



Rachael Ward/Staff

Director Danlei Hebert Ronald Lowe talks with Jeanne Starr Gater about the final scene of the movie.

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Hollywood comes to Greensboro

Local writer shoots movie

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GREENSBORO – In 1983 on an early morning in Chicago, the unthinkable happened when Jeanne Starr Gater received a phone call that changed her life forever. Her husband, Dr. Julius Gater, had been in an accident leaving him comatose, suffering from a stroke and with several broken bones in the hospital.

Fast-forwarding to the present, Jeanne is thankful to say her husband survived. Doctors said it was a miracle.

She has taken care of him every step of the way and caters to his needs daily.

Now her book “Bring Back Summertime,” written in 1986 to share her journey, is being filmed with Jeanne serving as the film’s executive producer.

Filming began Thursday at Gater’s home at the Harbor Club at Lake Oconee and



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Jeanne Starr Gater and her husband, Julius Gater, give their fist pump in celebration of filming.

continued Friday afternoon at Anita White Carson Middle School.

Her family flew in from Chicago to be a part of the final

scene.

“It means a lot,” said Marjorie George Gater, Julius’ sister. “Working on this book - a lot was cathartic for her and for

script like Jeanne’s before.

“I read the script and her life story of overcoming adversity, and I’ve never read something as personal as this,” Glass said. “You’ll have to see this movie because it’s relatable.”

Jeanne hopes the world will be touched by it.

“So many people of so many walks of life helped to save Dr. J,” she said, adding that in the movie, audiences will get to see their life play out scene by scene.

Before the accident, Julius was a “genius” and worked as a senior system engineer for Chrysler.

“The same year of the accident he discovered a way to save the company \$3 million a year,” she said. “The rehab doctor said that his brain had been put in backwards, that he was as smart as a NASA scientist.”

To begin filming of “Bring Back Summertime” Gater had to go through several hoops to fund the film. Her biggest break was receiving a \$700,000 grant from the Michigan Film Office.

For Gater, it was only natural to begin filming the movie

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Jeanne Starr Gater and her husband, Julius Gater, give their Gater fist pump in celebration of filming.

Marion said Jeanne has taken wonderful care of her brother.

“He was in a coma for four to six months, and she never left his side. She made sure he got all that he needed,” she said, adding his case was a triple trauma and the likelihood of his survival was slim to none.

The film will depict the story of Jeanne’s journey of dedication, commitment, love and faith in God to keep her family after her husband’s accident leaves him paralyzed.

Producer and co-director of the film, Delano Glass, who has produced such films as “My Sister’s Keeper,” said he has never read such a heartfelt

Jeanne and her husband moved to Greensboro seven years ago after her daughter, Jameelah Gater, married and took a position with Putnam General Hospital.

Family members played cameo roles in Julius’ 76th birthday scene filmed in and outside of the Gater’s home.

“Today is definitely a special occasion,” she said. “These scenes tell the rest of the story. Where are they now and how did everything turn out.”

The movie is on a schedule to be completed in the next year, and Jeanne said it will “speak for itself.”

“You never know what can happen,” she said.

GREENSBORO, GA

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