

Sad News

Marion Dwyer Miller – August 20, 2024



Marion Dwyer Miller died peacefully on August 20, 2024 at age 94. Preceding Marion in death were her parents, Sheldon Hibbard and Dorothy Carland Hibbard, her first husband D. Lynn Dwyer, her second husband Lorenz Miller and her sister Lois Dietrich.

Marion was born on June 21, 1930 in [Duluth, MN](#) and enjoyed her musical studies (violin and voice) in school, which led to her majoring in music education and playing in the orchestra at Carnegie Tech (now Carnegie Mellon University) in Pittsburgh, PA. She loved ice skating and continued to do this at a high level after moving to Pittsburgh. She met her eventual husband Lynn Dwyer through the Pittsburgh Figure Skating Club and joined him as a performer on ice with the professional touring company, the "Ice Capades" in 1954. She and Lynn visited many cities during this time. Both of them agreed that Minneapolis would be a great place to live and start a family. Marion and Lynn had two children, Keith and Loren. Marion worked at Schmitt Music and as a choir director at St. George's Episcopal Church in St. Louis Park while raising her children.

[Click here for the complete article](#)

Lucien & Rika Boyer – August 23, 2024 & June 18, 2024



Lucien & Friederike (Rika) Boyer, the Best Ice Skating Adagio Act of their time, both passed away within a few short months of each other. Rika died peacefully at Nathan Adelson Hospice on June 18th and Lucien joined her when he passed at Mountain View Hospital on August 23, 2024. Friederike Maria Schropp was born on March 7, 1934 in Munich, Germany to parents Johann & Frieda who encouraged their only child to take skating lessons at the age of 10. She excelled in the sport and won Germany's Junior Figure Skating Championship and competed internationally as Junior Ladies Champion. Lucien Renee Boyer was born February 18, 1929 to Marcel & Yvonne in Paris and started skating later in life at age at 20. Born for the sport, Lucien won the French Pairs Championship for two successive years with a previous partner. Ice Capades Producer,

John Harris saw the young Miss Schropp in the Baier Ice Revue and thought she was outstanding. Terry Rudolph, European Talent Scout suggested Lucien Boyer as a partner for Rika and it was an Adagio Act made in heaven. The Boyer's became internationally acclaimed appearing in many Premiere Skating Shows including; Ice Follies, Ice Capades, Holiday on Ice Europe and more. In retirement from Show Skating, the Boyer's relocated to Foster City, CA where they enjoyed a successful coaching career. After years of 5:00 am sessions they decided to retire move to Las Vegas where they lived happily for 22 years. Over the last several years they faced daunting medical challenges with Rika surviving a serious stroke and Lucien with terminal cancer. Lucien & Rika had no children but were truly loved by many. Mass will be at 11am Fri., Oct. 11 at St.

Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church, 2300 Sunridge Heights Pkwy, Henderson, NV 89052. In memory of Lucien and Rika you may donate to the Las Vegas Men's Choir at <http://www.lasvegasmenschoir.com>.
<https://obituaries.reviewjournal.com/obituary/lucien-friederike-boyer-1091188615>

Roy Blakey – August 24, 2024



Blakey, Roy A. "Lucky, lucky, lucky" is how Roy Blakey, 94, described his life, which ended peacefully, surrounded by love, in his Minneapolis studio home on August 24, 2024. He was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on July 19, 1930, to Bernard and Josie Blakey, whose strong roots helped give him wings to follow his bliss - professional figure skating, traveling the world and photographing both. Roy's love of skating was inspired by ice skating Olympic champion and movie star, Sonja Henie, but lack of an ice rink turned him into a champion roller skater. Drafted in the Army, he was sent to Germany in 1952, where he taught himself figure skating, eventually landing his first professional job performing in an ice show in Garmisch at the Casa Carioca, a U.S. Military nightclub. Returning to America to study photography under the G.I. Bill, Roy landed a job skating in the Conrad Hilton Hotel's Boulevard Room in Chicago, performing there for five years before traveling twice around the world with Holiday on Ice International. Roy honed his photography skills by making portraits of fellow skaters. Roy's camera got him detained for questioning in Russia, enabled him to photograph royal dignitaries who visited the show (including the King and Queen of Thailand), and photography helped him explore his new love of Asian culture, arts and people. In 1968, Roy settled in New York City to launch his career as a photographer to the stars of stage and screen. Debbie Allen, Blossom Dearie, Shirley MacLaine, Tommy Tune and Barry Manilow shared the limelight with downtown artists Candy Darling, Jackie Curtis and Divine - all frozen at the height of their beauty and careers in Roy's studio. Considered a pioneer of gay male photography, Roy was a regular contributor to After Dark and Dilettante magazines. His self-published photography book of male nudes entitled "HE" was the first book that featured exclusively male nudes (including full frontal!) to legally circulate via the U.S. mail after it first became legal to send nude photographs of men and not be deemed obscene by postal inspectors. "Roy Blakey's 1970s Male Nudes" (Goliath 2002) took a new look at the '70s photos. The book tour included exhibitions in NYC and San Francisco. In 1993, Roy moved to Minneapolis, settling in a NYC-style loft building, sharing the studio side with his niece and fellow photographer, Keri Pickett. With additional space and nostalgic for his time in the ice shows, Roy resumed collecting the history of theatrical figure skating, a hobby he started when he was 11 years old. Roy Blakey's IceStage Archive is now the largest treasure trove of costumes, posters, programs and memorabilia from the ice show world - ranging from his beloved Sonja Henie's shows to Ice Follies, **Ice Capades**, Holiday on Ice and Disney On Ice. Roy's career and collection helped inspire and inform Keri Pickett's documentary feature film, "The Fabulous Ice Age" (72 minutes, 2013), covering the century of the great American touring ice shows and Roy's efforts to save its history. Keri is currently in production on a documentary chronicling his extraordinary life entitled, "Uncle Roy." Roy is survived by his sister, B.J. French of Key West and Minneapolis, along with her daughters and Roy's nieces, Kim Mahling of Senegal, West Africa, and Arlington, Virginia, and Keri Pickett of Minneapolis. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Marian Spencer. A memorial service will take place Saturday, September 7, (9 a.m. visiting time and 10 a.m. service), at Lakewood Cemetery Chapel in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In lieu of flowers, the family prefers donations to the Jean-Nickolaus Tretter Collection Fund online or at the University of Minnesota Foundation, P.O. Box 860266, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55486-0266. www.Washburn-McReavy.com Northeast Chapel

Gunnar Toddy – Sept. 11, 2024



Thoughts from Iris.

I'm deeply heartbroken at the loss of Gunnar, who was not just a brother but a friend. Gunnar knew how to light up a room with his laugh, his quick wit, and his endless ability to always make others smile.

To his dear daughter Savanna, your father's love for you was boundless. His sister Iris, you guys shared such a unique bond, and to Corina, you remained such a beautiful part of his life. You and Gunnar gave each other the most precious gift imaginable in your beautiful daughter Savanna, which she in turn, gave you both a gorgeous grandson. Through her, his light will continue to shine, and the love you both shared will always be a part of her. She will carry forward his spirit, his laughter, and his joy.

He leaves behind his cherished grandson, his beautiful niece Natalie, and her daughter, along with his extended family who loved him dearly. His legacy is one of love, laughter, and the countless memories he created with all of us.

Gunnar, fly with Vati and Mom, and all those who have gone before us. We know you are surrounded by love, watching over us as we carry your memory in our hearts. Though the pain of losing you feels unbearable, we find comfort knowing you're at peace, reunited with those who loved you dearly.

Your spirit will continue to live on in each of us, and especially in the family you so deeply cared for.

Funeral service is pending and will be posted when received. Condolences to the Toddy family from your Ice Capades family.

Our Alumni in the News

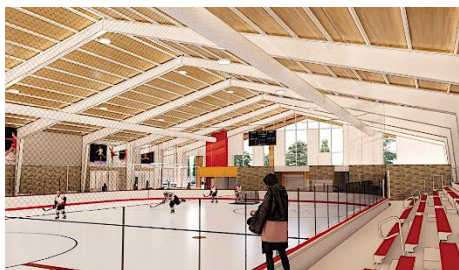
\$23M plan to demolish, replace ice rink named after legendary skater Dorothy Hamill

by [Peter Katz](#) - [August 16, 2024](#)

Westfair Business Journal

The Town of Greenwich is developing plans to demolish the skating rink named after ice skating legend Dorothy Hamill and replace it with a new 40,000-square-foot ice-skating center. Hamill, who won a gold medal at the Olympic Winter Games Innsbruck in 1976, grew up in Greenwich. Hamill won an Emmy Award for her appearance on TV in the program "Romeo & Juliet On Ice," and for a time owned and operated the Ice Capades ice show.

The existing rink was built in 1971. The Greenwich First Selectmen expect to spend \$23 million in Fiscal Year 2027, which begins in July 2026, on the construction project at the Eugene Morlot Memorial Park. The new rink would continue to be named in honor of Hamill.



In addition to a new building housing the new rink, the plans that have been developed so far incorporate improvements to parking, driveways, pathways and sidewalks around the rink along with a new ball field. While 22 trees are to be removed to make room for the ball field, 47 are to be planted, a net increase of 25 trees. It's anticipated that

construction would begin in the fall of 2026 and that the new skating building would open in the fall of 2027.

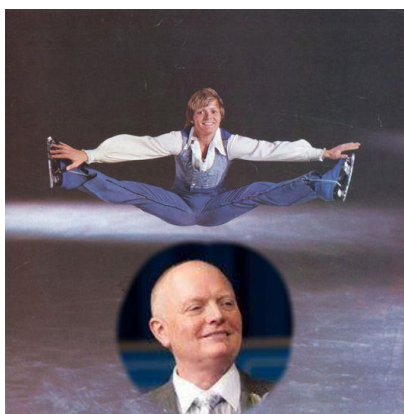
Greenwich says that the rink serves thousands of users each year including figure skaters, public skaters, youth hockey groups for boys and girls, and teams from Greenwich High School.

“At present, the 50-year-old facility has a number of fundamental and critical issues,” Greenwich says. “Notably substandard ice size and inadequate, aging, and non-code-compliant equipment, building systems and fixtures. The town intends to build a new, high quality single rink facility on the property capable of serving town users for the decades to come.”

The Morlot Memorial Park occupies 13.4 acres including the Dorothy Hamill Rink, Strazza Field baseball diamond, a parking lot, a playscape, swing set, the Byram Veterans' Memorial Tree Grove, a wooded area and a grassy hillside.

The new skating rink building would be at the location of the existing rink. It would have an ice skating area measuring 200 feet by 85 feet and seating for 650. There would be locker rooms, a skate shop, lounge, meeting rooms, restrooms, and public lockers.

Where are they now?



A master of the compulsory figures, the native of Dundas, Ontario's legendary work ethic enabled him to become an all-round skater, incorporating powerful jumps, spins and intricate footwork into his programs.

Donald Knight who was born on June 8, 1947 is the 1965-1967 Canadian national champion in men's singles. He won the North American Figure Skating Championships in 1967, having placed third in the previous competition, in 1965. Knight also won the bronze medal at the World Figure Skating Championships in

1965. He trained with coach Ellen Burka.

After retiring from competitive skating, Knight toured for eleven years as a Principal Performer with Ice Capades and Holiday on Ice in Europe. Knight currently works as a skating coach consultant with the Burlington Skate Centre and Oakville Skating Club in Halton Region of Ontario, Canada.

Ice Capades 2025 Reunion New Cruise Update

Ahoy there Mateys!

SAVE THE DATE!

Johnna "J" Bates is **HOSTING** and **COORDINATING**.

APRIL 10th Cocktail Party - on land, at close/local hotel.

APRIL 11th CRUISE LEAVES - Boarding generally begins at Noon, so plan to get to ship early, to get settled in your room. We'll be getting the party started early, while also starting to reconnect with friends!

MORE DETAILS TO COME... as the Event starts to come together!

**Payments for the Ice Capades -Escapades Cruise
are due by January 10, 2025.**

We'll have a good time 🎵

**There is still time to join us! Contact Sheri at scruises@aol.com
(Payment information will need to be sent to her at the email above)**

Have you made your reservation yet?

We can look forward to catching up with old friends and making new ones!

It's getting closer.

You can reach J at dabatej@bellsouth.net

Attendee's list as of May 22, 2024

[Click here](#)

'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...

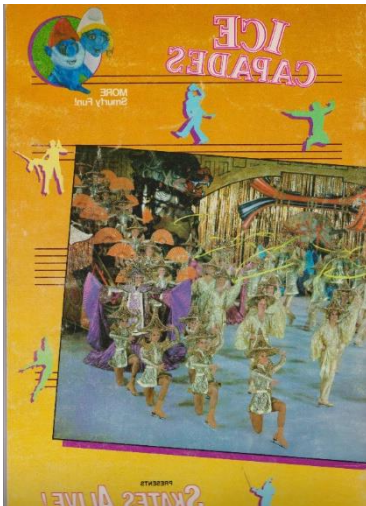
NOTE: PASSPORTS ARE REQUIRED!

Jerry Lee Kidd with some more 'On the Road' memories



Here is another "on the road" story from me. 1979-80 Show "Let's Celebrate" had within it a production number "Latin Fire". This number began with a large motor driven stage driven to center ice with Heidi DeLio Thibert and I believe Michael Shinniman Flamenco Dancing with couples around the stage on the ice. I had wandered backstage and into the set as I often did just to look and check costumes. Freddie Trenkler's number ended with a blackout and count our starts rising, I start to exit the set when I am grabbed each arm by Bob Moskalyk and Mikey Donohue and no matter how I struggled they would not let me go. Then on skates me in

shoes. They drag me to center ice in front of the now arriving stage. I am listening to the announcement and know I don't have very much time before the lights come up. They let me go, now my dilemma, do I try to make it to the dash, or do I try my best to make it back to the set. I chose the latter, I make it to the set just in time but Jules, Ivor and Dave Hansen had seen what was going on and they held the curtain together so that I could not get through. Now I am in panic mode, just seconds before the lights come up, they let me through. Believe me, I never ventured into the set like that again.



Another on the road story. It's 1983 and we are doing "Skates Alive", it's February 11 Friday evening in New York's MSG and it has been snowing most of the day. When we leave the Garden that night its still snowing and traffic is virtually gone. Heading home we go to the liquor store across the street and stop at Quiznos which is still open. We were all sure we would not have to do the early matinee on Saturday morning because of the weather. When we finally went to bed that morning after drinking all night snowfall was over 12 inches so went to sleep for well deserved rest. 8:00AM.... Riiiiinnnnnnngggggg phones ringing all over Southgate Tower, we are doing the show this morning. Lots of hungover people stagger to the Garden through mounds of snow. We find out the show was sold out and if it went on Capades did not have to give refunds. Needless to say, no trains, no buses no public transportation at all. Just before the show was to start Dorothy and I went to look at the audience,

which there was none. There were more ushers than patrons. Dorothy and I went back to wardrobe, got paper plates and drew smiley faces on them and then took them out and taped them to the front row seats. By intermission the crowd had picked up a bit but it was strange seeing the Garden empty. Must have been like a dress rehearsal for the skaters.

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

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