INTRODUCTION

- If you know a person or group that would enjoy receiving this newsletter, please send their address to CODOFIL or E-mail codofil@bellsouth.net.
- If you want to provide any information to CODOFIL, please send an e-mail: dcheram@bellsouth.net.
- We invite you to visit the calendar on our website at www.codofil.org where Louisiana francophone and cultural events are updated every Wednesday. To publish your events, please send details at least one week in advance to Elaine Clément (337) 262-5810 or e-mail her at Elaine fc@bellsouth.net.
- My sincere thanks to the French American Chamber of Commerce and Famille Beausoleil Association for their recent recognition and awards for the Royal Proclamation.
- Consul Général Patrick Rolot recently hosted Daniel Jouanneau, Inspecteur général des Affaires étrangères of the French government, at a luncheon in New Orleans to review the work of the French government in supporting the promotion of French in Louisiana.
- On May 23 Action Cadienne sponsored a concert for the Creole and Cajun Archives at UL Lafayette at the Blue Moon Saloon in Lafayette.
- Thanks to Elaine Clement for her excellent work with her “calendrier CODOFIL” which included the following interesting information: Since the 1970’s over 2000 students and teachers have profited from CODOFIL foreign study scholarships. Jennifer Miguez, our Scholarship Coordinator, has begun a database of our past scholarship winners. Therefore, if you received a CODOFIL scholarship, please contact Jennifer at (337) 233-5832 or by email: jenmiguez@bellsouth.net.
- We welcome back to Louisiana Melanie Lewis who studied French one summer in Liège, Belgium; she was named head of the Community Development Department of the City-Parish Government of Lafayette.
- In March, Governor Blanco made an announced visit to attend the monthly French mass at Fatima church in Lafayette, who was very impressed with the service.
- Congratulations to Dr. William Arceneaux, Chairman of Foundation CODOFIL and the Baton Rouge Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial Committee, who was saluted by an editorial in the Advocate (“Exhibit Success Deserves Encore”).
- On March 2nd the U. S. Mint began producing the Louisiana Purchase nickel.

ENSEMBLE ON EST CAPABLE L’UNION FAIT LA FORCE
As part of a radio program organized by the CBC of Canada in preparation for the Congrès Mondial Acadien 2004, Carl Fontenot with KRVS, provided the facilities for representatives of many of the Acadian families to record bilingual greetings to their "cousins." I spoke for the Broussard family.

A marriage took place at the CODOFIL office: On Friday, October 17, Kirby Jambon, French immersion teacher in Lafayette, married the former Jennifer Monroe, the mother of one of Kirby’s former students, in a bilingual ceremony in the courtyard.

Dominique de Villepin, French Foreign Minister, was recently replaced by Michel Barnier.

Thanks to the wonderful work of Zachary Richard and the legislative support of Representative Clara Baudoin (Legislative Resolution obtained), “Acadian Heritage Week” will be celebrated from September 12-19, and thereafter annually. Various organizations throughout the state will be hosting programs to expose students to Acadian history. Thanks to Mayor Hazel D. Myers of the City of Scott for hosting the news conference announcing the event and preparing the official proclamation. Please sign our petition now: http://www.acadianheritage.org/


Congratulations to Cheré Dastugue Coen who recently joined the Daily Advertiser staff as Feature Editor. She has written a trilogy of Acadian novels.

Congratulations to J. B. Borel newly-elected President of CODOFIL West Bank Chapter.

We all send our support and best wishes to U.S. Representative Billy Tauzin who returned to Congress following his medical treatment.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Acadian Museum of Erath honored legendary Cajun musician D. L. Menard as he celebrated his 72nd birthday at Granger Camp. More than 100 friends and out-of-state guest were on hand for great music and food.

One of the “fathers” of CODOFIL, former Senator Edgar G. “Sonny” Mouton, was featured in an article in the Daily Advertiser (Feb. 2).

Congratulations to Dave Spizale and the KRVS staff, a stalwart of French programming, for their 40th anniversary.

Led by Lt. Governor Landrieu and Parish President Aaron Broussard the Louisiana Chapter of the French-American Chamber of Commerce (FACC/LA) coordinated a high-profile visit to France in June by a Louisiana delegation of political, business and cultural leaders who took part in the ceremonies for the 60th Anniversary of D-Day in Normandy. The delegation met senior French government officials in Paris, as well as regional and municipal officials and business leaders in Normandy. Sgt. Curry of New Orleans who was at D-Day in 1944, was given the French Legion of Merit.

A New Orleans-area businessman who sells imported seafood under the trade name “Cajun boy” found a very unfridency audience and a lightning lesson in French at the State Capitol: State Representative Mickey Frith of Abbeville pointed out that the “Cajun” is synonymous with Louisiana and should not be attached to foreign imports.

Louisiana citizens who are fluent in Cajun French or Spanish can now look for unclaimed money on www.Lbltreasury.com in those languages.

As soon as formal authorization for publication in France is obtained, the U. S. News magazine Newsweek will launch a French-language edition in 2004, according to the Independent (April 7), Michael Doucet of Beauregard will be featured on an upcoming CBS News Sunday Morning.

Gov. Kathleen Blanco presented an “award of merit” to Douglas Manship, Jr., publisher of The Advocate.

Zydeco musician Terry Simien, and his wife, Cynthia, have invested much time and money in promoting the local music community since the Cajun-Zydeco Grammy effort began in 2001.

During visits to Louisiana, Senator John Kerry and his wife Theresa Heinz Kerry showed that they are adept at speaking en français en Louisiane.

KATC TV has begun airing a summary of its weather forecast in Cajun French; the segments are the work of Lucille Briscoe (Advocate, April 20) with the support of Rob Perillo.

Former U.S. President Bill Clinton and French President Jacques Chirac announced plans to join forces to combat AIDS in Africa.

Cal Stevens, C. A. Guitars recently announced the donation of six acoustic guitars to troops stationed in Iraq.

I will be representing CODOFIL on Saturday, June 26, at Tickfaw State Park for its annual “Cajun Day Celebration.”

As an update to the four-volume set Broussard Descendants has just been completed, and the update is on a CD, not printed books. This CD contains the descendants of Francois Broussard, a photo album, and also descendants of Nicolas Broussard (the Montreal branch of Broussards/Brossards). This CD can be ordered from M. E. Conover, 300 Strasburg Drive, Lafayette, LA 70506. The cost of the CD is $75, and that includes shipping and handling charges. The CD is in story format and uses MicroSoft Word.

CONGRÈS MONDIAL ACADIE

For information regarding the Congrès Mondial Acadien 2004 you may contact Vaughn Madden by email: vmadden@cfclene.ns.ca or visit the website: www.cma2004.com.

In March, CODOFIL hosted a meeting where Jean Luc Chiasson made a presentation of activities; Brenda Comeaux Trahan advised that she, along with Donna Doucet, had arranged to have a “Louisiana Day” at Grand Pré on August 9. Louisiana music and food will be in abundance. I will make a presentation and donate 100 CD’s of Louisiana music to visitors thanks to the help of Bruce Morgan, Louisiana Department of Tourism.

In February, the CMA hosted a two-day training session attended by forty participants. Vaughn Madden, general manager of the Congrès, was very pleased with the results.

The Canadian government minted a coin memorializing the 400th anniversary of the establishment of the first French colony in North America.

A well-established restaurant in Halifax, McElvie’s, is searching for sources of seafood and fish products from Louisiana. Phone number: 902/429-2482, ext. 102.

In March, acclaimed Canadian novelist and poet Claude LeBouthillier discussed his award-winning Acadian historical novels and answered questions at the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville.

Vaughn Madden and Elmer Savoie, director of logistics for the Congrès, spoke at a luncheon at Don’s Seafood and Steakhouse Downtown in March.

Karl Hakala, park manager of the Acadian unit, Jean Lafitte National Historic Park and Preserve, hosted a meeting to help plan the 250th anniversary of the Acadian deportation. Phone 337/232-0789, ext. 13.

Historical promoter and travel agent, Richard Laurin of Nova Scotia, is inviting individuals who are planning on attending the Congrès to contact him for travel plans and reservations. Phone: (902) 678-7560; Fax: 902/678-7560; e-mail: info.acadie@ns.sympatico.ca. He has put together a terrific itinerary for our CDOFIL delegation of 10 people; we will be there from the 7th - 10th of August. We will also have representatives of the Towns of Erath and Delcambre who will be hosted by their “twinned” cities in Canada, Bertrandville and Cheticamp.

The Acadian Culture Society in Fitchburg, Mass. was recently formed to help promote Acadian culture and history in New England through its publication Le Reveil Acadien.

Named Top Event in Canada for 2004 by the American Bus Association, CMA 2004 is the third of its kind (previously held in Louisiana in 1999 and in New Brunswick in 1994) and will welcome over 100,000 Acadians from around the world back to their homeland, Acadie, Nova Scotia. Close to 100 families are organizing reunions during the 16-day event, ranging in size from 200 to 7,000 participants per family. Comprised of cornerstone events such as opening and closing concerts, academic conferences and community-based events, CMA 2004 has over 2,000 activities taking place in more than 60 communities throughout Nova Scotia.

Joe Cottreau, organizer of the special trade event to be held at the Word Trade and Convention Center in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on August 15-17, was in Louisiana to promote the event during Festival International and the Jazz Fest.

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• Nova Scotian historical writer Alfred Silver and I will be making a presentation on August 11th on Beausoleil Broussard’s life in Canada and Louisiana. A book will be published containing the materials used in the talk. To order a copy, send a check for $15 to the Acadian Museum, 203 South Broadway, Erath, LA, 70523 or call (337) 233-5832 or perrin@pldlo.com.

• L’Orchestre de la Francophonie Canadienne (OCF) will perform at the closing ceremonies of Congrès Mondial Acadien 2004 (CMA 2004) at Grand-Pré National Historical Site of Canada, August 15, at 11 am.

• CAFA continues to do excellent work in helping to promote and organize Louisiana’s presence in Nova Scotia.

• In May, Chronicle-Herald reporter Susan Bradley of Halifax, Nova Scotia, was doing stories on the upcoming Congrès.

• We received a visit from the Chronicle-Herald reporter of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Susan Bradley, who is doing a major story on the preparations in Louisiana for the CMA 2004.

• Congratulations to outgoing SNA President Euclide Chiasson who received the “Le Prix du 3-Juillet-1608” for his outstanding work in promoting Acadian culture throughout the world.

• Congratulations to newly elected SNA President Michel J. C. Cyr. Mr. Cyr was elected at the last general assembly held in St. John’s, Newfoundland and Labrador. He is an attorney and former Moncton city councilman. Daniel Carrier, Rhéal Poitier and Maria Bernard were also elected officers at the May 28-29 meeting.

• The Acadian Memorial Foundation held a Dedication of the Mosaic Acadian Family Cistrems at their annual membership meeting on June 15, 2004; refreshments were complimentary of the Carl Breaux Cooking School.

• Charles Larroque reports that production is now underway for a second series, Acadia: North and South (Acadie du Nord, Acadie tropical). This series will feature Acadians and Cajuns from Canada and Louisiana and will coincide with the World Acadian Congress 2004 being held in Nova Scotia this August.

• Donna Doucet, Executive Director of Grand Pré, announced the launching of “Heart of Acadia” on June 4.

• 2004 marks the 400th anniversary of Acadie in Nova Scotia, the birthplace of the French presence of North America.

• La Famille Beausoleil Association will hold a meeting at the Woodman of the World Hall in Maurice, Saturday, July 17th. For more information, (337) 984-9955.

• Lafayette native Daniel Cormier quarterbacked a free-style wrestling and made the U. S. Olympic team.

• Anyone wanting information on tours to Nova Scotia may contact Sandra A. Pellegrin, Cajun Tours, (985) 872-6157; E-mail: pellegs@bellsouth.net.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

• Thanks to the work of Philippe Gustin, director of Le Centre International de Lafayette, businessmen from Lafayette are developing economic ties with their sister “sister cities,” Montcon, New Brunswick and Namur, Belgium.

• National Geographic (France) did an excellent story on Louisiana: “Louisianne Voyage En Pays Cajun 200 Ans Apres Sa Vente.”

• Jean-Louis Testud, Grand Chancelier of the Confrerie du Vin de Suresnes, was in Lafayette to induct new members on April 20; the ceremony was in conjunction with Cite des Arts. Thanks to its executive director, Maureen Brennan for her outstanding work in promoting French events at the venue.

• Anyone interested in obtaining the excellent economic bulletin, Louisiana International Trade Bulletin of the World Trade Center, contact New Orleans U.S. Export Assistance Center, 2 Canal Street, Suite 2710, New Orleans, LA 70130.

• The French government has inducted University Art Museum Director Herman Mhie into the Chevalier Order of Arts and Letters, a distinction given to artists and writers whose efforts have enriched the arts in France and throughout the world. The new Lafayette Museum is beautiful!

• In January, 2004, as part of a pact of friendship between Baton Rouge and Aix en Provence, a delegation from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, went to Aix en Provence, France. Angeline Lacroix-Manent, a representative of France-Louisiane and Georges Lacoox of the “Twining and Linking” program for Aix and Louisiana, took an active part in this reception. They were in the delegation that came to Louisiana at the end of October, 2003. Dr. William Arceneaux, President of Foundation CODOFIL, while in Paris on his return from Aix, met with Claude Teboul, President of FL/FA. From August 20th to the 24th, the city of Castelsarrasin, France, organized a festival dedicated to the music of Louisiana with the participation of France-Louisiane/Franco-American.

• In order to commemorate the Louisiana Purchase, in February, a delegation of FL/FA participated in the “Le Prix du 3-Juillet-1608” organized by “the French Friends of the Smithsonian Institute.”

• Thanks to Klaus Warlé who sent news that the first European Cajun and Zydeco and Awards will take place in Europe. To nominate bands, contact www.cajunweb.de/award.

• Melinda Sylvester and Danielle Fontenette (African-American Museum of St. Martinville) will be leading a delegation of 23 Louisianians, including 10 Southern University students, to Senegal, West Africa where the group will tour “Goree Island,” the place of departure for slaves who were shipped to America. The group will develop ways to strengthen ties between Louisiana and Senegal. Many thanks to Mbaye Dieng of Dakar who hosted the group.

• The Paris Trade Fair recently marked its 100th anniversary and the French soccer team celebrated its centennial having been formed on May 1, 1904.

• David Greely made a presentation to the French-American Chamber of Commerce in New Orleans in the Table Ronde.

• The 16th annual International Business Exchange was held in Parma, Italy, June 16-18.

CULTURE AND TRADITIONS

• Irene Reed, hostess of the Cajun Music Hall of Fame in Eunice, was featured in an excellent article “Keeping the Beat” (Jim Bradshaw, January, 2004).

• Mayor Berline Boone is leading an effort to renovate the ancestral home of Nathan Abshire into a museum dedicated to his music.

• André Comeaux and his uncle, Dr. Robert Pały, were featured in a touching story on “Mardi Gras Moments” (February 4).

• Larose celebrated Heritage Day March 14 at the Bayou Civic Center with a French mass and music by “Steve Riley and the Mamou Playboys.”

• “L’Anse Créole, The Creole Cove: Extended Family and Creole Culture in Southwest Louisiana” is the subject of a new exhibit at the Lafayette Natural History Museum and Planetarium, 433 Jefferson Street, Lafayette.

• Vermilionhoute hosted a celebration to pay tribute to the 30-year anniversary of the “Tribute to Cajun Music” while in place in Blackham Coliseum; the event evolved into Festivals Acadiens. Music was provided by “Geno Delafose and French Rockin Boogie.”

• Jim Bradshaw wrote an interesting article “The Louisiana Story” (March 31, Advertiser), concerning the making of the movie “Louisiana Story” in 1947.

• Applications are now being accepted from Acadian family organizations interested in placing a mosaic family name crest in the Acadian Memorial Garden in St. Martinville. For information, call Brenda Tranha, 337/394-2258.

• Judy Johnson (Times of Acadiana, “Editors Journal,” April 7) did a very supportive article on La Table Francaise, featuring regulars Nelson Broussard, Lester Gauthier, Gail Dubois, Ray Bordelon, et al.

• Deux Saisons traveled from the other side of the continent to play at Festival International de Louisiane, and their French lyrics received a warm welcome in downtown Lafayette at a recent Bach Lunch.

• Congratulations to Festival International President Russell Walters for an excellent job; kudos also to members of “Rain Angels” who annually give $1,500 to keep the festival aloft in dire financial times. The fund had generated $50,000 to help offset the losses due to inclement weather.

• The festival financial report was updated in a recent article by Richard Burgess “Crowds Kept Festival Afloat,” photographed were Dana Canedo and Lisa Stafford.

• Dr. Barry Ancelet’s popular Rendez Vous des Cajuns show at the Liberty Theater in Eunice was featured in an article by Jim Bradshaw (Advertiser, April 20).

• It was bound to happen: A Creole Family History Convention scheduled at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas has prompted the city’s mayor Oscar Goodman to proclaim Saturday, May 22, Creole Heritage Day. A “Creole” good time was had with day-long music, Creole foods and children’s games at Sunset Park, 2601 E. Sunset Road. The convention took place on the UNLV campus with speakers representing Creole culture.

ENSEMBLE ON EST CAPABLE L’UNION FAIT LA FORCE
People in north Louisiana may not have the reputation for “letting the good times roll” like their Cajun cousins in the south of the state, but folks in Shreveport can party with the best. Music and dancing in city streets was part of the fun at the “Mudbug Madness Festival” May 27-30. The event, which started as a two-day street festival in 1984, celebrates Louisiana’s Cajun heritage and takes place in Festival Plaza downtown.

CODOFIL has been very supportive of the efforts of attorney Patty Ferguson who is attempting to get Title VII Federal Indian Education Funds for the tribes located in Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes. The Legislature passed a resolution this past session recognizing certain tribes so that the schools these children attend may continue receiving needed federal education funds.

Ann Savoy of Eunice is producing a follow-up CD to “Evangeline Made” entitled “Creole Bred”; she was featured in a story by Herman Fuelleit (Daily Advertiser, May 14).

David Ramey, musician and adjunct professor from Chicago who teaches courses in American roots music at the University of Chicago and Northwestern, will be in Louisiana from July 11-17 doing research. Anyone wishing to meet with him, please contact dramey@webster.edu.

Robert Vincent, President of the Erath 4th of July Association, announced that flags had been donated to the Town of Erath in anticipation of the upcoming celebration in downtown Erath the week of July 4th. Robert received a Masters Degree from UL Lafayette in business.

Celebration of the Juneenth Festival in Donaldsville, the River Road African-American Museum honored “A Celebration of the Black Cowboy.” Fortunately, a fire at the St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church was found and quickly extinguished before doing substantial damage.

The Acadian Museum of Erath held a barbecue for its many supporters at Lake Peigneur.

Mark Babineaux was featured in an article in the Independent (June 16) concerning alternative healers; Mark is a hypnotherapist, traiteur and attorney in Lafayette.

HISTORY

Richard Lauren is attempting to develop a 17th century Acadian homestead at Grand Pré. For Information, Novaacadien, Services in Day, Acadian Cultural Tourism, RR#2 Cambridge Station, Nova Scotia, BOP 1GO; phone/fax 902/678-7560.

Dr. Carl Brasseaux reports that the forty-sixth annual meeting of the Louisiana Historical Association was held in March in Hammond.

Volunteers of the Alexandre Mouton House Museum, including Ramona Mouton, Elin Busch, Eleanor Straub, Frances Zink and Kathryn Breaux, recently celebrated their 50th anniversary.

The body of a French sailor was found on the LaSalle ship in Matagorda, Texas; it sank in 1686. The remains were buried at the Texas state cemetery in Austin, an austere place reserved for people who left a lasting impression on Texas.

During his visit to Washington, D.C., Minister of State for the Economy, Finance and Industry Nicolas Sarkozy, met with French community representatives and a reception was held at the French embassy hosted by Consul General Jean-Pierre Allix-Lyoudi, and Ambassador Jean-David Levitte (who represented France at the Louisiana Bicentennial celebration in New Orleans).

La Fondation CODOFIL contributed $1,000 to help defray expenses for Jason P. Theriot to memorialize the Louisiana French-speaking soldier, Duhon, who is interred at Normandy. Thanks to New Iberia’s Senator Craig Romero (a candidate for Congress) who obtained a resolution from the legislature honoring Duhon; relatives of Duhon were presented the document at a public service held on June 4th. I participated by making a tribute to Duhon in French. The event was the idea of Dr. Shane Bernard.


An excerpt from Dr. Shane Bernard’s book, The Cajuns, was printed in Louisiana Cultural Vistas and received Best Feature Article from the Press Club of New Orleans. He is also a consultant on Pat Mire and Carl Brasseaux’s documentary on French-speaking WWII veterans, Mon Cher Camarade.

FOOD

The 20th Culinary Classic in Louisiana Nouvelle Cuisine took place Monday, May 24 in Baton Rouge.

The Baton Rouge Center for World Affairs moved to the Women’s Club, 259 East Blvd., for its annual “Passport to the World” International Dinner and Cooking Competition, on June 10.

To mark the 10th year of Lost Louisiana, LPB aired a marathon of episodes. Following the marathon, Duhe, producer and host for Bicentennial, took a special look back on the big events of the Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial Celebration, from the art exhibitions to the music and the musicals, to the recreation of the signing of the purchase itself.

We encourage everyone to support Vermilionville by becoming a member. For information, 866/992-2968.

An Oral History of World War II Veterans from the Bayou Country.” For information, call Jason P. Theriot, 713/812-7839.

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• Congratulations to Rocky and Brenda Landry on the 70th anniversary of Don's Seafood & Steakhouse, the original Cajun restaurant at 301 East Vermilion, Lafayette, phone 337/235-5551.

• Chef John Folse has announced that he is moving Lafitte's Landing restaurant from Donaldsonville to Baton Rouge.

• Dr. Shane Bernard advises that Paul Mellhenny will open a Tabasco museum in New Orleans.

• Francophone TV personality Bob Moore continues to promote French on CBS TV 10 daily on the Passe Partout show; he also helped raise money for the Allemen Center with the 5th Annual "Rice and Gravy Cookoff and "Bench on the Bayou."

• Writers from a few of the most distinguished magazines and newspapers in the nation recently visited a number of Lafayette's cultural hot spots as the guests of local and state officials.

• The New York Times did an interesting article on Louisiana cuisine "Dining With Passion On The Bayou."

• The Louisiana Legislature approved a bill making gumbo the state's official cuisine.

• An interesting article about French in North America recently appeared in Figaro. The article may be found at: http://www.lefigaro.fr/magazine/20040611_MAGO102.html.

YOUTH

• Vermilion Parish Police Juror Wayne Touchet donated $6,000 to two non-profit Abbeville organizations focusing on the youth of Vermilion Parish.

• Alida and Moise Voitier of Eunice, with their band, Eh, La Bas', played Downtown Alive on March 19.

• Church Point was featured (Advertiser, February 15) for helping to encourage children in preparation for "the next generation of celebrating Courir de Mardi Gras."

• Acadian historian from New Brunswick Paul Surette, made two presentations and visited several schools in Lafayette in February; Richard Guidry was instrumental in having him speak to the students.

• Terrance Simien performed by students in Iberia Parish schools; he also lectured them on the importance of maintaining their Creole culture.

• Ecole Bilingue de la Nouvelle-Orleans/L'Ecole Maternelle held its annual Fête Française in March.

• Children's writer, Sheila Hébert Collins, read Cajun stories to students in Vermilion Parish schools from her book "Cajun Fairytales."

• Les Amis de L'Immersion held its fundraiser at Grant Street Dancehall on Friday, May 14, 2004. Musicians from groups such as La Bande Feu Follet, Roddie Romero, T-Salé, The Lucky Playboys, and Balfa Toujours performed.

DEATHS

• Carol Joseph Rachou, Sr., music promoter and member of the Louisiana Music Hall of Fame.

• Annie Miller, Cajun naturalist credited with founding Louisiana's first swamp boat tour business 25 years ago.

• William Patton, the man responsible for coining the word "Acadiana" on ABC TV 3.

• Glenn R. Conrad, longtime editor of Louisiana History and LHA secretary/treasurer. Persons wishing to contribute to a memorial call 337/482-5412.

• Daniel Breaux, festival-goer extraordinaire and Cajun dancer from Houma.

• State Representative Charles Hudson, a 12-year veteran from Opelousas.

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• Daniel Breaux, festival-goer extraordinaire and Cajun dancer from Houma.

• State Representative Charles Hudson, a 12-year veteran from Opelousas.

• Annie Miller, Cajun naturalist credited with founding Louisiana's first swamp boat tour business 25 years ago.

• Carol Joseph Rachou, Sr., music promoter and member of the Louisiana Music Hall of Fame.

• Glenn R. Conrad, longtime editor of Louisiana History and LHA secretary/treasurer. Persons wishing to contribute to a memorial call 337/482-5412.
The Louisiana Supreme Court has relocated to its old home between Royal and Chartres Street in the French Quarter.

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg was awarded the rank of Commander of the Legion of Honor by French Ambassador Jean-David Levitte.

Dr. Sylvie Dubois, former winner of the World Human Rights Conference in France, returned to act as a judge for the Concours de Plaidoiries in Normandy, France.

The LSU French House, named after Dr. James Broussard, was re-dedicated. The ceremony featured remarks by Bernard Dubernet.

Everyone is asked to send letters to the Lafayette Parish School Board to maintain funding for the French Immersion support teacher position.

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Enjoy the food, music and art of Louisiana and you enjoy the state's incredible ethnic heritage. Delve into the state's multicultural mix by picking up the special tourism guides, "Textures and Racies."

Dr. David Cheramie, Ph.D., Director of CODOFIL, attended a seminar on June 5th hosted by US Representative Richard Baker at the LPB studio in Baton Rouge. The topic of discussion was the No Child Left Behind act and how it is affecting schools in Louisiana.

Severe budget cuts continue to threaten French programs throughout the state. Ouachita Parish schools were forced to lose six foreign associate teachers.

Everyone is asked to send letters to the Lafayette Parish School Board to maintain funding for the French Immersion support teacher position.

U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu hosted a round table discussion on the 50th anniversary of the "Brown v. Board of Education" ruling ending segregation in public schools.

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Books:

- "The Story of Evangeline - Le récit d'Evangeline." To order, please contact Nimbus Publishing Limited, P. O. Box 9301, Station A, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3K 5N5.
- "An Unsettled Conquest: The British Campaign Against the Peoples of Acadia," written by Geoffrey Gilbert Plant. For information, basquem@umoncton.ca.
- "P is for Pelican," written by Metairie resident Anita C. Prieto. This book is available at Barnes and Noble Bookstores.
- "Anthe From the Guilloine," written by Werny Fangeul-Wallen. For information, Ber1912@juno.com.
- "Jean-Paul Hébert Was There," written by Sheila Hébert-Collins. For information, 800/843-1724.
- "Charting Louisiana" received the Louisiana Literary Award for Non-Fiction.
- "A Century of Acadian Culture: The Development of a Cajun Community - Erath (1899-1999)" by Curney J. Drotet. Books may be ordered by sending a check or money order in the amount of $20.00 payable to the Acadian Museum, 203 S. Broadway, Erath, Louisiana (337) 937-5468, (337) 233-5832. All proceeds from the sales go towards supporting the museum.
- "A great book is "Bayou Farewell: The Rich Life and Tragic Death of Louisiana's Cajun Coast" by Mike Tidwell (featured in Times-Picayune, Sunday, May 23, 2004)."

Articles:

- "An excellent article in the Wall Street Journal (April 1) examined the impact of French immersion programs across the United States and referred to the International School of Louisiana as a model for other schools.
- "I am very proud of my son Bruce who is majoring in French studies at LSU and made a 4.0 during the last semester."
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• Rayne hosted the second annual Festival de la Prairie on May 1.
• Sandra Thompson, Director of the Atchafalaya Basin announced the opening date of June 18th of the Welcome Center.
• The Church Point Buggy Festival has been named a Southern Travel Treasure by AAA Southern Traveler magazine.
• An interesting story on Louisiana appeared in the June issue (p. 122-123) of Esquire magazine by Bucky McMahon, “Louisiana’s Highway 90”, where the popular magazine discussed interesting people and places along Highway 90 from New Orleans to Lafayette. Featured was the Acadian Museum and Museum Café of Erath. I was referred to as “defender of the Cajuns” and quoted to say that the word “coonass” should not be used to refer to Cajuns.
• Kelly Strenge, public relations and special projects manager, Lafayette Convention and Visitor’s Commission, announced that the organization hosted the annual meeting of the Atlantic Caribbean Chapter of the Society of American Travel Writers on June 9-14.
• Betty Bernard, Betty’s RV Park in Abbeville was selected as one of the top 24 RV parks in America. She works hard to showcase our culture to visitors.