

# Jan Buike Awarded Rose and Scroll

By Karen Russo

"She always has a smile on her face." That was the first thing Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce President Helen Duncan, had to say about Jan Buike. And that was only the beginning. "She doesn't worry about an eight-hour day. If it needs to be done, Jan stays and does it." Duncan was speaking of her neighbor Jan Buike who works across from the Chamber where she has an office at Joslyn Community Center as Older Adult Supervisor.

At the Chamber's recent installation dinner, Jan Buike was awarded the annual Rose and Scroll, the top honor that Manhattan Beach gives for contributions above and beyond the call of duty. Its roots go back to the mid 1940s when the Sepulveda Boulevard Association gave a monthly ward to people who made a difference to the city. Then in June of 1954, the Mid Manhattan League, made up of residents, gave a long-stemmed rose and a parchment scroll to deserving citizens. The next year, the whole procedure of selection and awards was taken over by the Chamber and became an annual rather than monthly event.

Recognizing distinguished service within and out of the city, Rose and Scroll is usually awarded to a person for unusual contributions as a volunteer. Buike has put in plenty of hours volunteering but was recognized also for her work as an employee of the City of Manhattan Beach and formerly of the Beach Cities Health District. She is not just any employee, but one who goes over the top to get the job done. "Nothing is an imposition to her," said Duncan. "She always does more than her share."

Living life on the giving side began a long time ago for Jan Buike. She said her mother always volunteered, and she was brought up to

do the same--to give back to the community. Before coming to Manhattan Beach in 1991, Buike lived in Michigan where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Work and Education at Michigan State. There she taught school as well as serving as Assistant Director of Light House, a non-profit agency offering emergency services, and as Director of Information for United Way.

Once in California, she immediately sought out volunteer opportunities, joining the Junior League in Long Beach and looking into Marymount College. There, with a friend, she founded Shawl House, a rehab location for homeless women suffering from addictions.

Since earning a Masters Degree in Gerontology from CA State Dominguez Hills, Buike spent the last 18 years serving the older adult community in the South Bay, and specifically Manhattan Beach. She is a founding member of KEEP-SAFE, a coalition of law enforcement, financial institutions, and service providers in the South Bay. Meetings are held monthly to provide education and networking to prevent elder abuse, financial exploitation and related issues. Buike also serves as Chair of the Social Service/Law Enforcement Task Force and is on the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Council of Hosting International - American Youth Hostel. As a Care Management Coordinator for Manhattan Beach, the Beach Cities Health District and at South Bay Senior Services, she has helped many senior residents remain independent.

But it has not been all smooth sailing for Buike. Two years ago, just as she was asked to the take over the position of Older Adult Supervisor for Manhattan Beach, she was diagnosed with both uterine and ovarian cancer. Undergoing radiation, chemotherapy

# The 31<sup>st</sup> Season of Concerts in the Park

The Cultural Arts Division of the Manhattan Beach Parks & Recreation Department has announced the line up for its 31<sup>st</sup> season of Concerts in the Park beginning Sunday, June 28 and running through September 6. This eleven-week series takes place on Sundays from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Polliwog Park amphitheater.

The dates and performers are as follows:

- June 28** Hyperion Outfall Serenaders (Dixieland)
- July 5** Sounds of the Supremes (Supremes Tribute)
- July 12** Kate Russell (Country Rock)
- July 19** The Long Run (Eagles Tribute)
- July 26** Scott White and the Bromantics (Classic Rock/Top 40s)
- August 2** La Palabra (Salsa)
- August 9** Fantastic Diamond (Neil Diamond Tribute)
- August 16** Backbeat (Beatles Tribute)
- August 23** Flat Top Tom
- August 30** Brian Lynn Jones and the Misfit Cowboys
- September 6** Stone Soul

The concerts are free. Donations are accepted at most concerts, by mail or in-person at the Parks & Recreation Department in City Hall. Sponsorships are also available by contacting Dalila Ali Rajah, Performing Arts Supervisor, at (310) 802-5417. Handicapped parking is available next to the Historical Society Building in the Polliwog Park on a first come, first serve basis.

In addition to public park rules, which prohibit pets, bikes, scooters and bar-becues in the park, spectators are not allowed to use video or recording equipment, reserve seating or solicit for business in compliance with Musicians Union regulations.

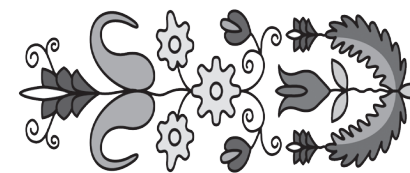
The concert schedule is also available on the city's website at [www.citymb.info](http://www.citymb.info). For further information, contact the Parks & Recreation Department at (310) 802-5448.



and radiation again, she gave thanks for the "incredible support of the community and seniors." She added, "They enabled me to keep working at my new job. And when my hair fell out, they came with hats and caps." At the same time, her wheelchair-bound elderly mother came to live with her until passing away last year. "Again," she said, "my friends in the community all helped. It was a lot of extra work. But I would not have traded that time with my mother for anything."

Now that she her energy is back and she is feeling stronger again, Buike got her bike fixed and has taken to the bike path. It has

been a while, but she used to enjoy swimming, scuba diving and kayaking, and hopes to try those again soon. We wish her well and hope she can find some time for fun, too. It seems she is always at her desk or on a special project for the seniors. As Helen Duncan said, "Jan Buike is an extraordinary person."



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