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# Lewiston woman to be recognized by regional Franco-American group

This year's Franco-American recognition dinner will be held in Maine in honor of a Lewiston woman whose research and writings have had a significant impact on Franco-Americans nationwide.

Lewiston resident Madeleine Giguere, a professor of Sociology at the University of Southern Maine, will be honored at the annual recognition dinner scheduled for Sept. 28 at the Ramada Inn, Lewiston.

"Prof. Giguere deserves to be recognized as an advocate for the Franco-American community at many levels, whether before the Census Bureau in Washington or as a trustee of the public library in her hometown," stated Real Gilbert of Manchester, N.H. in making the announcement.

Gilbert is president of Action for Franco-Americans in the Northeast (ActFANE), the umbrella organization covering New England and New York State which sponsors the Annual Franco-American recognition Dinner.

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**—Real Gilbert**

tives magnificently," he added.

Last year, the honoree was former Congressman Norman D'Amours of New Hampshire.

The testimonial dinner, scheduled for noon, will feature prominent speakers and musical entertainment by Maine folk singer Josee Vachon. The event will also



**Prof. Madeleine Giguere**

serve as a fundraiser to establish a program of research scholarships in the area of Franco-American Office of the University of Maine.

Prof. Giguere, the daughter of the late Dr. Eustache Giguere, the first Franco-American of Lewiston to

become a doctor, has been involved in her local community for many years. She served on the Lewiston Historical Commission and the Board of Library Trustees. Her contributions have allowed the Lewiston library to develop its French collection into the largest of any public library in New England.

As a founding member of the Centre d'Heritage Franco-Americain in Lewiston, Prof. Giguere made substantial contributions of papers, archives, photos and memorabilia about Lewiston's early French community to the Center.

Her work has been most significant, however, as an educator and research for the past 20 years, making her widely respected throughout the United States and Canada. Probably her most important contribution is her demographic research on Franco-Americans and her successful efforts to have the U.S. Census Bureau collect and report data on Franco-Americans and other ethnic groups.

Lewiston businessman Adrien Lamontagne is serving as chairman of the dinner, which is open to the public. Tickets and information can be obtained by contacting Lamontagne at 21 Wilson St., Lewiston, telephone (207) 783-6137.