Museum on Oct. 12. We thought it was fitting to once again share her beautiful story.

Ceci never pictured herself as an artist. Growing up as an older daughter in a family of 13 children in Mississippi, Ceci was a nurturer who took care of things...she cooked, sewed, and cleaned. "Art was never a part of my life." We taped this episode at the offices of BBR Creative with owner, Cherie Hebert, who has supported Ceci's art.

To listen to the podcast and read the article, click [here](#).

Battle of the Bows on Nov. 5 in Jennings



This article by Doris Maricle appeared in *American Press*:

Bust out the fiddle and rosin up the bow for the return of the Battle of the Bows Cajun Fiddle Competition.

The 6th annual Battle of the Bows takes the stage 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, Nov. 5 at the Strand Theatre, 432 N. Main Street, Jennings. Doors open at 8 a.m.

“Battles of the Bows is a Cajun fiddle competition aimed at preserving our Cajun music and culture,” Doug Dugas of the Southwest Louisiana Acoustic Cajun Music Jam said. “It is very important for us to preserve our Cajun heritage because our youth need to learn what our culture is about so that they can continue to educate their children and grandchildren.”

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

Creole Heritage Awards November 13

Hebert Wiltz sent this:

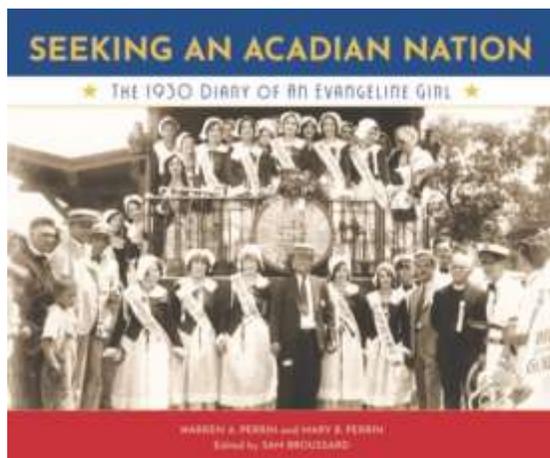
The members of C.R.E.O.L.E., Inc are hosting their 6th Zydeco Music and Creole Heritage Awards program. The Awards program is scheduled for Sunday, November 13, 2022 from 5-9 p.m. at the Delta Grand Performing Center in Opelousas, Louisiana at 120 S. Market Street. Prior to the start of the event, a social hour will be held from 5-6 p.m. Tickets for the event are twenty dollars (\$20.00) and can be purchased at the door. Please reserve your ticket(s) now.

The public is being asked to visit the website (www.creoleinc.net) to view the various award categories (Living Legend, Ambassador to Zydeco, Clifton Chenier Heritage Award, New Comer/Best New Artist and Zydeco Song/Top Hit Single). Please select your favorite Zydeco musician by voting your choice. Once you cast a vote and submit, votes will be tabulated. Winners will be revealed at the awards program. Also, the 2022 inductee into the Creole Heritage Hall of Fame will be unveiled along with the naming of the Platinum Success recipient.

The theme this year is “Celebrating All Things Creole.” In keeping with our theme, the organization will recognize three (3) other groups in the Acadiana communities, restaurant owners for fine cuisine, zydeco club owners for providing good music and dancing, and the hard-working farmers. These individuals have played a very important role in the development of the Creole culture and history of our communities.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Mary Goody at 337 326-3680 or Reverend Paul Cluse at 337 962-7144.

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 other souvenirs. Our latest book, [Seeking an Acadian Nation](#), traces the movement toward Acadian reunification across the decades. Other titles and available souvenirs include:

- [Acadie Then and Now: A People's History](#) with articles by Cajun and Acadian authors from around the world.
- [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*
- Histories of Vermilion, Iberia, and St. Landry parishes.
- T-shirts, posters, and reproductions.