



Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard
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As we travel around the state, we have been impressed with the beauty of many Main Streets and their floral displays. My question was: Where are Fillmore's flowers?

Several years ago, large displays of petunias hung from the lamp posts along Main, but these soon disappeared. From what I have been told, it seemed no one thought it was their responsibility to keep them watered. For a while a city councilwoman rode her four-wheeler around watering them, but then her baby was due and that ended. It seemed no one wanted to help out and the flowers soon were gone.

Imagine my surprise about a month ago, when there were petunias once again on the lamp posts. It seems that Neil Stevens, the new owner of the floral shop on the south end of town, had gone to the city council with the request to once again hang flowers and help make Main Street more attractive. At first, he was turned down, but a few weeks later the answer to a "yes".

Flowers were ordered and he and his stuff hung them. The city is paying for the flowers, as well as a small paycheck to Neil for his services. (It isn't actually enough to pay his vehicle's gas each day, much less his time.) He waters the plants every day, including Sunday's, and gives them a boost of Miracle Gro when needed.

At first the balls of petunias were small and not too noticeable, but now they are flourishing and adding bright color to our town.

Neil has hopes of even more and better displays in the coming year.

Thanks for making our town more attractive!

