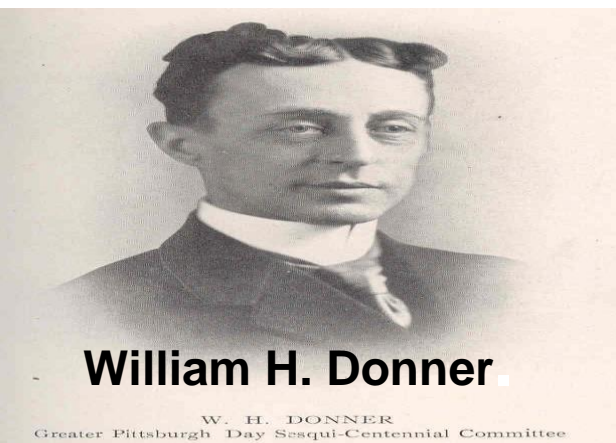


# VALLEY HISTORIAN



## Greater Monessen Historical Society

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Vol.14 Issue 3 SUMMER 2014 (August)



## Come to Monessen City Park on August 16, 2014 for Founders Day!

Join us at Monessen City Park for our annual Founders Day of Living History on Saturday, August 16, 2014 from 10 AM until 5 PM or later!

As part of our Civil War festival in honor of Monessen Founder, Colonel James M. Schoonmaker, re-enactors from the 11<sup>th</sup> P.V.I. Company K. Inc. and the 11 Pennsylvania Reserve Infantry Company F will set up authentic Civil War camps to showcase a living history view of camp life during the War of the Rebellion.

The festival will include food vendors, booths, local authors, displays and fun for all.

Monessen City Park is located in the Park Plan section of the City along Grand Boulevard.

See displays of Civil War relics, cooking demonstrations over open fires, fife music, demonstrations of encampment, soldier life, their equipment, tents and uniforms, as well as children's activities.

## Living History Schedule

Soldier drills: 11 AM, 1 PM, 3 PM., include inspection of arms, loading in 9 times, firing by company, file and rank.

Children's activities: Immediately following Soldier Drill will include drilling with the soldiers using wooden guns, demonstrating the accuracy of Civil War bullets using round and spherical balls, old time games and Victorian Era dress up for photo opportunities. Don't forget your camera!

We hope to see you there!

## The Party Continues!

**Mark your calendars because on Friday, September 19, 2014, our celebration of Colonel James M. Schoonmaker continues as we commemorate the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of his famous cavalry charge on Fort Star during the Third Battle of Winchester. To celebrate, we will have free cake for those visiting the Monessen Heritage Museum and signing the registry on that day. For his services during the battle, Colonel Schoonmaker was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by the President of the United States. After becoming the Vice President of the mighty Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Railroad, he formed the East Side Land**

**Company in Pittsburgh and created the town of Monessen. The Colonel was an ardent supporter of the town and a regular visitor for the rest of his life.**

### **Monessen Heritage Museum Hours**

The Monessen Heritage Museum, at the corner of Fifth and Donner, is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 AM until 3 PM. Free admission. We can also schedule special evening and weekend tours by appointment.



**GMHS Treasurer Vito Beneccio, Fulvia Chitester, who was given the honor of cutting the ribbon, Shirley Beneccio and GMHS President Daniel Zygłowicz at the dedication of the Brown Street Clock. Vito and Shirley came dressed in the Edwardian fashions of 1909.**

### **Brown Street Clock Dedication**

The Greater Monessen Historical Society conducted the dedication of the restored Brown Street Clock in front of Monessen's Public Safety Building on Donner Avenue on July 26, 2014. Benjamin Eli Brown and his brother Walter experimented and perfected a reliable, weather resistant and reasonably priced street clock, which was sold through the Brown Jewelry Store, at 532 Donner Avenue, beginning in 1909, and at their Donora jewelry store location. Production on the clocks continued until approximately 1930. Monessen's Brown Street Clocks could be found in cities across the United

States. Monessen's original Brown Street Clock stood for many years at Fifth and Donner in front of the Monessen Savings and Trust Company Building.



**Slabey Essey, U.S. Army Doughboy, World War I, 1918.**

### **Veterans Exhibit**

The City of Monessen will host this year's Mon Valley Veterans Day parade on November 8, 2014. As part of the celebration, the Heritage Museum will be the site for a Veterans Exhibit, which will last through the end of the year.

Photos and military items are needed for the displays. Photos of veterans can either be brought to the museum for scanning during regular business hours or emailed to: [Monessen@verizon.net](mailto:Monessen@verizon.net) . Items can also be donated to GMHS.

Photos are especially needed showing Mon Valley vets of the Spanish American War in 1898, Korea, Vietnam and the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts.

Look for us in the Mon Valley Veterans Day Parade! Stop at the Museum that day and see the Veterans Exhibit!



### **Hungry for some good food?**

October is an important month in the history of the Slovak people. Join us on Sunday, October 19, 2014 for a delicious Slovak Take-Out Dinner. Purchase tickets at the Heritage Museum or from board members. We are partnering with the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association to commemorate the Independence Day of the First Czechoslovak Republic proclaimed in 1918, as the old Hapsburg Monarchy crumbled with the ending of World War I. The meal will feature an entrée of stuffed cabbage and delicious side dishes.

### **Yearly Fund Appeal**

Our Annual Fund Appeal and Membership Drive begins in October. Please be generous. The Historical Society is owned by all of our members, friends, benefactors and sponsors. We cannot accomplish our mission of preserving the industrial heritage and cultural traditions of our immigrant ancestors without your support. We also need to grow! Encourage family members, neighbors, friends and co-workers to join GMHS.

### **You Tube**

We now have our own presence on You Tube. Log in to:

<http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9FUZsueocHd4ByCdfT7Q>

At present, we have a documentary video of George Essey narrating the history of the Syrians through our Syrian Exhibit panels. Check it out! Other videos will soon be added!

We are also on Facebook under “Greater Monessen Historical Society”. Spread the word. “Like” us and help us grow!!!! ☺

### **Memorials & Tributes**

In memory of Edith Bergstein Hollander by Dr. Martin and Mrs. Madeline Dudas.

In honor of Suzy Broadhurst by her “Book Club”.

### **One Hundred Years ago in the newspapers August -- October, 1914**

Nick Zarpas, the well-known popcorn and peanut man, has purchased a new \$1,200 popcorn wagon, which will be placed at the Monessen Hotel on the corner of Donner Avenue and Fifth Street. The butter and salt are mechanically mixed with the corn while popping and the peanuts are roasted on a scientific plan. (08-01-1914) Daily Independent

Louis Vaczek, the Austro-Hungarian Consul, instructed the Roman Catholic churches to announce to the more than 10,000 subjects of Emperor Franz Joseph, who are living in Westmoreland County, to prepare to return to the Old Country to join in the war with Serbia. (08-01-1914) Daily Independent

An application was made to the Westmoreland County Court of Common Pleas for a charter for “The Ruthenian Literary and Beneficial Association of Monessen”. (08-01-1914) Daily Independent

Peter Netzlaf, a Russian miner, traveled to Greensburg on August 4, 1914 to the office of the Prothonotary. He asked to renounce his allegiance to Tsar Nicholas II. He has been in the United States for seven years. Many other applications for naturalization have been filed in Westmoreland County during the past few days. (08-05-1914) Daily Independent

Captain Anderson has rented a ground floor room in the Spiegelberg Building at the corner of Schoonmaker and Fourth Street for use as the headquarters of the Salvation Army. (08-06-1914) Daily Independent

A weather vane has been installed on the power house at the Pittsburgh Steel Mill. The idea is to time the slips at the furnaces to the favorable wind conditions, so the dust is carried away from the city. (08-11-1914) Daily Independent

The New Monessen Theatre, Schoonmaker Avenue and Fifth Street, will open on August 11, 1915 as a full-fledged motion picture house. A new fireproof operation booth was erected in the balcony. The opening presentation will be Mary Pickford in "A Good Little Devil". The attraction has six reels. (08-11-1914) Daily Independent

Monessen has a new cigar factory located in the Shrader Building, Schoonmaker Avenue and Rostraver Street. It is owned by Albert Teupel, of Wheeling, West Virginia and uses the best Dutch filler and Connecticut wrapper. Ask for "Teupel's Big Havana" from local merchants. (08-12-1914) Daily Independent

Henry Byers, the Assistant Postmaster, is practicing with his old musket on the rats in the vacant lots behind the post office in case he is called back to fight for the Motherland. He is a friend of Kaiser Wilhelm. (08-13-1914) Daily Independent

Captain and Mrs. Ives are heading the new Salvation Army, which was opened on August 15 and 16 with large crowds at all the meetings, both on the streets and in the newly rented hall. (08-17-1914) Daily Independent

George Sawa, an Austrian miner employed at Wilpen, attempted suicide by firing a gun into his right lung over depression at his inability to return home to fight and save the Emperor Franz Joseph's Empire. He is 27 years old, single and has been here for three years. (08-17-1914) Daily Independent

Sixteen Austrians employed by the Keystone Coal Company in Greensburg were notified to leave for New York to return home to fight for the Austro-Hungarian Empire. (08-18-1914) Daily Independent

The cornerstone of the new Greek Orthodox Church on Ninth Street, near Knox Avenue, will be placed on August 30, 1914 with impressive ceremonies attended by various Assyrian and Greek priests. The church will be ready by November 1. (08-26-1914) Daily Independent

The new home of the Elks on Seventh Street is completed. The structure was erected at a cost of \$35,000. The Monessen lodge has a membership of three hundred and fifty. (09-01-1914) Daily Independent

Patrons of Monessen's Luna Theatre are assured that every attraction is clean and approved by the Moving Picture Board of Censors. It is fit for wives and every child down to the smallest tot. (09-08-1914) Daily Independent

Connellsville school teachers may date only on Friday nights. The school directors take the view that a teacher cannot do justice to their pupils unless she has a good night's rest. Last year the teachers were told not to dance the tango, because it set a bad example. Two years ago it was recommended by the president of the board that each teacher take a daily bath. (09-09-1914) Daily Independent

The Owens Family sisters held a reunion at the home of S. L. Ross on Reed Avenue with dinner, music and games. In total, there were thirty nine guests. (09-14-1914) Daily Independent

Tom B. Cowan, the manager of the Star Theatre, has installed a "Solo Orchestration" made by the J. P. Seebury Piano Company of Chicago at a cost of \$2,000. It is a marvel of design and orchestration giving the effect of violin, piccolo, flute, clarinet, piano, mandolin, bass and snare drums, triangle, timpani, castanets and xylophone. The case is made of mission oak with carved wood sides. (09-19-1914) Daily Independent

The High School pupils, led by Madison, Herron and Odbert, marched into school on October 2, 1914 dressed in black and white clothing. Some had one black sock and one white sock or a black skirt with white waist. All wore black and white ribbons and sashes. Superintendent of Schools H. E. Gress and Professor N.

H. Phillips felt this was indecent and demanded the girls return home to dress in proper clothing. The student body erupted in mutiny, and the authorities decided to let the matter rest after saying it should not happen again. (10-05-1914) Daily Independent

The Salvation Army moved from Fourth and Schoonmaker to No. 45 Seventh Street, near Schoonmaker Avenue, where a larger room has been found. (10-15-1914) Daily Independent

Emanuel Feldman has opened a new meat market in the room formerly occupied by the Johnson Meat Market. (10-23-1914) Daily Independent

The Wayman Chapel Historical Literary Society will hold its fourteenth anniversary in the A. M. E. Church on Reed Avenue on October 26-27, 1914. It is Monessen's oldest literary society, which was started by Alex Pangburn. The society is recognized as the strongest and most progressive one in the Western Pennsylvania. (10-24-1914) Daily Independent

#### **Late Summer and early Autumn weddings, anniversaries and engagements of 1914**

Mr. and Mrs. Gustave Leclercq, 505 Tenth Street, celebrated their fortieth wedding anniversary on August 2, 1914. (08-04-1914) Daily Independent

William J. Foster, former manifest clerk at the Tin Mill, married Miss Mamie B. Stutsan, of Mishawaka, Indiana last week. (08-05-1914) Daily Independent

John Baptist Henrion, of Charleroi, an employee of the West Side Electric Street Railway Company, and Miss Jane Gee, of Lock Four, were married on August 6, 1914 at St. Jerome's Roman Catholic Church rectory in Charleroi. (08-07-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Bertha M. Matthews, of Percy, will marry Wilbur T. Thompson, of Charleroi, at Shady Grove Park on August 7, 1914. (08-07-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Martha Cordelia Hassen married Williard E. McCain, of Erie on August 5, 1914. (08-08-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Gertrude Wind, of Monessen, and Martin Herskovitz, of Natrona, were married in McKeesport on August 11, 1914. The groom is a grocer in Natrona. (08-11-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Bertha Matthews, of Percy, and Wilbur Jennings, of Charleroi, were married on August 6, 1914 in the band stand of Shady Grove Park. (05-19-1914) Daily Independent (Varies from previous article on August 7, 1914)

Robert Bowness secretly took a bride recently. (08-14-1914) Daily Independent

Bowes Barker was married five weeks ago. (08-14-1914) Daily Independent

Walter H. Hall, of Monessen, and Miss Sarah Nicholls, of Pricedale, were united in marriage on August 13, 1914 at the groom's new home on Schoonmaker, below Scales Store. (08-15-1914) Daily Independent

Herbert Steinman and Miss Rose Vetter were married on August 14, 1914 in Cumberland after eloping on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The bride is a graduate of California Normal and is a teacher in the Charleroi schools. The groom is employed at the Uniontown Daily Record. He previously was a pressman for the Monessen Friday Evening Call. He is also a sharpshooter with the Monongahela National Guard. The couple will live in Uniontown. (08-17-1914) Daily Independent

Henry Mitchell, of Monongahela, has filed for divorce from his wife. They were married in February of 1913 and lived together one year before separating. (08-17-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Elizabeth M. Eley, of Scottdale, and Joseph A. Lafferty, of Monessen, were married on August 17, 1914 in St. Leonard's Roman Catholic Church in Monessen. The groom is employed by the Pittsburgh Steel Company. The bride is a graduate of California Normal and for several years taught school in Stockdale. They will live in the groom's home on Second Street. (08-17-1914) Daily Independent

E. M. Fall and Mary E. Maliniak, of Monessen, received a marriage license in Greensburg on August 18, 1914. (08-19-1914) Daily Independent

Samuel Carcara and Sophie Dominick, of Monessen, received a marriage license in Greensburg on August 18, 1914. (08-19-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Ethel Herron, of Meade Street, Monongahela, announced her engagement to Dr. George K. Hays, of Monongahela on August 18, 1914. They will have a fall wedding. (08-19-1914) Daily Independent

Andrew Steinitz, of Pittsburgh, and Miss Anna Janavitz, of Monessen, received a marriage license in Pittsburgh on August 19, 1914. They will be married on August 23, 1914 in the synagogue. (08-20-1914) Daily Independent

A. W. Ferren and Miss Jessie Sutman, of Monessen, were united in marriage on August 20, 1914 in Pittsburgh. The groom is employed by the Page Woven Wire Fence Company. The bride is a Monessen public school teacher. (08-20-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Mary Maliniak, of Monessen, and Emil Fall, of North Girard, were united in marriage on August 20, 1914 at the Greek Catholic Church, Schoonmaker and Eighth Street. The groom is employed by the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad Co. He was also a former Monessen policeman. They will live in North Girard. (08-21-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Ethel Kindrick, of Charleroi, and John S. Metz, of North Charleroi, were married on August 20, 1914. (08-22-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Katherine Adele Heuple, of Charleroi, and Karl Schempp, of Donora, were united in marriage on August 20, 1914. (08-22-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Anna Janavitz, of Monessen, and Andrew Steinitz, of Pittsburgh, were married in the Monessen synagogue on August 23, 1914. (08-24-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Anna Hornack, of Monessen, and M. T. Hildreth, a prosperous businessman, of Texarkana, Arkansas, were secretly married on July 17, 1914, while the bride was supposedly on vacation. (08-26-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Nellie Clark Gabriel, of Belle Vernon, and Robert Robson, of Rostraver Township, were married in Uniontown on August 26, 1914. (08-29-1914) Daily Independent

David Wells McDowell and Miss Virginia Smith eloped to Wellsburg, West Virginia on August 31, 1914. The bride was employed for six months as a clerk for the A. R. Ney Store. The groom is a chemist at the Pittsburgh Steel Company and lives in Pittsburgh. He is also a member of the Page Baseball Team. (09-01-1914) Daily Independent

William Simpson, of Stockdale, and Miss Lulu Gregg, of California were granted a marriage license in Pittsburgh. It is believed they were wed on August 29, 1914. The

bride was the principal of Linden Elementary School, but resigned last week. (09-01-1914) Daily Independent

I. N. Wakefield, of Belle Vernon, who is the president and manager of the Charleroi Iron Works, and Miss Anna Gilkey, of Wellsburg, West Virginia, were married on September 1, 1914. They will reside on Speer Street, Belle Vernon. (09-03-1914) Daily Independent

Edward Leonard, of McKee Avenue, Monessen, and Miss Florence Layton, of Belle Vernon, were united in marriage on September 2, 1914 by Squire Watkins. The groom is employed at the Page Woven Wire Fence Company. They will live in Belle Vernon with the bride's parents. (09-03-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Lois Greer and Cassius Duvall have reportedly married, while the bride was supposedly away on vacation before entering school next week. She is seventeen and the groom is twenty-three. The groom is an engineer for the Pittsburgh Steel Company. (09-03-1914) Daily Independent

Arlie McFall and Miss Malissa Hendrickson, of Belle Vernon, were united in marriage on September 2, 1914 at Riverview. After the wedding reception, the bride and groom were placed in a buggy drawn by a mule and taken through the streets of Lock Four and Charleroi to the music of horns and tin cans. The groom is a roller at the Monessen Tin Mill. (09-03-1914) Daily Independent

David W. McDowell and Edward Leonard, both of Monessen, became grooms recently. (09-04-1914) Daily Independent

Alvin Wilkinson, of Belle Vernon and Mary Cowers, of Gibsonton, left for the Washington County Fair, but instead eloped to Cumberland, Maryland last week. They have returned and been forgiven. (09-07-1914) Daily Independent

Nelle Boore, of Linden Avenue, will be married on September 10, 1914. (09-07-1914) Daily Independent

Ernest Leonard and Miss Marie Dubar eloped and were married in Wellsburg, West Virginia on September 5, 1914. The bride was supposedly visiting relatives in McKeesport. The groom is a craneman at the Pittsburgh Steel Mill. They will reside on McKee Avenue. (09-08-1914) Daily Independent

Samuel A. Davis, of Monessen, and Miss Beulah F. Miller, of Pittsburgh, were married on September 9, 1914. The groom is in charge of the hospital of the American Sheet and Tin Plate Company of Monessen. (09-09-1914) Daily Independent

James A. Harper and Bessie Gaster, both of Monessen, received a marriage license in Pittsburgh on September 8, 1914. (09-09-1914) Daily Independent

Andrew Steinitz recently was wed. (09-10-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Nelle Florence Boore and W. Morse Ney were wed on September 10, 1914. The bride is a graduate of Monessen High School, while the groom works in his father's dry goods store. The groom has built a new bungalow at the corner of Knox and Oneida Street. (09-10-1914) Daily Independent

William Frederick Vetter and Miss Edith Myrl Heupel, both of Charleroi, received a marriage license on September 10, 1914 at Cumberland, Maryland. (09-11-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Corriene Arnold of Monessen, and Frank B. Walthrom, of Versailles, were married in Pittsburgh, on September 12, 1914. (09-12-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Nellie Grable, of Monessen, and George H. Harding, of Duquesne, were married on September 14, 1914 at McKees Rocks. They will live in Duquesne. (09-15-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Anna Harrington and J. Whitney Soisson, both of Connellville, were married there at Immaculate Conception Church on September 16, 1914. The groom previously was an owner of Mentzer Book Store in Monessen. (09-16-1914) Daily Independent

Wilbert Hussman and Miss Sarille Booth were married in Bentleyville on September 17, 1914. (09-21-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Anna Smith, of Roscoe, and Patrick Reilly, of Monessen, will marry on September 22, 1914. The groom is the manager of the Pittsburgh Brewing Company. They will reside in Monessen. (09-21-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Elizabeth Schnur, of Monessen, and John Frick, of Fair Haven, were wed on September 22, 1914 at

Monessen's St. Leonard's Roman Catholic Church. (09-22, 1914) Daily Independent

Joseph Konopinski and Miss Anna Wantz, both of Monessen, eloped to Pittsburgh and were married on September 22, 1914. The bride is a waitress at the Donovan Hotel, while the groom owns a meat market at 85 Schoonmaker Avenue. (09-22-1914) Daily Independent (Additional articles on Sept. 25-26.)

Mary Critzer, of New Kensington, has filed for divorce from Harry Critzer. They were married on May 6, 1913. (09-24-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Viola Bertha Oller, of Washington Avenue, Charleroi, and Claude C. Jenkins were married on September 29, 1914. The groom is first baseman on the Independent Baseball Club of Monongahela. (09-30-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Ethel Herron, of Monongahela, married Dr. George Kennedy Hays, of Monongahela, on October 15, 1914. The couple will live in Monongahela. (10-16-1914) Daily Independent

Mrs. Pearl Holmes, of 543 Schoonmaker Avenue, and Richard Gibson, of Monessen, were united in marriage on October 12, 1914 in Greensburg. The groom is employed at the Pittsburgh Steel Company. They will live in the flat over the Ginsburg Second Hand Furniture Store. (10-16-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Rose Levendorf, of 419 Park Way, is engaged to Frank Lincoff, of Braddock. (10-17-1914) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. William Gazaway celebrated their fifteenth wedding anniversary at their home on Grant Street on October 16, 1914 with a re-enactment of their wedding service by Rev. J. E. Morris. (10-17-1914) Daily Independent

Miss Eva Rapp, of Second Street, Monessen, and Joseph Decour, of Charleroi, were married on October 22, 1914. The groom is employed in the Tin Mill. (10-22-1914) Daily Independent

William G. Birch, of Burnsville, age 72, and Bessie I. Allen, of Claysville, in her teens, were granted a marriage license on October 22, 1914 in Washington. The groom's first wife only died a few months ago. (10-23-1914) Daily Independent

James Hepple, of Pricedale and Miss Fannie Bass, of Duquesne, were quietly married on October 28, 1914 in Duquesne. (10-30-1914) Daily Independent

### **Late Summer and early Autumn Births and Birthdays of 1914**

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Smith, of Knox Avenue, had a nine pound baby girl on August 7, 1914. (08-10-1914) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. James Woods, of 205 Knox Avenue, had a baby boy on August 9, 1914. (09-11-1914) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Isenberg, of 401 Donner Avenue, celebrated the seventh birthday of their daughter, Edith on August 17, 1914. (09-18-1914) Daily Independent

Thelma Smith, of Knox Avenue, celebrated her eighth birthday on September 2, 1914. (09-03-1914) Daily Independent

Helen Rozner celebrated her tenth birthday on September 6, 1914. The party decorations were of yellow and white. (09-08-1914) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. John Homrack, of Margaret Street, had a baby boy on September 18, 1914. (09-21-1914) Daily Independent

Moran J. Cramer, Jr. , of McKee Avenue, celebrated his eighth birthday on October 6, 1914. (10-07-1914) Daily Independent

Fred Preach had a baby daughter in Pittsburgh. He is 41 years old and has twelve children. (10-08-1914) Daily Independent

Calvin Hunter, of 412 Knox Avenue, celebrated his fourth birthday on October 14, 1914. (10-15-1914) Daily Independent

Mrs. G. A. Reppert, 252 Sixth Street, was surprised with a party for her birthday on October 15, 1914. (10-16-1914) Daily Independent

Mrs. Mary Zell, who lives over the Philadelphia Candy Kitchen on Donner Avenue, had a surprise party for her birthday on October 20, 1914. (10-22-1914) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Wagoner had a ten pound baby boy on October 26, 1914. (10-26-1914) Daily Independent



**Monessen's original Brown Street Clock in front of the Monessen Savings and Trust Company at Fifth and Donner.**



Charles M. Derickson  
Company K, 150<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry

**Colonel Charles M. Derickson, Monessen Postmaster and Bodyguard of President Abraham Lincoln.**

### **GMHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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