

Our Alumni in the News

Napa Valley 10 Questions: Local business owner Lisa Anderson makes Napa 'Bougie'

One of her career choices was 'I was Hefty Smurf in the traveling ice show the **Ice Capades** for two years, as well as a performer in many other numbers.' Read about her exciting life in Napa as owner of Bougie Napa.



Lisa Anderson is the owner of Bougie Napa, but "chandler" is her official occupation.

That's a historical name for candlemaker, which is what Anderson makes and sells.

Bougie Napa sells hand-poured "luxury coconut apricot wax candles with custom-created fragrances," said Anderson. The business also makes scented room diffusers and wax melts.

Anderson said it was the COVID pandemic that led her to a new career.

After losing her job as an innkeeper at Poetry Inn due to the pandemic shutdown, "a light bulb went off in my head," wrote Anderson.

Anderson said she burns a candle at her home every day, "and Napa does not have a candle store downtown like Sonoma does, so why not try to start a business that would bring light and love to our community?"

"As my expertise grew as a chandler and I was really honing my craft, it was recommended to me to begin selling at the local farmers markets."

Bougie Napa candles are now sold at the Napa, Calistoga, and Sonoma farmers markets as well as online.

"We have a loyal following," she said.

The company also recently moved into a commercial manufacturing space on Coombs Street.

1. What was your childhood ambition? In high school, I wanted to become a marine biologist. I was that kid who was so passionate about the plight of whales and had the record album of whale songs and everything.

2. What was your first job? Lifeguard at the Marine World waterslides in Redwood Shores.

3. What's the worst job you ever had? Singing telegrams. I can not sing!

4. What job would you like to try/not try? Try: Anything legal, ethical, animal-friendly and low-calorie.

Not try: Anything the opposite of above, except maybe, not the low-calorie part! No rides into space.

5. What is the biggest challenge your business has faced? Affordable retail space to sell at. A store such as mine really caters to not only locals but tourists as well. Having our name Bougie Napa on the label makes it a really nice gift or memory from visiting this wonderful region.

By the way, did you know that 'bougie' (pronounced boo-zhee) means candle in French? We also like to play on the popular word 'bougie' meaning luxurious in lifestyle yet humble in character. We also have our vessel reuse program up and running where our customers can bring back their vessel for a discount on their next purchase' and I will clean and reuse the vessel and keep it out of the landfill.

6. What's one thing Napa could do to help local business? To really look at the incredible artisans, local to our community, who add so much to the Napa Valley experience going beyond just wine and food, making it instead a synergistic experience. Artists struggle with trying to make a living wage doing what they love and are good at, and if there was more of a way to share desirable downtown space and incorporate the artisans, I feel it would be a win-win for all.

7. If you could change one thing about your business, what would it be? To not have shipping costs be 25% of my expense. I source as locally as I can, and when I have the opportunity, I will go to pick up products in our electric car, but the candle-making supplies in this area are limited.

8. What are some of your favorite charities or nonprofits? Akumal Monkey Sanctuary in Mexico (we pay monkey support every month!), Charlie's Acres Farm Animal Sanctuary in Sonoma, Osa Wildlife Sanctuary in Costa Rica, and Napa Wildlife Rescue.

9. What's something people might be surprised to know about you? I was Hefty Smurf in the traveling ice show the Ice Capades for two years, as well as a performer in many other numbers.

From 2009 to 2015 my husband and young son traveled approximately 18,000 nautical miles on a 55-foot sailboat to 19 countries — as far as Australia.

10. What is one thing you hope to accomplish in your lifetime that you haven't yet? Facilitate the rescue and transport (of) the captive dolphins at Discovery Kingdom in Vallejo to an open water sanctuary. There is no longer any argument amongst experts that keeping these intelligent, sentient beings in a confined space and being forced to perform in a "swim with the dolphins" program is an acceptable thing to do.

As posted in an earlier Blade, our own Dave Pitts & Spanky were part of this movie 'He went That Way'. As an update – the movie has been picked up by Vertical – a distribution company and will be released in movies next year.

True-Life Serial Killer Thriller 'He Went That Way' Starring Jacob Elordi, Zachary Quinto & Patrick J. Adams Acquired By Vertical

By [Matt Grobar](#)

EXCLUSIVE: [Vertical](#) has snapped up U.S. rights to *He Went That Way*, a true-life serial killer tale that stars [Jacob Elordi](#) (*Saltburn*), [Zachary Quinto](#) (*Star Trek* franchise), and [Patrick J. Adams](#) (*Suits*). Marking the first and final feature from Australian director and DP [Jeffrey Darling](#), who passed away in March 2022, the thriller will release exclusively in theaters early next year, having world premiered at the 2023 Tribeca Festival.

Billed as a wicked spin on the buddy road trip pic, the film is set in 1964 and follows 19-year-old serial killer Bobby (Elordi) as he is picked up by a celebrity animal handler, Jim (Quinto), on a desolate stretch of Route 66, with priceless cargo in tow: his chimpanzee, Spanky, an American TV darling. As stress between them rises and their fiery personalities combust, the road only becomes more treacherous the farther they go.

Pic is based on the true story of celebrity animal trainer Dave Pitts, his famous TV chimp, Spanky — who served as the centerpiece of the traveling entertainment show, *The Ice Capades* — and their fateful three-day encounter with serial killer Larry Lee Ranes. In addition to the real-life account from Pitts, the sole survivor of Ranes' killing spree, it draws inspiration from the book *Luke Karamazov* by Conrad Hilberry.

Script was written by Evan M. Wiener (*Big Sky*). The film is produced by Marc Benardout, Hugh Broder, Jeremy L Kotin, James Harris and Mark Lane of Teashop Productions. Along with Quinto and Elordi, executive producers include Phil Hunt of Head Gear Films and Bohemia Media, Medha Jaishankar, Compton Ross, Ananyaa Shah, Lisa Broder, Richard Broder, and Lawrence August.

Vertical Partner Peter Jarowey and SVP of Acquisitions Tony Piantedosi negotiated the deal on behalf of Vertical, with Mister Smith CEO David Garrett and VP International Sales & Distribution Shane Kelly on behalf of the production.

In a statement following the acquisition, the producing team relayed that they were “so thrilled by the audience response at Tribeca and delighted that Vertical will be bringing this story to theaters. It’s been an eighteen-year journey to bring this story to life and now stands as a legacy to our director, the late Jeffrey Darling, who passed away during post-production. Jacob and Zachary brought such an intensity and smart approach to the characters in a story steeped in instinct, infatuation, and incident.”

Added Jarowey on behalf of Vertical, “We were enthralled by Jacob and Zachary’s gritty chemistry when we watched the film at Tribeca and knew immediately this would be a story audiences would find captivating. We look forward to working with Mister Smith on another collaboration, as we did on *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* and *The Hating Game*, and building upon the success of *He Went That Way* together.”

Videos of the Month



Bob Turk on playing music for Sonja Henie

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e_bxYglXh-M

Bob Turk... On His Grandparents and Ice Capades Family

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHKIV0oWm_w

Pictures of the Month



Having a little fun recently at the Knoxville Ice Chalet skating an exhibition at an ISI theatrical competition. Larry Laborde (hi chalet owner and proud owner of this antique Zamboni) - Richard Dwyer (driving) - Frank Sweiding & Anita Hartshorn.

The Ice Capades dolls are still very popular for collectors.

\$1,500
Sold

Sold



Description

21" (53 cm.) Vinyl socket head, brown sleep eyes, blue eye shadow, lashes, pink shaded lips, seven-piece adult lady body. She is wearing an exclusive costume comprising black fitted cap with scalloped curls framing the face formed of thickly-layered black sequins, green and ivory silk gown with gold metallic bodice having a sequined center panel, red apron with red sequins and red sequin balls, green can-can organdy petticoat, panties, suede skates with silver sequin trim, headdress to match the dress with three pom-poms and sequined feathers on the top, and red ball earrings. Excellent condition. The doll was commissioned by Alexander, and costumed in the official couturier workshops of the Ice Capades in a miniature replica of an actual skater's costume, c. 1961.

\$800
Sold

Cissy in Rhinestone Tutu and Crown for Ice Capades, c. 1960

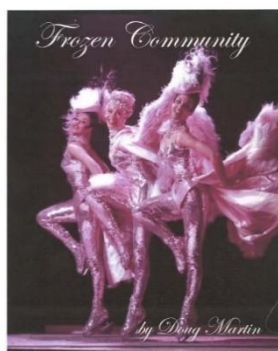
\$800
Sold



Description

20" (51 cm.) Hard plastic socket head, sleep eyes, lashes, auburn hair curled around the face in pixie-style and then pulled back into ringlet cluster at her crown captured within a crown that is heavily-encrusted with glass crystals and prismatic rhinestones, nine-piece adult-lady-shaped body. She is wearing a fitted tutu entirely covered with rhinestones excepting the V-shaped front panel, rhinestone straps, hoop-shaped pleated short tulle skirt with rhinestone trim, stockings, heeled silver shoes, drop earrings. Excellent condition, complexion a bit darkened. Alexander doll, costumed by the Ice Capades milliners in an exacting replica of costume worn by actual skaters, and used in publicity for that year's performance; it is likely that only one or two of each model was made, c. 1960.

RELIVING FOND MEMORIES



Doug Martin had published two books called 'Frozen Community' where he wanted to have skaters tell funny stories about their time on the road. Stories were posted before but worth sharing again. Here are a few great stories that Francine Plummer remembers –

We were skating in Oklahoma City. The number was "New York, New York". Per Larson played the role of a photographer, and six tall girls were 'models'. We were in leopard costumes, with high brown leather boots and tall leopard hats. As Per skated to each model, she would strike a pose with her black hat box extended in front of her, and with full spotlight on her, she would give her famous Ice Capades smile. When he came to me, I felt so elegant in my role...until my foot went out from under me, and BAM, down I went. My hat went flying across the ice, exposing my hair which was tucked under a pink pucker net. Lovely. The spot light never left me, but followed me as I gathered up my belongings. Per kept 'taking pictures' while the audience laughed and laughed. I think they thought the number was going to turn into a comedy. I wish!

Another time we were in Shreveport, Louisiana, during Halloween. After our annual Halloween party, some of us decided to check out the city. I guess you could say we were felling 'happy', when, suddenly, a guy I our group decided to climb up the flagpole in front of one of the government buildings. That stunt got us in trouble for bad behavior and being rowdy. We didn't get fined, but we sure came close.

We were in Victoria, B.C. at the Empress Hotel. What a great place to stay! Some of us were wandering around the hotel and noticed there were sections blocked off on the upper floors, with No Trespassing signs posted. Well, the allure was too great, and one night after the show a few of us decided to see what was hidden away behind the doors. Ghosts? We just knew it had to be haunted...wouldn't you? We found a way in and started our investigation. Every corner we went around we started spooking ourselves, certain we were going to run into a ghost. Unfortunately, the only thing we ran into was Security, who quickly and firmly 'escorted' us out of the area.

Let's keep Doug's legacy going. I'm sure there are more 'interesting' stories out there from your time in the show. If you would like to share, please send them to me.

Reunion News

Ice Capades 2025 Reunion Cruise Announcement

'Escapades 2025 Cruise'.... We'll have a good time! 🎵🎵'



Please click below to join the Escapades 2025 Cruise – events page and get all updates relating to the cruise.

<https://facebook.com/events/s/ice-capades-escapades-cruise-a/746073810575573/>

THIS EVENT IS BEING CREATED AND COORDINATED BY Johnna "J" Bates...

NOTE: PASSPORTS ARE REQUIRED!

[Click here for more Reunion information](#)

Questions: Contact 'J' directly - dabatej@bellsouth.net

Casting News

2024

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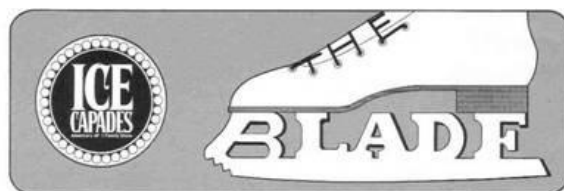
JOIN OUR WILLY BIETAK PRODUCTIONS FACEBOOK CASTING PAGE



Pictures from Past Reunions

[All Skater's Reunion – May 1-3, 2023 Las Vegas](#)

[Ice Capades 2022 Reunion pictures](#)



The website, www.icecapadestheblade.com has been revamped and more information has been added. If you have something to add, please send them.

Look here for **2022 Ice Capades Reunion** information, including reunion pictures
Cast, Precision & Production Pictures – Relive some memories.

Past reunion Pictures – Check them out for some you may have missed.

Rosters – Looking for someone or remembering who you skated with in the show?

Video links – have been collecting skating 'You Tube' links from the early years.

Program Covers – we had the most beautiful covers

Past Issues of The Blade – just in case you missed an issue

Past Reunion Pictures – relive the times you attended the reunions
In Memorium – remembering those who have left us too soon
Check it out!

Upcoming Events



CELEBRATING THE JOY
OF DANCING ON ICE

Ice Theatre of New York, Inc ®
presents

<https://www.icetheatre.org/>

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