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by Chris Ball, Plain Dealer Reporter

### **"Accidental Icon: The Real Gidget Story"**

Sandra Dee and Deborah Walley played her in the movies. Sally Field and Karen Valentine played her on television. Did you know there is a real Gidget? This 2010 documentary reveals that a little surfer girl named Kathy Kohner was the true-life basis for this famous pop culture character. As a teenager in Malibu in the summer of 1956, she fell in love with the surfing culture and wrote about it in her diary. Her father, screenwriter Frederick Kohner, wisely translated it into a book, and from there it took off. The film includes interviews with Field, James Darren, Don Stroud, Gregory Harrison and Cliff Robertson. Unrated, 60 minutes. No extras. From MVD Visual. Released Sept. 27.