

# Locally filmed 'Oro Arrowhead' gets Red Carpet Premiere February 27th in Hiawassee

Bill Rahn, Hiawassee resident and filmmaker, is proud to announce the release of his movie "ORO ARROWHEAD" at the VIP Fieldstone Cinemas on Saturday, Feb. 27, with the red-carpet event starting at 6 p.m. and the movie at 7 p.m.

Bill has been a filmmaker for over 10 years but is especially proud of this film, as he and friend Chris Adams, Theater Director at Union County Schools, wrote it. The movie was filmed completely in Towns and Union Counties, with many locations familiar to all.

The story "Oro Arrowhead" (oro = gold in Spanish), is about just that, a magical golden arrowhead and a stash of gold that was hidden by the Cherokee years ago. Jim Powell, played by local resident Stephen Thompson, comes to his deceased dad's house to go through his things and discovers unusual notes, maps, etc., relating to the arrowhead. Curious as to what his dad was up to, he begins asking questions in the town and is abruptly shot down by almost everyone. This is where the adventure begins. The film is a high-action mystery with

many twists and turns.

Rahn is especially excited about the cast he pulled together from here in North Georgia and North Carolina.

Lead actor Stephen Thompson, though he is known in the area as a pilot and flight instructor, has performed in theater, a TV series pilot, radio and TV commercials, and another upcoming movie shot in this area.

Vanessa Ore, the other lead, spent much time in New York and Los Angeles in the acting world. She moved to the South years ago to raise a family and continued her acting journey in the movie "Imperium" with Daniel Radcliffe of "Harry Potter" fame; was on the TV series "Vampire Diaries"; and more recently starred in "Calm Before," a film that was just released on Amazon Prime.

Supporting actors Jasmine Dernehl, Amber Kennesen and Robbie Dernehl are also from this area.

Jasmine grew up in Los Angeles and was a professional dancer, celebrity hair stylist, and worked on many sets. This is her acting debut, and she is full of surprises.

Though Amber was a

Blairsville native for years, she left to go to college and raise a family. While in college she was cast in the movie "Need for Speed," and after that has continued to be involved in many film and TV productions alongside extremely talented actors.

Robbie Dernehl has over 35 years of experience, was on "Magnum PI," the GPTV show "Count on It," and has done over 100 commercials and industrial films. She has spent the last 20 years working with children and is known for her acting workshops and summer camps at the Peacock Performing Arts Center in Hayesville, North Carolina. This role for her was her biggest challenge.

The entire cast and crew feel blessed to be able to work on a project like this in these beautiful mountains and are thankful to the community for supporting them.

The trailer for the film can be seen for the next week at the VIP Fieldstone Cinemas.

Everyone is welcome to come and join this historic event for our area. See you there! For more information, visit [www.tri-rahnpictures.com](http://www.tri-rahnpictures.com). NT(Feb24:Z17)CA

# Diversity perspective for Coast Guard Auxiliary

I believe that diversity has lots of definitions – but two words that might define it well are "opportunity" and "potential"

Diversity means we have people with different perspectives, different backgrounds and different ways of thinking – which allows us to have a better chance of finding new approaches to problem solving. Diversity creates opportunity and potential for growth, for new approaches and new solutions.

It's easy to focus on race or religion. Although NE Georgia and W North Carolina really don't have much range of either, these are important considerations. Gender is important, but we're doing reasonably well on that aspect in our Flotilla. It's important to consider things like age, experience and interest. Our work with Scouts and Paddling are two areas where Flotilla 23 is currently seeking that diversity in those areas.

Our flotilla has worked with Scouts, creating opportunities for them to learn about safe boating, maritime careers and USCG and USCG Auxiliary opportunities. We may never learn the impact we had, but in 20 years, what happens now might lead to someone joining the Auxiliary or saving a life. Less obvious, but equally important, it might give a Scout or their family member the skills and knowledge to avoid problems.

For paddling, we recognize the Auxiliary and the Coast Guard don't have much strength, but we also recognize that in 2019, there were more than 22 million paddlers. As many as a quarter of all boaters are paddlers. They create an opportunity for outreach and recruiting, have the potential to teach us new approaches and skills, and the potential to create new ways to address problems. For example, paddlers can operate in shallow water, narrow marshy channels and in crowds of swimmers, where motorized craft can't safely travel. This creates ways to assist open water swims and to assist search operations. Hopefully, we'll be able to offer kayak training for our members and the community this summer.

Beyond the tangible value of growing membership and improving our ability to manage problems, diversity

also is an opportunity to focus on the Coast Guard's Core Values – Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty.

Honor reflects on how we treat ourselves, holding to high ethical values—requiring us to treat others with dignity and respect, welcoming them into the Coast Guard family. Respect reflects how we treat others— respecting their individual value and importance. As a Christian, I believe we're all created divinely, and all have unique value and importance. We remember how we'd want our loved ones to be treated and then remember that everyone is someone's loved one. Given that, how can we not appreciate diversity?

The final core value, Devotion to Duty, is a commitment to complete our duty to save and protect lives, property and environment. We value diversity, and so long as someone that is willing to commit to our duty, we welcome them to our ranks.

Of course, this also is where we recognize valuing diversity has limits – and those limits really are defined by our Core Values. For everyone willing to commit to our mission and our Core Values, we



should invite them to join and welcome them into the Coast Guard family. We should recognize that there are people not just willing to commit to our mission and our Core Values, but who are excited about that opportunity. To strengthen our diversity, it's our obligation to welcome all of those people into the Coast Guard family.

Robin Pope, FSO-DV-DVC-BP

# Glenda Gooch House available

The Glenda Gooch House is now available for use by families, from the tri-state area, of patients in Union General Hospital as well as local nursing and assisted living homes. For more information please contact Leslie Daniel at 706-745-2050, or log on to [glendagoochhouse.org](http://glendagoochhouse.org).

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**ARROWHEAD**  
Gold can be a treasure or a curse.

**VIP FIELDSTONE CINEMAS**

**FILMED in TOWNS & UNION COUNTIES!!**  
**MOVIE PREMIERE RED CARPET EVENT**  
Feb. 27th - 6:00PM Movie Time - 7:00 PM

**Come out and meet the cast and crew!!**  
[facebook.com/ORO-Arrowhead-The-Movie](https://facebook.com/ORO-Arrowhead-The-Movie)

# Vaccine...from Page 1A

the delay. Fortunately, COVID numbers everywhere seem to be declining, including at the local hospital.

"We still are pushing the mitigations – wearing the masks, social distancing – trying to limit the spread," Palmer said. "I think all of that is working because the number of cases have gone down, and we don't have enough vaccine in people yet for the vaccine to be limiting the spread."

Early vaccination efforts are still focused on medical workers; long-term care residents and staff; all Georgians 65 years of age and older; as well as law enforcement, fire personnel, and other first responders.

Eventually, everyone who wants a shot will be able to get one, but with limited vaccine supplies persisting for the time being, a phased allocation remains necessary.

Even though Public Health is not actively taking new appointments for COVID-19 vaccination due to this limited availability, people trying for an appointment with the Health Department should continue checking the [phdistrict2.org](http://phdistrict2.org) sign-up portal. Alternatively, people can

call 770-531-5692 to check on appointment availability, and if someone doesn't answer, keep calling back, as demand has greatly impacted the district's ability to get to all callers immediately.

For a regularly updated list of locations receiving vaccine shipments in each county, visit [dph.georgia.gov](http://dph.georgia.gov) and click on the link for the "Vaccine Orders List." People can also find vaccine providers at <https://dph.georgia.gov/locations/covid-vaccination-site>.

Mass vaccine provider Synergy Health of Hiawassee continues to add patients to its vaccine wait list at [ngvax.com](http://ngvax.com). Vaccine registrants will be notified once an appointment becomes available, so there's no need to call the office to verify.

Additionally, to take advantage of further collaborative mass vaccine efforts between the Union County Government and the Health Department, be sure to check in regularly with [unioncountyga.gov](http://unioncountyga.gov) to see when new appointments come online as supplies become available.

As previously reported, Union General Health System

is not currently offering vaccines to the public, but once it finishes administering second doses in-house, the hospitals have committed to helping with vaccinating eligible residents as long as vaccine access continues.

Ingles Pharmacies are also waitlisting people for vaccination at <https://www.ingles-markets.com/pharmacy/pg1/pharmacy-sub/vaccinations>.

More than 1.7 million vaccine doses have been administered to date in Georgia, including over 7,300 in Union and 3,500 in Towns. Residents can get a detailed overview of statewide vaccination efforts via the GA DPH Vaccine Distribution Dashboard at <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/3d8eea39f5c1443db1743a4cb8948a9c/>.

People should be aware that anti-inflammatory medicines may depress immune responses to vaccination, which is why District 2 Public Health says folks should avoid them unless needed.

"We recommend that people do not take anti-inflammatory drugs before vaccination unless it is part of their routine treatment for other conditions," Palmer said previously. "Also avoid after vaccination unless necessary for the control of fever or pain or is part of their routine treatment for other conditions."

"Acetaminophen use is preferred over anti-inflammatory medications such as ibuprofen."

Appointments for free Public Health COVID-19 testing can be made at <https://mako.exchange/splash/GAmakotesting/>. Testing takes place Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Hall County, at the Allen Creek Soccer Complex located at 2500 Allen Creek Drive.