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Lafayette, LA 70508



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BayouVermilionDistrict.org

## Events

**Acadian Culture Day**  
Sunday, August 9  
10 AM – 5 PM

**Derby on the Bayou**  
Saturday, September 5  
3pm-7pm

**2020 Boat Parade**  
Saturday, September 26  
Start: Vermilionville  
Finish: Southside

Please note that all events are tentative and subject to change or cancellation due to COVID-19.

Live music, including Saturday Jam Sessions and Sunday Dances, will not return to Vermilionville until Phase III of our reopening plan.

For updates and information, follow us on Facebook  
[@facebook.com/vermilionville](https://www.facebook.com/vermilionville)

Questions? [communications@bayouvermiliondistrict.org](mailto:communications@bayouvermiliondistrict.org)



NEWS / EVENTS / EXHIBITS

# Le Raconteur

SUMMER 2020

## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

The year 2020 has turned out to be one that no one could have expected. The COVID-19 pandemic turned our lives upside-down and inside out. We closed the village for six weeks. We also made many changes and adjustments. We had to furlough over half of our staff and make significant spending cuts. Our reopening has been cautious in the interest of public health and safety. We will remain closed to the public on Sundays, in addition to our regular Monday closing, until we enter Phase 3 when live music will once again be allowed under government guidelines. In the meantime, our restaurant is open Tuesday through Saturday. We started a new tradition of a Saturday barbeque, which is proving to be very popular. The village is also open those same days, but with a slightly reduced access to the artisans and the inside of some houses. You can still walk our beautiful grounds where there is ample shade throughout the day.

On the Bayou Operations side, we broke ground on the new water-testing lab and watershed exhibit. This new facility will enable us to determine what and where the impediments are in the bayou, allowing us to take action on an effective solution. You will be able to see it going up on the far side of our parking lot when you come visit.

We look forward to your continued support as we enter the second half of this extraordinary year. If we are to overcome this challenge, and we will, we all need to take our personal responsibilities to heart. Social distancing, hand washing and mask wearing have proven to be effective tools in fighting this disease until a cure can be found.

- [Dr. David Cheramie](#)

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### BVD and Vermilionville Extend Memberships

BVD and Vermilionville would like to thank you, our members, for your continued loyalty during these unprecedented times. While our focus is on keeping customers and employees safe and healthy today and always, you are also a part of the BVD and Vermilionville family. We know how important these benefits are to you. That is why as coronavirus continues to dramatically impact our lives, you don't have to worry about your benefits – they'll be extended so you can enjoy them when we're ready to pass a good time with us again.

### Get Your 20% Membership Discount Today!

We are also offering a 20% discount on all membership purchases. Use code VVille20 when checking out on our website to get 20% your membership purchase today. Memberships available at this link: [bayouvermiliondistrict.org/membership/](https://bayouvermiliondistrict.org/membership/)

## 3 Ways You Can Continue to Support Bayou Vermilion District & Vermilionville

1. Visit us in person. We are open! The Vermilionville Museum, Restaurant, and Gift Shop are open and following Phase II guidelines. In Phase II, most of our artisans are back to give you the most interactive museum experience, while practicing safe social distancing. The Museum Gift Shop also has local, handmade items that make great gifts. Phase II Museum and [Gift Shop](#) Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10AM-4PM. The Vermilionville restaurant, [La Cuisine de Maman](#) is open and welcoming dine-in guests, according to safe social distancing guidelines, as well as curbside pickup. Phase II Restaurant Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 11AM-2PM and Saturday, 10:30AM-1:30PM.

2. Help Us Meet Our Goals. Right now, every little bit helps. If you are able to donate, you can do so online by visiting [bayouvermiliondistrict.org/donate](https://bayouvermiliondistrict.org/donate), or by phone at 337-233-4077, 207.

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# Curatorial Corner

My phone has been a lifeline for the past few months, keeping me connected with friends, family, and coworkers. My phone let me see and talk to people without ever being in the same room with them. I worked, socialized, and checked in over my phone. I thought about people in rural Louisiana, interacting and socializing with their household members and immediate neighbors or scheduling a trip into town, reading the newspaper to learn about local and national news. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, Opelousas and Lafayette businesses and residences installed telephones and lines connecting them to neighbors and services. In our 1870s Opelousas structure, we have an early 1900s hand crank wall telephone. The telephone has a speaker and an ear piece, with a ledge for taking notes. The telephone also existed alongside the telegraph throughout the 20th century. Stay connected, stay safe.

- Anne Mahoney Fontenot, Curator

Photographs: St. Landry Clarion, Opelousas June 22, 1907 and the Boucvalt House Telephone



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An easy way to double your donation is to find out if your company or employer will match your gift to us. Memberships also make great gifts. If you would like to purchase a membership online visit: [bayouvermiliondistrict.org/membership](http://bayouvermiliondistrict.org/membership) or call 337-233-4077, 207.

3. Enjoy the interactive virtual content on our social media. Even though we are open and practicing safe social distancing, we are still featuring plenty of exciting virtual content. Follow us on our social media pages so that you do not miss it!

Facebook: [@vermilionville](https://www.facebook.com/vermilionville) [@bayouvermiliondistrict](https://www.facebook.com/bayouvermiliondistrict)  
[@vermilionvillerestaurant](https://www.facebook.com/vermilionvillerestaurant)  
Instagram: [@vermilionville](https://www.instagram.com/vermilionville) [@bayouvermiliondistrict](https://www.instagram.com/bayouvermiliondistrict)  
[@vermilionvillerestaurant](https://www.instagram.com/vermilionvillerestaurant)

We believe that with your help, we can lessen the impact of coronavirus on our mission to conserve our local history, culture, and natural resources. These three things are what make us unique and help bring us together, and they are irreplaceable. Thank you for your support during this challenging time from our organization and our community.

## Bayou Operations Debris & Waste Removal April 1 - June 16

Barrels of Trash	526
Large Items	38
Tires	21
Trees	67

**#dontpollutetheboot**

# Ongoing Programs

**First Friday French Table**  
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Join us on the first Friday of each month to converse in French in an immersive environment where we learn from one another. We begin with light conversation, followed by a game of Pictionary en français. The vocabulary has a new theme every month, so you will always learn something new!

This French table is FREE to everyone and is for all levels and dialects of French speakers. Set your alarm and join us for a chance to enhance or develop your French!

Questions?  
[collections@bayouvermiliondistrict.org](mailto:collections@bayouvermiliondistrict.org)

**Yoga en Français**  
First Tuesday of Every Month  
5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

Wind down after work with 75 minutes of Hatha Yoga en Français with Anissa Galloubi in Vermilionville's Performance Center. You don't need to speak French, but you'll surely learn a little while you're here! A suggested donation of \$5 per person is appreciated to support of historic museum. Don't forget to grab a t-shirt of tank top in the gift shop representing your yoga session.

## Exhibits

Made by Hand: 30 Years at Vermilionville  
Join us as we look back on the first 30 years of the Vermilionville Living History Museum and Folklife Park. Vermilionville's Visitor Center April 1st - September 13th 2020.

Questions?  
[curator@bayouvermiliondistrict.org](mailto:curator@bayouvermiliondistrict.org)

# Meet Grace

## Environmental Science Intern

Meet Grace Rentrop, our Environmental Science Intern from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She is graduating in Spring 2021, and plans to continue with fieldwork after graduation. Her work at Bayou Vermilion District includes interpreting the Watershed Exhibit and inspecting on-site wastewater treatment systems in Lafayette Parish. She is passionate about nature, which is why she enjoys the environmental quality work she does here at the Bayou Vermilion District, as well as her job at All Seasons Nursery.

