



The Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard
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Since its very beginnings the people of Fillmore have been interested in improving the Face of Fillmore and its progress in several areas.

City beautification has certainly been a goal for over 100 years. In early pictures we have seen in past columns, we notice the picket fences around the older homes as they were built. These were to define the yards where flowers and bushes were planted to increase their beauty, and keep the livestock out. The earliest flowers were wild flowers brought from the hills surrounding town or starts of plants carried carefully in wagons and on horseback from former yards and gardens.

Groups organized in Fillmore for beautification improvement purposes, as in the First Capitol Main Street Beautification Committee, organized four years ago.

Those of us who have lived here several years will remember a great lady whose efforts brought about many improvement to the Face of Fillmore. Stella Huntsman Day will long be remembered for her efforts in beautifying Fillmore. She began a garden club which met often and shared ideas as well as plant starts and hints for improving the gardens of its members. A youth group was also started with the same goals in mind. She could be seen, even in her older years, weeding flowerbeds in city parks.

A February 1981 issue of the Progress newspaper details an award won by Stella Day's organization. It was presented on February 18 of that year by a representative of Governor Scott Matteson's office. Fillmore took third place in a contest sponsored by the Governor's office to encourage growth and progress in Utah's communities. The award was for "Most Overall Progress" and brought with it a \$100 check for the community. A tidy sum in those days.

Stella's involvement included the compiling of scrapbooks to show the progress Fillmore had made at community improvements. These were donated to the city for its permanent history.

Additionally, Stella wrote a column for the Progress entitled "Our



Jerry Winger presents check for \$100 to Councilwoman Doris Rasmussen awarded to city for the "Most Overall Progress." Left to right are Councilman Don Stuart, Councilwoman Rasmussen, Councilman Robert Nielson, Daisy Rogers, Stella Day, Mrs. Winger, Councilman Duane Baugh [behind Mrs. Winger], City Recorder Carol Wise, and Councilman Jim Cox. Photo by Marge Barton



Town”. The column in the same issue as the award article was about George Washington and his accomplishments, highlighting the freedoms we all enjoy.

She was busy in many facets of community and church life and her boundless energy impressed all who knew her.

Stella was the daughter of Gabriel and Hannah Hanson Huntsman. He is remembered as being the owner of the general mercantile store that was located in the Bradshaw Auto Parts Building on Main Street just south of Center Street. Stella, born on October 30, 1888, was the fourth of six children. She married Richard Ervin Day who died in 1963. They had three children: Belva, Ervin, and Glade. Ervin was a pharmacist and owned the Fillmore Drug, which his daughter continued after his passing.

Stella passed away on January 31, 1985, but left her permanent mark in many areas of Fillmore’s beautification and her name will always be connected with improving the Face of Fillmore.

As I have written the Face of Fillmore, one of the greatest compliments I have been given was being compared to Stella Day.