Celebrating Donaldsonville
Ascension Parish community marking 200th anniversary

By Cynthia V. Campbell

Donaldsonville is counting down to its bicentennial, which will be observed in 2023. The community is celebrating its 200th anniversary with a series of events and activities that will highlight its rich history and culture. The celebration will include a grand parade, a historical marker dedication, and a bicentennial dinner. The festivities will conclude with a fireworks display.

The celebration will begin on April 15 with a historical marker dedication for the site of the original town. The marker will be unveiled at the intersection of Main Street and Cherry Avenue. The marker will tell the story of Donaldsonville's founding and its growth over the years.

On April 16, an outdoor concert will be held at the historic Railroad Station, which served as a stop on the Louisiana and Arkansas Railroad. The concert will feature local musicians and will be followed by a bicentennial dinner.

On April 17, a grand parade will winds through the streets of Donaldsonville, with floats, bands, and a grand finale at the former railroad station.

The celebration will conclude with a fireworks display over the Mississippi River on April 18.

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the incorporation of Donaldsonville. The town was founded in 1823 by John Donaldson, a Scottish merchant who purchased land along the Mississippi River.

Donaldsonville is located on the west bank of the Mississippi River, and its history is closely tied to the river. The town was once a major port for the transportation of goods and people.

Today, Donaldsonville is a vibrant community with a rich history. It is home to a number of historic sites, including the Railroad Station, the Old Post Office, and the Donaldsonville Museum.

The town is also home to a number of cultural institutions, including the Ascension Parish Museum, which features exhibits on the history of the region.

The celebration will be a chance for residents and visitors to come together and celebrate the history and culture of this special place.

Advocate staff photo by TREVOR SAINT-Victor

Springs to Bayou Lafourche at Donaldsonville. The bayou once served as a major transportation artery between the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico.