

Esther McCoy week at the Herald Star Newspaper:

Page 2E Sunday Feb 24, 2013

Valley Life



I went to talk to Flora VerStraten-Merrin, president of the Jefferson County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society, about the project they just completed in their quest to get old records received from the Jefferson County Courthouse digitalized for all the world to see on a free website.

They are so proud to have all the probate packets digitalized and now will go on to the wills and ledgers. This is a tremendous boon for those into genealogy.

All the volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints are so endearing. I noticed when I took a picture of the group that couples Albert and Lynn Mooney and Bill and Beverly Pace were holding hands. They are wonderful to talk to and willing to explain things I did not know. And I made the mistake of using the word geology rather than genealogy to the Mooneys. Lynn had a big grin on her face when she said in a kind way that she was interested in rocks as well, but this was genealogy. If there is a mistake to make, I will do it!

An open house will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. March 11 at the Church of Latter-day Saints in Wintersville.

They will have 5-minute videos on how to access the program and how it came about. The public is invited to be there.

(McCoy a resident of Smithfield, is food editor and a staff columnist for the Herald-Star and The Weirton Daily Times. She can be contacted at emccoy@heraldstaronline.com.)