



Weyanoke Association

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For Immediate Release

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL “COMING TOGETHER” FESTIVAL TO BE HELD IN NEWPORT NEWS

COMING TOGETHER: The Link and Legacy of Native and African Americans will be held at 1:00 PM on Saturday, August 9th, rain or shine. There will be drumming, dancing, singing, discussion, and cultural information. The observance marks the 395th anniversary of the African settlement near the Weyanoke Indians in what is now Charles City County. This sixteenth annual free outdoor event, sponsored by the Weyanoke Association, will be held on the grounds of the Newsome House, 2803 Oak Avenue, Newport News. 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. Eastern Sky Native American Drum will be participating.

Many people are not aware that most “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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