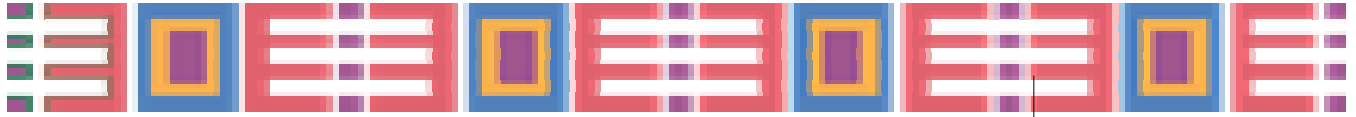




# The Waccamaw Village News

Waccamaw Indian  
People

Volume 11, Issue 6  
June 2005



Family Day is fast approaching!!! See inside for more information.

## Congratulations

South Carolina honors students for outstanding academic and artistic achievements. A sit down dinner was held May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center for the students and family. Andrew "Gentle Bear" Wyeth was one of the students to receive a SC Junior Scholar Award. Andrew attends Carolina Forest Middle School. He is the son of Rob and Stacie Wyeth and grandson of Frank and Joann Wyeth. Congratulations Andrew!!

## State Pauwau

I, along with others from our tribe, was fortunate to be in attendance at the first state Pauwau held on the state house grounds last weekend. Although the temperature was in the 80's, there was just enough of a breeze not to make it to hot. There were so many Chiefs and dignitaries in attendance, that the MC called them in one at a time to recognize them. This definitely was a historical event.

## News Flash!!!

Calling all young ladies! We are in the planning stages of trying to find out who may be interested in participating in Little Miss, Junior Miss, and Miss Waccamaw Princess. Although this has come up several times in the past, member Stefani Lynch has volunteered to head up a committee to set the guidelines and what all will be involved. If you are interested, you can email her at [LYNCH49@msn.com](mailto:LYNCH49@msn.com) or call her at (252) 973-4599 home, or (252) 567-5342 cell and let her know.

## Summer Solstice

Fire Keeper John Cox wants to remind everyone about the Summer Solstice. He will be having the ceremony at his house on June 19, 2005, sunrise, noon and sunset. Hope to see you there at any of these times. For more information you can call him at 843 397-1333.

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The next tribal meeting will be June 3rd, at 6:30pm at the Waccamaw Pentecostal Church on Hwy 90.



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Native Americans Upset with Lack of Funding (off the WIS TV station website)

(Columbia) - Dozens of Native Americans and spectators came out to enjoy a celebration of their heritage Sunday on the State House grounds.

But organizers say they're upset after they received no funding from the City of Columbia to help put on the event.

The festival did go on as planned as Native Americans from all around South Carolina came to celebrate the first ever statewide Pow Wow. It's a religious celebration.

Chief Harold Hatcher tells News19 after our state government recognized two Native American tribes, the Waccamaws and the Pee Dee people earlier this year, they wanted to celebrate. He says they have a very rich history in South Carolina and they want society to know it.

"For many years, you either fit into the White or the Black category and the Indian people almost became invisible," he says.

They're happy about the event but very upset about the struggles it has taken for it to happen.

Greening the Arts Festival here in Columbia has been working on the event for more than a year. They're an organization that tries to bring cultural awareness in the area by putting on events like the Pow Wow.

But after months of sending the city council requests for funding and showing up at committee meetings, executive director Shirley Fields-Martin says they never got the \$5,000 they needed.

"We were given a variety of reasons to why it didn't happen that we were given nothing and one of the most important events we wanted funding for was this event today on the state house lawn."

But City of Columbia Mayor Bob Coble says a lot of groups don't get the funding they ask for from the city.

He says out of the \$1.2 million in requests the city receives to fund an event, the council is only able to give out \$400,000. The money goes to such organizations like the Columbia Museum of Art and EdVenture.

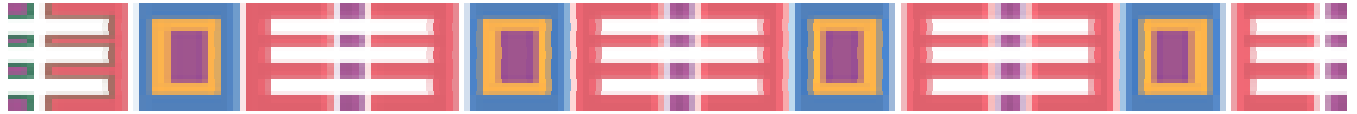
"We live in tight fiscal times," says Coble. "We're not going to raise taxes and we're going to have to put our resources into basic services like police and I think that's just the reality."

The mayor says it's a lot harder for smaller groups like Greening the Arts Festival to get money for one-time events but it can happen.

Martin says they're working in a deficit because they wanted to make sure the Pow Wow still happened. She's not disappointed with the City of Columbia, she just questions where the council puts its importance on community events.

[Kenneth Moton](#), Assignment Editor/Reporter





## Family Day

Come one come all to our first family day on OUR grounds scheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup>. We are asking for those who attend to bring whatever type of meat you want cooked and a covered dish. We will have grills available for you to use and will also provide the paper products and cups. There is a possibility we'll have a pig on site, already cooked. There will be games for the young and young at heart. This will be a time to meet your new family members or just see those you haven't seen in a while. We'd especially like for as many children as possible to be in attendance so we can get a count of those who are interested in learning to drum, and dance. We should also have some information to pass on to the young ladies in reference to the Little Miss, Junior Miss, and Miss Waccamaw Princess. Don't forget, mark your calendar now for July 9th, 2005. Hope to see you there.

## Tribal Elections

Although still 16 months away, now is the time to start thinking if you would like to run for the following seats; Chief's position and three council seats. If there are things you would like to see changed or want to have a say in what happens in the tribe, here is your opportunity to do so.

Requirements for running: member in good standing and over 18 years of age. Spousal or honorary members are not eligible to run.



## Fundraiser

We have two items we're using as fundraisers. A queen size quilt, and a 3 day/2 night stay in North Myrtle Beach, SC, between the time of October 2005 through March 2006. A picture of the quilt is above. A \$1 donation for each quilt ticket and a \$2 for one or \$5 for three on the Myrtle Beach stay. Council member Winnie Lloyd has the quilt tickets and Peoples Alliance, Susan Hayes has the tickets for the mini vacation. Let either of these two ladies know if you would like to get any tickets. Tickets will be available at the meeting Friday night for those of you who want to get some.

## Council Corner

Nothing from Council  
this month.



Council member Frank Hatcher asked to include the following:

Together with our parents  
 Mr. and Mrs. Frances Marion Hatcher  
 and  
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Owen Alborg  
 we,  
 Tina Frances Hatcher  
 and  
 Dwight Richard Alborg  
 invite you to share in the joy  
 of the beginning of our new life together  
 Saturday, June eleventh  
 Two thousand and five  
 at two o'clock in the afternoon  
 Emmanuel Baptist Church  
 949 North Marquis Highway  
 Hartsville, South Carolina

To help us celebrate,  
 please join us for the Reception  
 immediately following the ceremony



### Birthday Wishes

Hope everybody has a very Happy Birthday!!!!  
 For those that may not have seen the WBTW Channel 13 noon news last Friday, Ms Kimberly sent out birthday wishes to the Chief and said he was "75" years old. He sure holds his age well!! Although I called in a co-conspirator, I never divulged his age. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

Marriage congratulations goes out to Jessica K. Hatcher on her recent marriage to Wayne Schleuning. They were married at the Conway Marina on March 27th, 2005. Hope everything goes well for both of you.



My Brothers and Sisters:

Things are going very well for the tribe at this time in our history. There are several things brewing and I will cover the high spots as best I can, in a letter.

First, I must relay the sad news that our Elder Richard A. Mitchell, has passed away. Mr. Mitchell was a strong and knowledgeable advocate for his (our) people. He was ready to do anything necessary to further the Waccamaw cause. Several members attended the funeral to show their respect and he must have been well loved in the community as well because the church was full almost to the point of overflowing. We offer our condolences to his wife, and family members. We will miss him too!

**Tribal Grounds:** We have an office. The office has lights and water. The new address is 591 Bluewater Road, Aynor SC 29511. We are preparing to have our community gathering there next month. As a matter of fact, count on it. The state is preparing signs directing traffic to the site. I am not sure when those signs will be there so don't count on them for a while. When they are placed, they will be those brown information signs that will say "Waccamaw Indian Tribal Grounds" with an arrow pointing toward our land.

Get to the grounds by driving toward Aynor on Highway 501 from Conway. After you pass Highway 22 (which passes over 501), you will travel another 4.7 miles and come to a left turn lane. This is where Bill Jones Road intersects with 501. Turn left here and after you cross a small concrete bridge, the land is on the left, cleared and easily recognizable.

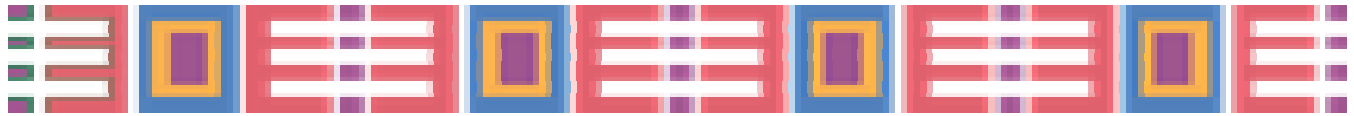
Paul Evans, son of council member and Tribal Secretary, Linda Atkinson has gained permission from his supervisor to use a track hoe, two dump trucks and a bull dozer on the land, free of charge, to finish the leveling and so forth. This should start on Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup>. Today I need truck drivers and dozer operators for at least three days, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. By the time you read this letter it will, hopefully be done. I seldom have the people we need to do such things so, if you can (and will) help on future projects, I will appreciate it. After this is finished we will begin to plant grass, build the drum arbor and fire circle and in all ways prepare for the Pauwau. We are slowly turning the grounds into our home.

**New membership:** The constitution demands that there always be a higher percentage of core than non-core. For those that don't know, core means that the person's lineage goes back to the Dimery Settlement, the people on which our tribe is based. Non-core members are Indian, but their lineage does not go back to the Dimery Settlement.

This percentage is beyond the governing body's control because they are mandated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and are outlined in the requirements for tribal recognition per 25CFR83.7

The constitution allows for four types of membership. *Core Member*, *Non-core member* (called simply "Member") *Non-Indian Adopted Member*, and of course, *Honorary or Associate member*.

The constitution allows for increasing membership as long as it does not cause the core to non-core membership percentage to favor non-core. This, in my opinion, should not be taken lightly.



Although the Council has the authority to accept new members, they also have the authority to decline membership, as well.

I do, however, advocate increasing membership. I simply think we should be selective. Non-core membership in the Waccamaw is not a right, it is a privilege and we have the right to be selective. For example, a non-core Elder who wants membership for his/her grandchild, has earned it! Whenever the adoption would not violate the percentage relationship, I strongly support it and would be upset if it were denied.

However, let's say someone who has done nothing to show their interest, nothing to help, but simply wants an ID card to vend at Pauwas or for whatever reason, I would oppose the adoption regardless of the percentage. I believe that adoption should only be afforded to those who deserve it on their own merit or on the request of another tribal member who has earned it.

We have twelve applications pending membership as I write this note and I am struggling with the sequence of their membership. Some of those pending have taken a large role in helping and assisting and so forth while others never even take the time to attend a meeting. If it is my choice, I would accept only those who have shown support. This does not include core as they have a constitutionally guaranteed right to join at any time, and I cannot change that. I would stop core for the same reasons but I cannot. That would require a constitutional change and cannot be done immediately.

I also believe that since a non-member's interface is with me (I am responsible for all external matters) I have the right and obligation to decide in what order pending applications should be considered. This is quickly approaching a level of importance since the Council is considering opening the roll books. I would like to have your thoughts on it. Write them please because a conversation can quickly be distorted or mis-remembered. If you wish to speak on the issue, please come to the next meeting and do so. If you live out of state and wish to express your thoughts, please send me a letter to the address on the newsletter or an e-mail to [Waccamaw@aol.com](mailto:Waccamaw@aol.com).

**Awarding of membership:** I strongly advocate that a member be compelled to sign the official role book to become a member and until they do, they are not members. I believe that we should only do ID cards at quarterly gatherings and the roll book should be on site to allow signatures. If the prospective members are not there, they do not become members. Of course we would have to allow for hardships and perhaps a make up day for those who cannot attend a specific gathering. This would pertain to all members (core, non-core, adopted and associate).

These are some of my thoughts on what should happen upon signing the roll book. First, membership and/or membership numbers for the tribe cannot be granted and should not become official until the prospective member signs the official tribal roll and that signature is sealed with the Official Tribal seal.

Prospective members should be required to review and sign certain policy letters as required by Tribal Council and attest that they acknowledge the information contained in the policy letter



prior to being allowed to sign the tribal roll. They may be required to read and confirm their knowledge of certain historic and/or cultural aspects of the tribe prior to being allowed to sign the tribal roll.

Upon a favorable vote authorizing membership, prospective membership applications would be held for a period not to exceed six months, awaiting the official signing. After which time, the packet will be destroyed or returned to the applicant, at the discretion of the Tribal Council. If a membership packet is destroyed or returned to an applicant, the applicant will have no status with the Waccamaw and if membership is still desired, a new application would be required.

Membership signing ceremonies would be held no less than quarterly in a manner and format as decided by Tribal Council. Neither the tribal roll page nor the tribal identification card should be mailed to any applicant, unless attending the ceremony would cause undue hardship (or is impractical) on the member as decided by Tribal Council.

This subject will also be on the table at the meeting. If you wish input, try to attend.

**Loan Payment:** As most of you know I have been trying to ensure that the loan is paid. I am happy to announce that we have twenty four people who are willing to pay it. This brings in \$625.00 monthly to ensure that the note is paid.

These people are the same people that show up for everything else too. These are the people who take on the work and the burden to make things happen. Three of them are not even members but are always there when there is something to do or if some help is needed. I appreciate every one of you and I won't forget.

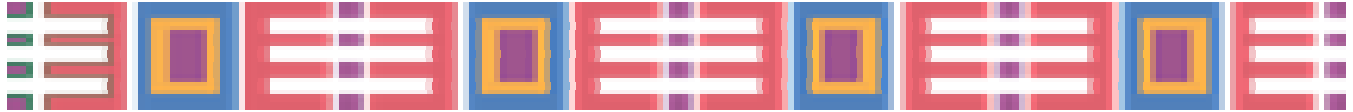
**Tribal Business:** We have a business. **Waccamaw Care** is licensed and taking on clients. The same business was developed and owned by the Wyeths for over 20 years. They have educated their children and assisted a great many people with the proceeds.

Mr. Frank and Ms. Joann, wishing to make a difference for their people have afforded us a great opportunity. They are donating their business. This includes clients, employees, files, computer, desk, and are even training us on how to operate it. At present we have two persons trained to run the business but it looks as if Susan Hayes will be its manager.

This business should allow us to earn several hundred thousand dollars a year, if we manage it properly. I anticipate a very productive future for Waccamaw Care and perhaps we are beginning to realize some of the benefits of a long and tenacious push for the Native People in South Carolina. Mr. and Mrs. Wyeth, thank you!

**Arts and Crafts:** Member A. Jane Webb, Tap E Ya Hamilton, Chief of Elders Bryant, and others have consented to devise the artist certification process for the tribe. The initial estimate is that during the next meeting (June 3<sup>rd</sup>) they will be ready to discuss the process and standards with the Council who inevitably makes the decision.

In my view, we need two types of certificates (contemporary and traditional). The discussion as to why is too involved to get into here so if you have thoughts and want input, my advice is to



be at the Waccamaw Church, at 6:30 pm on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June, 2005 and have your say.

**Tribal Princess:** Member Stefani Lynch has proposed that the tribe hold and celebrate a Waccamaw Princess. I think this may be a good opportunity to allow the youth a way to show some pride in their heritage. It will also afford us a means of having more visibility at Pauwau and other events. The Council is actively considering the issue and this too will be on the agenda next meeting. Ms. Lynch is preparing an in-depth overview of her recommendation. This will be a long meeting but I believe a good one.

**State Pauwau:** We had a good one on the state house grounds this past weekend. This was a first in the state's history. There were about 150 people who danced and participated in the historic event. They will be able to say to their grand children as the event is discussed in the history books, "I was there"!

I am running out of space so I need to close. As always I wish you and yours the best of everything. I hope to see you at the meetings.

Until next time

Walk Easy

HDH



**THE WACCAMAW INDIAN PEOPLE**

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