

## The Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard

I am grateful for many things at this time of year. I love it when people are willing to share family stories that I have no way of knowing. Part of the excitement of writing The Face of Fillmore is when someone says to me: "I thought you'd might want to know a little more about the story you wrote a while back." Of course, I want to know and so do my readers.

Soon after I wrote about the building which houses Signature Realty, I received an email from Vance Wilson. He did tell me there was no need for a follow-up article, but I beg to differ. I often hear positive comments about "the rest of the story" so I am always anxious to share.

I hope Vance doesn't mind my quoting him.

"Indeed, it was at one-time a filling station. Grandma Jane and Grandpa Vance Wilson bought the building in 1937 and remodeled half of the front for his law practice, and the rest for the newspaper and printing business. The most rear portion of the building was added in the '60s to house a new four-page press for the newspaper; it was a book press that was sold for scrap to my family, and rather than bolting it to the floor, they used epoxy glue to keep it in place.

"According to Stella Day's book, May Labrum took over the beauty shop next to Swallow's in 1937. She was Grandma's beautician for the next 40 years, and came out of retirement to fix Gram's hair one final time in preparation for her viewing and burial in 1980."

The story of Fillmore is like a giant jigsaw puzzle and continuing to piece it together is a highlight of what I do. Thanks to all those who continue to help me with that endeavor.

