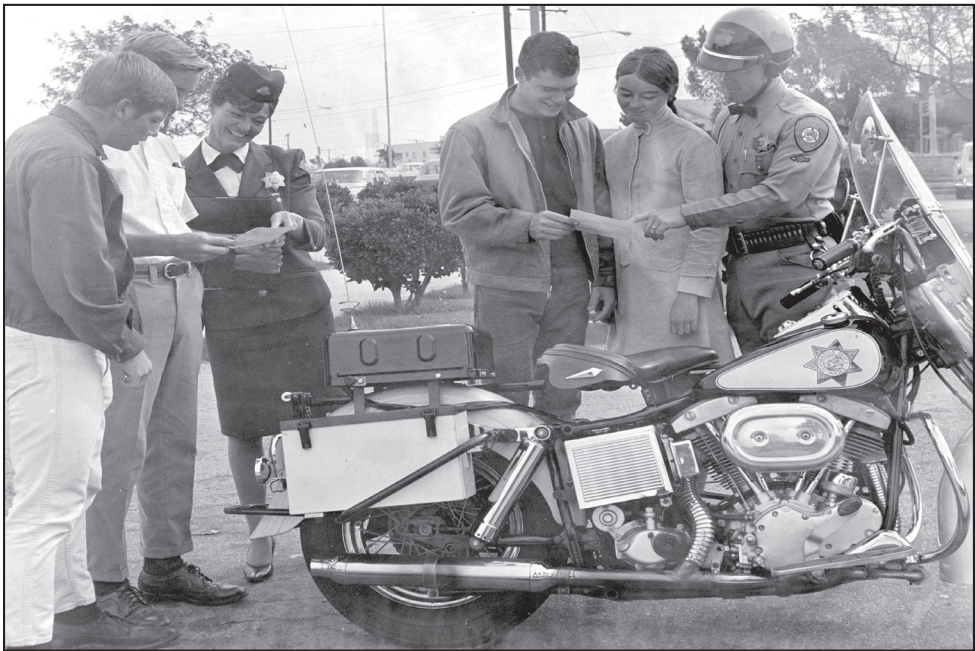


How Well Do You Know Your Town’s History?



Policewoman Betty Andrews worked side by side with department officers as they check the paperwork for motorcycles and bicycles as part of a safety program.

By Jan Dennis

The 1960s saw a flurry of activity in and around police departments across the county. In many cases, there was a lack of respect and appreciation for officers. Here in Manhattan Beach, the residential population enjoyed one of the lowest crime rates in the county. However, that was to change.

With increasing criminal mobility, a larger population and a new police station, training became a major recruitment qualification for all officers. No longer were the officers appointed by the Manhattan Beach City Council, but were required to take a civil service examination, and new officers were sent to the County Sheriff’s Academy for a period of 16 weeks.

The salary for 80 of the first 160 hours of training was paid by the State of California. Manhattan Beach was the first city to qualify for the State Salary Reimbursement Plan. After the Academy, the trainee continued his education for six weeks to two months with the assistance of an officer at the station. Officers were also selected for additional schooling at the F.B.I. Academy in Washington, D.C., various universities and surrounding colleges.

In the course of an officer’s training was the opportunity to participate on the pistol team, which in the early days had a pistol range located off Blanch Road. These teams were skilled and proficient, scoring high honors while traveling to various locations. In 1962 and 1963, the pistol team participated in 24 matches, losing only four of them.

However, it was not all about winning trophies and honors. With crime escalating, law enforcement was doing all it could to make the community aware of the dangers around them. One battle the department had to contain with was youth safety and the increasing rate of young people being picked up by officers for possession of drugs, sexual delinquency and municipal code violations. Having only one juvenile officer, the department reached out to the community. It was evident it needed help in making parents and the community aware of the growing drug-related problems.

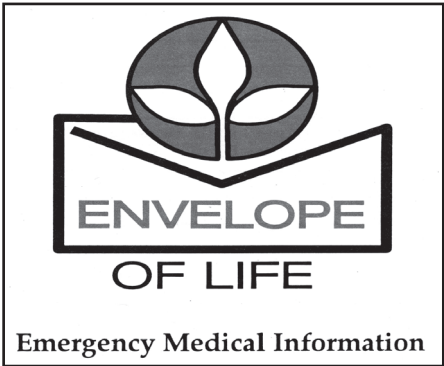
Prior to the hiring of Officer Sandra Leigh, who was the first female officer in Manhattan Beach, women working in the department had office duties only. In 1966, Betty Andrews graduated from the Police Academy in Los Angeles and became the second policewoman to serve on the local force, replacing Leigh as the City’s Juvenile Division Officer. By the end of the year, the department was experiencing an average of 700 juvenile offenses a year and narcotics violations were on the increase.

Safety became everybody’s business, with many education programs such as bicycle and motorcycle safety being put into place.

Another program was the incorporation with the schools, the Dolphins Club and the Police Department to bring a program of traffic

See History, page 19

A Community Service



By Jan Dennis, Founder

With holidays fast approaching, families and guests of all ages sharing happy get-togethers begs the question – Are you prepared for an emergency? Pick up your free “Envelope of Life” packet.

In 1997, an emergency medical information program endorsed by the Manhattan Beach Police and Fire departments was made available to anyone who asked for it. The packet is to this day free and available at the Manhattan Beach City Hall, Police and Fire departments, and at Hillside Pharmacy.

The purpose of the program is to supply important individual health information to assist paramedics, police, fire or others in performing first aid in the home or at the scene of a car accident. The packets contain a form that can be filled out listing blood

Person 1 EMERGENCY MEDICAL INFORMATION

LAST NAME (Print Clearly) _____ FIRST NAME _____ TODAY'S DATE _____

Birthdate _____ Sex _____ Recent or Previous Major Surgery (give Dates) _____

Organ _____ Blood Type _____

My Normal Blood Pressure is _____

My Last Cardiac Exam _____

My Last Cholesterol Exam _____

Medications Taken Regularly (name, strength & dosage) _____

Allergies To Medication _____

Other Allergies _____

Place an X in Box if it applies

HEART PROBLEMS _____

DIABETES _____

ASTHMA _____

HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE _____

SEIZURES _____

CONSENS TO BE ADDED TO MEDICAL RECORD _____

USE OF WHEELCHAIR _____

USE OF GLASSES _____

USE OF HEARING AIDS _____

USE OF DENTURES _____

USE OF BRACE _____

USE OF CRUTCHES _____

USE OF CANE _____

USE OF OTHER _____

Physician's or clinic Phone _____

ANY OTHER MEDICAL INFO _____

Anything Special We Should Know About Your Health _____

type, medications taken, prior medical condition, doctor’s name, allergies, etc. For the home, the form is put into a Ziploc plastic envelope that is placed above the first shelf inside the kitchen refrigerator. **Do not** use in your freezer. For the car, place in the glove compartment. A decal is also provided for each form.

Place the Envelope of Life decal on the front window or door of a household’s main entry, letting emergency personnel know the residents are participating in the program. In the car, place the decal on the inside of the far lower right side of the windshield.

This information program is **not** a substitute for other forms of emergency medical identification, such as a necklace, bracelet or wallet card. Keep your information up-to-date!

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