



Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard
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To casual passersby who might drive up and down a few streets in Fillmore just for a break from their travels, the town of Fillmore might look quite undesirable at this time of year. After all, residents appear to be quite junky, pulling garage out of their yards and piling it along the streets along with tree limbs and assorted other eyesores.

In reality, it is that time of year to cleanup our yards and with the service of city employees and their large trucks and heavy equipment, have it hauled off. I think I can speak for everyone in town when I say thank you for this yearly service.

Cleanups come in other forms as well. Just a week ago, our ward met at the church to divide and conquer some of the yards in our ward boundary that needed some TLC then meeting again for lunch. (Cleanups always seem to need refreshments.)

Neighbors are seen helping neighbors to make the tasks seem lighter.

This year the Fillmore Elementary School got into the process with their North Park Cleanup Day. Over 120 students, parents, teachers and friends showed up on the evening on April 24 to do a variety of projects at the park. Under the direction of PTA Members Amber Kelsey, Jamie Monroe and Davinna Kunz, the group was divided into sections picking up garbage, cleaning under the pine trees, weeding, raking gravel, and begin spreading new sand on the baseball field infield area. Hot dogs with the trimmings were served to hungry workers at the end. Thanks, too, to Principal Harold Robison for this worthwhile project.



Piles of limbs waiting to be picked up by Fillmore City employees.



Fillmore Elementary students spreading sand on the infield at the North Park.

City beautification has certainly been a goal for the 170 years that Fillmore has been in existence. 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 over a decade 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 and others of her friends could be seen, even in their older years, weeding flowerbeds in city parks.

In his monthly newsletter, Mayor Mike Holt encouraged us all to get into the spirit of making Fillmore a beautiful place to live. It is hoped everyone will join this effort.