

Story One (original story and interviews):

ANCHOR INTRO

THE GEORGIA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL RECENTLY WRAPPED UP ITS 40TH YEAR WELCOMING SOUTHEAST LOCALS INTO A WORLD OF WHIMSY AND MERRIMENT.

REPORTER

THE FESTIVAL, ALSO KNOWN AS THE REN FAIR, IS A 16TH CENTURY THEMED FESTIVAL IN FAIRBURN, GEORGIA THAT RUNS EVERY WEEKEND FROM MID APRIL TO JUNE.

THE FESTIVAL BEGAN IN 1986, AND STILL BRINGS IN RENAISSANCE LOVERS FROM ALL OVER THE SOUTH.

REGULAR REN FAIR PATRON ALLY MED-LEE FELL IN LOVE WITH THE FESTIVAL UPON HER FIRST VISIT.

SOT (MEDLEY)

“Stepping into this world with costumes and characters is so much fun. To be able to step into someone else’s shoes for a day provides a sweet escape from my day-to-day life, and it is so fun to see everyone’s hard work come to life, especially because most people hand-make their costumes.”

REPORTER

REN FAIR ATTENDEES ARE IMMERSSED INTO AN ENVIRONMENT STRAIGHT OUT OF THE RENAISSANCE PERIOD.

ALL FESTIVAL EMPLOYEES DRESS IN ELABORATE COSTUMES AND SPEAK IN THEATRICAL OLD-TIMEY ACCENTS.

QUIN-SEE FRUN-TEER-UH, AN ANNUAL REN FAIR VISITOR, LOVES THE FESTIVAL AND ITS GRANDIOSE ATTRACTIONS.

SOT (FRONTIERA)

“The most memorable part was seeing all the outfits. People took their time and hard-earned money and handcrafted and put together really beautiful outfits.”

REPORTER

THE FESTIVAL ALSO OFFERS A PLETHORA OF ENTERTAINMENT, LIKE GRAND PERFORMANCES, ANIMAL RIDES, GAMES, AND PLENTY OF UNIQUE DRINKS AND PECULIAR FOODS.

IN FACT, MED-LEE SAYS THE THEMED, QUIRKY REFRESHMENTS ARE SOME OF THE FAIR’S HIGHLIGHTS.

THE GLITTER PICKLES AND THE LAVENDER LEMONADE ARE HER PERSONAL FAVORITES TO GET WHILE AT THE FESTIVAL.

SOT (MEDLEY)

“Whimsical, entertaining, and creative are the top three ways I would describe the fair. My joy and whimsy certainly made an appearance when I visited.”

REPORTER

FRUN-TEER-UH AGREES.

SHE SAYS THE REN FAIR IS LIKE A BREATH OF FRESH AIR FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD- ALMOST LIKE STEPPING INTO A BOOK.

ANCHOR TAG

THANKS TO ITS TALENTED OUTGOING EMPLOYEES AND EXTRAVAGANT ATTRACTIONS, THE GEORGIA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL CONTINUES TO BE A SOUTHERN STAPLE EVEN AFTER FOUR DECADES OF OPERATION.

Writing for Broadcast- Devyn Byers

ALTHOUGH THE FESTIVAL ENDED ON JUNE FIRST, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE REN FAIR WILL ALSO OPERATE LATER THIS YEAR.

FROM NOVEMBER FIRST THROUGH DECEMBER SIXTH, THE FESTIVAL GROUNDS WILL OPEN ONCE AGAIN FOR MORE RENAISSANCE THEMED FESTIVITIES AND FUN.

Story Two (for class):

ANCHOR

COBB COUNTY SHERIFF GUS DIH-CHEZ-ER-RAY IS PROPOSING THAT PRISONERS IN THE COUNTY JAIL SHOULD CLEAN ROADSIDES SIX DAYS A WEEK.

THIS PRACTICE HAS BEEN A CAUSE OF CONCERN FOR COBB COUNTY RESIDENTS IN THE PAST, BUT SHERIFF DIH-CHEZ-ER-RAY BELIEVES IT WILL BENEFIT THE COUNTY.

11 ALIVE'S DEVYN BYERS JOINS US LIVE FROM THE NEWSROOM WITH MORE.

NEWSROOM

THAT'S RIGHT, JOHN, THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME THIS PRACTICE HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED IN COBB COUNTY.

THE SHERIFF RECOGNIZES THAT SOME OF THE COUNTY'S RESIDENTS MAY HAVE CONCERNS THAT PRISONERS COULD ESCAPE.

HE ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THIS IS A REAL POSSIBILITY, STATING, "ANYTIME YOU WORK PRISONERS OUTSIDE THE INSTITUTION, THERE IS ALWAYS A SLIGHT RISK OF ESCAPE."

HOWEVER, THE SHERIFF DOES NOT BELIEVE PRISONER ESCAPES WILL BE AN ISSUE, CLAIMING IT WOULD BE HIGHLY UNLIKELY.

HE EXPLAINS THAT THE PRISONERS WILL BE CAREFULLY CHOSEN BY HIS STAFF TO BE TRUSTWORTHY AND WILL BE GUARDED BY TWO ARMED OFFICERS WHEN WORKING.

ADDITIONALLY, HE CLAIMS THAT THE SELECTED PRISONERS WILL BE THOSE CONVICTED OF LESS SERIOUS CRIMES, LIKE THEFT AND DRUNKEN DRIVING.

THE CHOSEN PRISONERS WILL ALSO BE SCREENED BY OFFICERS AND WILL BE THOSE WITH A SENTENCE OF LESS THAN ONE YEAR.

THE SHERIFF ALSO ADDRESSED A PAST CONCERN OF EXPLOITING AND DEGRADING CRIMINALS FOR PHYSICAL LABOR IN THE PUBLIC EYE.

SHERIFF DIH-CHEZ-ER-RAY SAYS HE WAS A DEPUTY WHEN THE PRACTICE WAS FIRST PUT TO REST IN THE 1970'S.

HE CLAIMS MANY PRISONERS WERE UNHAPPY ABOUT BEING UNABLE TO WORK.

IN FACT, THE SHERIFF SAYS THAT MANY INMATES WOULD WORK EVERY DAY IF THEY WERE ALLOWED.

THEREFORE, IT WILL LIKELY NOT BE AN ISSUE FINDING VOLUNTEERS FOR THE PROGRAM.

THE PRISONERS WILL BE PAID 25 CENTS AN HOUR FOR THEIR LABOR, AND FOUR DAYS WILL BE DROPPED FROM THEIR SENTENCE FOR EACH MONTH THEY WORK.

ANCHOR

HEAD OF COBB COUNTY'S PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT KEVIN DOCK-INS ALSO SUPPORTS THE NEW PROGRAM.

HE BELIEVES IT WILL HELP KEEP ROADSIDES AND PARKS CLEAN AT A LOW COST FOR THE COUNTY.

DOCK-INS PROMPTLY AGREED TO PROVIDE ALL TRUCKS NECESSARY FOR THE ROASIDE CLEANUP.

IF THE PROGRAM IS SUCCESSFUL, IT WILL EXPAND TO INCLUDE MORE INMATES AND TRUCKS.

Story Three (for class):

ANCHOR

THE ATLANTA SCHOOL SYSTEM IS WORKING WITH GENERAL ELECTRIC TO PROVIDE ON-SITE SCHOOLING FOR CHILDREN OF THE FACTORY'S EMPLOYEES.

REPORTER

GENERAL ELECTRIC'S NEW MANUFACTURING PLANT WILL NOW BEGIN WHAT SOME ARE CALLING A PILOT PROGRAM, OR A SATELLITE SCHOOL.

THE NEW PLANT IS EMPLOYING MORE THAN SIX HUNDRED EMPLOYEES, MANY OF WHOM NEED NEARBY SCHOOLING FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

THE PLAN IS TO BUILD A SCHOOL ON THE FACTORY'S CAMPUS, PROVIDING EASILY ACCESSIBLE SCHOOLING FOR THE EMPLOYEES' CHILDREN.

ATLANTA SCHOOL SYSTEM'S SUPERINTENDENT GREG HUBB-ERD RECOMMENDED THE IDEA DURING A SCHOOL BOARD MEETING LAST NIGHT.

THE SCHOOL BOARD VOTED SIX TO ONE IN FAVOR OF THE IDEA, HUBB-ERD CLAIMING IT TO BE A WIN-WIN SITUATION FOR BOTH GENERAL ELECTRIC AND THE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

THIS ON-SITE SCHOOLING HELPS COMPANIES ATTRACT AND RETAIN GOOD EMPLOYEES, AND THE SCHOOL BOARD BENEFITS FINANCIALLY.

THE EMPLOYEES' CHILDREN WILL HAVE ACCESS TO AN ON-SITE PLAYGROUND AND WILL EAT LUNCH IN THE CAFETERIA WITH THE FACTORY'S EMPLOYEES.

THE ATLANTA SCHOOL SYSTEM IS ONE IN APPROXIMATELY 20 COUNTIES ACROSS THE NATION TO TRY THIS NEW PROGRAM.

IT COST ABOUT 10-THOUSAND DOLLARS TO EQUIP EACH CLASSROOM PROPERLY, AND THE FACTORY WILL PAY THE SALARIES OF BOTH A TEACHER AND TEACHER'S AIDE FOR EACH OF THE CLASSROOMS.

TO START, THE ON-SITE SCHOOL WILL HAVE THREE ROOMS AND SERVE AROUND 60 KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST-GRADE STUDENTS.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS ARE STILL BEING NEGOTIATED.