



Petunia Queen, 80 Years Young, is Best of Taylorsville

In 1986, Jennette Ashby and her husband left their Taylorsville home to serve a mission for their church in Minnesota. At the time, their yard was overgrown with unruly fruit trees, shrubs and weeds. When they returned home 18 months later, the Ashbys decided their yard would become an eye-pleasing addition to the neighborhood instead of an eyesore. Today, Jennette's yard, located at 3291 Bitter Root Circle, is a colorful, flowery gem that caught the judge's eye as this month's Best of Taylorsville award winner.

Though the Ashby property has many attractive touches, the name of the landscape game is petunias. Jennette- age 80 going on age 39 - plants and replants dozens of petunias throughout the growing season. The park strips are covered with every imaginable shade of petunia. They compliment many other varieties of flowers and shrubs including clematis, hot poker, peonies, phlox, morning glory (the good kind), and bleeding hearts. She also boasts a prolific vegetable garden and an apple tree sagging with worm-free fruit, a tribute to her rigorous spraying regimen.

Jennette spends a couple of hours a day keeping the Ashby property in shape; it's condition reflecting the bright and positive outlook of its caretaker.

During the first city council meeting in November, Jennette will receive a beautiful plaque donated by Crown Trophy and a basket of goodies from Great Harvest Bread Company. We give special thanks to Nate Barton, and Rand and JoEllen Kunz, owners of these two great civic-minded Taylorsville establishments.

The Taylorsville Leisure Arts, Recreation and Parks Committee (LARP) would like to thank all who helped recognize city residents and businesses whose property care continue to contribute to the beauty of our great city. After a break for the winter season, the Best of Taylorsville award will once again be awarded monthly beginning in April of 2010.