



Familiar sight: Alice waiting for the bus at the County Center

Alice: She Does What She Damn Well Pleases

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Alice Earl Wilder has received yet another accolade, this one from the California Monthly, publication of her alma mater, University of California at Berkeley.

Alice, who recently celebrated her 90th birthday with a number of parties given in her honor, is the subject of an article on pages 16-17, written by Sara Holmes Boutelle of Santa Cruz.

The Lady in the Red Hat, as Alice is known, explains that her philosophy of life which includes giving some time each day to community service, comes directly from her father, Guy Earl, Class of 1883 at UC Berkeley.

Earl, who also became a state senator, was a member of the UC Board of Regents for 32 years and conducted a private law practice.

However, he once said that "No one could afford not to give some time each day to community service," according to Alice.

Alice follows that advice every day and has, all her life. Her concern for community and county affairs has led to

her other name: The Sixth Supervisor. She regularly attends all county supervisorial meetings.

Alice graduated from UC Berkeley in 1912 with a degree in social economics, the term in those days for social welfare work.

Alice has also been the subject of a special pictorial display at the Santa Cruz County Octagon Historical Museum also, where the photographs used with this article originally appeared.

Included in the Berkeley article was Alice's quote: "I have never been paid for what I do and I never intend to be. You see, I don't have to run for election, don't have to worry about recall. I do anything I damn well please!"

Today, as she has for many years, Alice pleases to maintain a downtown Santa Cruz office from which she carries on her extensive county business.

She makes her home in Ben Lomond in the house she came to in 1934, a house which for years has been headquarters for the many members of the Wilder Clan.



Alice in 1912 as Atigone