



The Weyanoke Association for Red-Black History & Culture

Contact: Hugh Harrell, III
(804) 307-8807

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For Immediate Release

10th ANNUAL "COMING TOGETHER" FESTIVAL TO BE HELD IN CHARLES CITY

COMING TOGETHER: The Link and Legacy of Native and African Americans will be held from 1 PM to Dusk on Saturday, August 9th, with a rain date of August 10th. There will be drumming, dancing, singing, discussion, cultural information and vendors. The observance marks the 389th anniversary of the African settlement near the Weyanoke Indians in what is now Charles City County. This eighth 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 804/307-8807 or 757/826-6437 for more information.

The heritage of both indigenous North America and Africa will be celebrated. The festival will include a procession, a brief opening ceremony, performances, and ample opportunity for informal learning and discussion. The **Weyanoke Association** and the *a cappella* vocal ensemble **Legacy of Weyanoke** will be among those participating.

Many people are not aware that as many as 95% of "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.

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