

Ancestor Digging

I have been doing some ancestor tracing during all of my "at home" time and have found out some things I have never known. I have discovered that if we search the lives of our family trees, there is so many fascinating details that we have never known that comes to light.

For instance, my great grandfather on my daddy's side married a woman whose family came to America from Ireland. She was of small stature with beautiful red hair and very fair complexion. She died from some mysterious illness in her forties after giving birth to ten children. Several of her grandchildren and great grandchildren were also blessed with the beautiful red hair. Her husband, my granddaddy was very poor and lived in an old pre-Civil War house out from Carmack close to Zilpher Creek, the old Dick Strain house. He raised cotton on the old place that once grew cotton on many acres and had share-croppers homes dotted here and there on the many acres of land during the early years before and during the war. At that time, he barely pulled a living out of the poor soil.

During my childhood we would visit this old place on Sundays, and it was the most fascinating place for my young imagination. I had a cousin that was my age and we explored the dilapidated old house from top to bottom many times.

When the house was built, like all built in this time period, the kitchen was detached from the main house and

was located behind the big house in a smaller building. They were concerned with fires inside the main house. The little building was still somewhat standing, though barely and we surely rambled through all the rubbish.

The kitchen had been moved inside by the time my family lived there tak-

ing one of the downstairs bedrooms for the sake of cooking.

We dug up all kinds of "treasures" from the grounds, such as broken glass and bottles, iron pieces, and just any and everything that was so fas-



Peggy's Take

inating to me.

The old house has long ago fallen and it cannot be seen from the road now, but if you trudge through the tall brush and trees from the road west of

Carmack, you will find a heap of stones, bricks, and all my memories of the Old Strain House.

FRESH STRAWBERRY PIE
You can make your own pie crust, or you can cheat like me and buy it already made. 1 Pie crust, 3/4 cup of sugar, 2 T. cornstarch, 1 cup of water, 1 3oz. package of strawberry Jell-O, 4 cups sliced strawberries and whipped cream. Bake

pie crust and cool. In a pan, combine sugar, cornstarch, and water until smooth. Bring to a boil and cook until thick. Remove from heat and stir in Jell-O until dissolved. Refrigerate until cool. Arrange strawberries in the crust. Pour gelatin mix over berries and refrigerate until set. Add whipped cream to the top.

** Peggy Sims is a life-long resident of Attala County and columnist.*

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Happy Anniversary

August 20 - Victor and Ashley Nolan

August 21 - Terry and Margaret Ables, Stephen and Helen Joe

August 22 - Jesse and Sandy Gilbert, Donnie and Adrienne Bryant, Jim and Kristen Yawn

August 23 - Mike and Beadie Pierce

August 24 - Allen and Linda Rogers

August 25 - Kyle and Nikki Langford, Justin and Lyndsey Flynn, Kirk and Misty Goering

To add your birthdays and anniversaries to our list, please send your information by mail to P.O. Box 60, Lexington, MS 39095; fax 662-834-1074; email hcherald@gmail.com; or stop by our office at 308 Court Square in Lexington. No phone calls, please.



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