



The Weyanoke Association for Red-Black History & Culture

Contact: Hugh Harrell, III
804-878-3167

April 18, 2010
For Immediate Release

TWELFTH ANNUAL "COMING TOGETHER" FESTIVAL TO BE HELD IN CHARLES
CITY

COMING TOGETHER: *The Link and Legacy of Native and African Americans* will be held at 1:00 PM on Saturday, August 14th, rain or shine. There will be drumming, dancing, singing, discussion, and cultural information. Bring a chair & a dish to share. The observance marks the 391st anniversary of the African settlement near the Weyanoke Indians in what is now Charles City County, Virginia. This twelfth annual free outdoor event, sponsored by the Weyanoke Association, will be held at the Harrison Lake National Fish Hatchery, 11110 Kimages Road, Charles City. Call 804-878-3167 or 757-826-6437 for more information.

The heritage of both indigenous North America and Africa will be celebrated. There will be a procession, a brief program and ample opportunity for informal learning and discussion. **Chief Lynette Allston** of the Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, **Eastern Sky** Native American Drum, Occaneechi educator **John Blackfeather**, historian **Dr. Arica Coleman**, singer and theologian **Dr. Ayaba Bey**, and the *a cappella* vocal ensemble **Legacy of Weyanoke** will be among those participating.

Many people are not aware that many if not most of so-called "African Americans" have significant Native ancestry. Frequently, their Native ancestors are much more recent and easily verified than their African ancestors. The country's long-standing bias against Africa and her sons and daughters has led to the downplaying of the relationship between Africans and Native Americans.

The Weyanoke Association's mission is to help people become aware of the importance of, and the intersections between, Native and African American history and culture.

#####