

Valley Historian

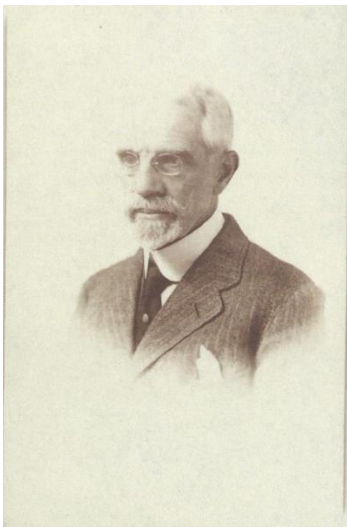


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(Recipient of the Arthur St. Clair Award)
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Autumn Exhibit

The upcoming exhibit will highlight Monessen's 120th anniversary, Hugo Parente's 110th birthday and the lives of Louis and James Manderino. If anyone has materials to loan or donate for the exhibit, please bring them in.



Monessen Celebrates 120th Birthday! Great-Grandson of Founder Visits

A borough charter was granted to Monessen on September 3, 1898, by the Westmoreland County Court. The East Side Land Company was the founding entity that created the new town. On July 3, 2018, the Historical Society welcomed George Orlando Morgan IV, the Great Grandson of George O. Morgan, who was president of the East Side Land Company and also the Land Agent for the Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Railroad. A reception was held at Monessen Public Library & Cultural Center.

Mon Valley World War II Exhibit

The Greater Monessen Historical Society is working with the Louis L. Manderino Library at California University of PA and the Heinz History Center to be part of the traveling World War II Exhibit. Local historical societies, including Monessen, Monongahela, Donora, Brownsville, Fayette County Historical, Fayette Coal and Coke Museum, and California Area Historical are all displaying memorabilia to complement the Heinz displays. August 15, 2018 will be Community Night. We hope you will visit the exhibit between July 30 and October 3.

Founders Day

The annual Founders Day celebration will be held on Saturday, August 18, 2018 at Monessen City Park. There will be food vendors and Civil War re-enactors. We hope you will stop by.

Annual Costume Dinner

The year 2018, in addition to being Monessen's 120th anniversary, is also the 100th anniversary of the ending of the Great War and the creation of the countries of Czechoslovakia, Poland, and the Yugoslavia (Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes). The annual costume dinner will be held on Saturday, October 20, 2018, at Jozwiak Hall. Save the date and start planning your costume!



Renovation of the Milsom/Endicott Johnson Annex Building

The Board of Directors is working hard to start renovations in the annex building during 2018. Through your generosity, we were able to replace all of the windows in the building. The roof was replaced along with part of the upper back support wall. Volunteers gutted the interior. A grant provided paint for the building. Now, we must begin a new phase: Renovating the first floor to a first class museum space for housing a permanent Monessen display. We need your help!

Please think of the museum and be generous. We need nearly everything: electrical work, AC, Heating, walls, ceilings, flooring, plumbing, etc.



Schoonmaker Family Donates

A grant of \$10,000 was awarded to the Historical Society from the foundation set up by Mrs. Lucille Schoonmaker, the daughter-in-law of Monessen Founder, Colonel James M. Schoonmaker. We are very grateful to all the support the Schoonmaker Family has given to GMHS through the years.



We wish to extend our sympathy to John Dudas and the entire Dudas Family on the passing of Louise Dudas. Louise was a faithful and regular volunteer for the Historical Society. May she rest in peace.

In Search of

The Historical Society is looking for:

- *Ledger books**
- *Society minute books**
- *Membership lists of organizations**
- *Church bulletins**
- *Funeral prayer cards**
- *Advertising items for local businesses**
- *Photos of ethnic celebrations**
- *Photos of religious celebrations**
- *Photos of old businesses**
- *Photos of schools**
- *Photos of industries**
- *Event programs**
- *Family genealogies**

Social Media

The Greater Monessen Historical Society has a Twitter account. Follow us at @MonessenHistory. We are also on Facebook and have over 3000 followers worldwide! We can be located on Facebook under “Greater Monessen Historical Society”. See our latest events, news and photos of previous events. Google us and find our webpage filled with all the necessary information to visit, donate, join or learn about us!

Historic Actors Needed

The Historical Society is still searching for someone to portray historic persons from the early days of Monessen’s founding, such as one of the founders or Miss Mary Jones, Monessen’s first businesswoman or Mrs. William Henry Donner. Interested individuals can contact the Museum or one of the board members.

Scale Model Builders Wanted

The Historical Society is also searching for interested individuals who are able to create models of well-known Monessen buildings that can be displayed inside the Monessen Heritage Museum.

One Hundred Years ago in the newspapers May to July, 1918

John B. Cooper, the first child born in Monessen, is with the 496-497 Aero Squadron in France. B. E. Brown, the local jeweler, is his uncle. John is the son of the late D. W. G. Cooper, Chief of Police. (5-03-1918) Monessen News

The Shakespearean and Tennysonian Literary Societies will present their annual contest in the High School auditorium featuring essays, debates, chorus, two minute talks and readings. (05-17-1918) Monessen News

The Pittsburgh Steel Products Company will form a band with sixty-three men. M. Wahlstrom, the leader of the Louhi Band will be the director. (05-24-1918) Monessen News

Monessen Italians will celebrate Italian Day with a parade to celebrate the third anniversary of the Italian Kingdom’s entry into the World War. (05-25-1918) Daily Independent

Due to the war, the commencement exercises at Monessen High School will be conducted under the strictest economy. Girl graduates will wear Peter Thompson dresses instead of the usual fancy graduation dress. The annual banquet has been abolished in favor of a Hooverized luncheon. (05-27-1918) Monessen News

All of the wage earners in the Finnish Temperance Society have donated one day’s pay or more to the Red Cross War Fund. (05-27-1918) Monessen News

Members of the Croatian Beneficial and Educational Society on Schoonmaker Avenue have organized a brass band. (06-11-1918) Monessen News

The M. E. Church will present the play, “A Chinese Wedding” with special Chinese music and Chinese costumes. (06-14-1918) Daily Independent

The Pittsburgh Steel Products Company is placing a concrete fence along its property from the Hotel Victoria to the office building at Lewis Avenue. (06-18-1918) Monessen News

Scaffolding was erected in St. Leonard’s Church for the frescoing of the interior of the church. (06-25-1918) Monessen News

The police station is looking for an individual to act as a traffic cop. He must furnish his own motorcycle. (06-25-1918) Monessen News

Two thousand people heard the Italian Band perform in the Band Stand at Sixth Street Park. (07-15-1918) Daily Independent

Twelve year old, Frederick Alsovicki, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Alsovicki, of 629 McMahan, asked to join the army. He said, "I want to help lick the Kaiser". His older brother, John, is a gunner on the Battleship Minnesota. (07-24-1918) Daily Independent

Dr. Thomas B. Herron will enter the service of the U. S. Army as a First Lieutenant. (07-27-1918) Daily Independent

Spring and early Summer Weddings, Divorces and Engagements of 1918

Miss Josephine Touche, a Ninth Street School teacher, and J. W. Askins, an attorney and banker, are engaged. (05-03-1918) Monessen News

Miss Margaret O. Gibbons, of Pittston, is engaged to Thomas R. Kane, of the Pittsburgh Steel Company. (05-14-1918) Monessen News

Sylvia A. Henry, of Monongahela, filed for divorce from Mack J. Henry, due to his drinking. They were married on November 20, 1909. (05-15-1918) Daily Independent

Miss Ethel Sutherin, formerly of Monessen, and Everette Hastings, of Detroit, were married on May 9, 1918. (05-17-1918) Daily Independent

Miss Eleanor Butterworth, of Donora, married Pvt. Leslie Wolfe, of Donora, at Camp Sherman. The bride has been a cashier at the Star Theatre. (05-22-1918) Daily Independent

Samual Altmere, of Monessen, and Miss Ethel Bowen, of Ohio, received a wedding license in Greensburg this week. (05-24-1918) Monessen News

Harry H. Fellabaum, of North Belle Vernon, filed for divorce in Greensburg from his wife, Josephine E. Fellabaum, citing desertion. They were married on January 3, 1916. (05-24-1918) Monessen News

Miss Florence Noel, of Portage, and Louis Bartko, Jr., of Knox Avenue, published their

banns of marriage at St. Leonard's Catholic Church. They will marry in three weeks. The groom works at the Pittsburgh Steel Products plant. (05-27-1918) Monessen News

Miss Mary Cadwallader, of Monessen, and John Wilkins, of Newell, wed on May 25, 1918. (05-27-1918) Daily Independent

Miss Florence Pummel, of Monessen, and A. B. Longenecker, of Johnstown, received a marriage license in Greensburg, on June 1, 1918. (06-04-1918) Monessen News

Miss Wynnie Lewis, of 121 Reed Avenue, and Harry Huron Neininger, of Steubenville, Ohio, were married on June 5, 1918. (06-07-1918) Monessen News

Lewis and Neininger wedding. (06-08-1918) Daily Independent

Miss Alice Georgiana Hammond, of McKee Avenue, wed Joseph Gadd, of Monessen, on June 1, 1918, after telling a friend they were going to see the Ringling Brothers Circus. Instead, they went to Uniontown to marry. The groom works at the Page Steel and Wire Company. (06-11-1918) Monessen News

To everyone's surprise, Guida Mori and Miss Lena Minardi got married. (06-12-1918) Daily Independent

Noel and Bartko wedding. (06-14-1918) Monessen News

Jay Garman has married. (06-14-1918) Daily Independent

John O'Rourke, of Donner Avenue, and Della George, of Johnstown, published their second banns of marriage at St. Leonard's Catholic Church. (06-18-1918) Monessen News

Annie E. Hotchkiss, of Monessen, filed for divorce in Greensburg, from her husband, Charles C. Hotchkiss. They were married on September 17, 1902. She charges cruel and barbarous treatment saying he endangered her life and made her life burdensome. (06-19-1918) Daily Independent

Mrs. Anna Hobach Brunette, of Greensburg, filed for divorce from Ernest Brunette, an interned enemy alien. They were married on February 14, 1914. She said her husband told her the Kaiser will win the war. (06-22-1918) Daily Independent

Helen M. George, of Johnstown, and John V. O'Roarke, of Monessen, married on June 26, 1918. (07-01-1918) Daily Independent

Lt. John Edward Neyhouse and Miss Emma Kathryn Milmoe were wed on December 24, 1917, in Wilksburg. (07-02-1918) Monessen News

Miss Edna Huggins, formerly of Monessen, and **Smith Corwin**, of Donora have married. (07-02-1918) Daily Independent

Miss Mary Karoly and **Michael I. Slavick**, both of Monessen, were married on June 28, 1918, in Wellsburg, WV. The bride works for the Friday Evening Call, while the groom is a shearman at the Tin Mill. (07-02-1918) Daily Independent

Byron Arnold, of Reed Avenue, and **Miss Margaret Fowler**, of Belle Vernon, were married in Wellsburg, WV, on July 3, 1918. They will live on Knox Avenue. (07-03-1918) Daily Independent

Egar A. Stapleton and **Miss Margaret E. Flaherty**, of Monessen, were granted a marriage license in Greensburg, on July 3, 1918. (07-05-1918) Monessen News

Stephen Buchanan, of Charleroi, and **Miss Nellie Hixson**, of Bentleyville, were married on June 29, 1918. (07-09-1918) Monessen News

John Dinviola, of Monessen, and **Rose Harrison**, of Donora, received a marriage license in Cumberland, MD. (07-10-1918) Daily Independent

Miss Agnes Ewing, of Donora, and **Roy McShaffrey** are married. The bride works at the E. S. Jones Grocery Store on Knox Avenue. (07-12-1918) Monessen News

McShaffrey and **Ewing** wedding. (07-12-1918) Daily Independent

Miss Marian Anderson, of Belle Vernon, and **J. Wesley Govier**, of Monessen, were married in Pittsburgh, on June 22, 1918. The groom is employed by the Pittsburgh Steel Products Company. (07-16-1918) Monessen News

William J. Yoxall, of Bruceton, PA and **Miss Catherine Davies**, of Monessen, wed on July 17, 1918. (07-17-1918) Daily Independent

Margaret McKainey Lane, of Donora, filed for divorce from **William R. Lane**, due to infidelity with **Helen Smith**, of Pittsburgh. They were married on December 24, 1917. (07-25-1918) Daily Independent

Sylvester Moore, of Monessen, and **Margaret Black**, of West Newton, received a marriage license in Greensburg, on July 24, 1918. (07-26-1918) Monessen News

Isaac William Silence and **Miss Rose Hutch**, both of Charleroi, married on July 25, 1918. (07-27-1918) Daily Independent

Spring and Early Summer Births of 1918

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Hudson, of First Street, are rejoicing over the birth of a twelve pound baby boy on May 13, 1918. (05-17-1918) Monessen News

Hodson baby (spelling differs from above) (05-15-1918) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Nash had a baby boy weighing eight and a half pounds on May 17, 1918. 05-21-1918. Monessen News

Mr. and Mrs. William Berksted had a nine pound baby boy on May 29, 1918. (06-01-1918) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Yatty, of 206 East Schoonmaker Avenue, had a baby boy. (06-07-1918) Monessen News

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rosen, of Schoonmaker Avenue, had a baby boy on June 9, 1918. (06-11-1918) Monessen News

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Nichols had a baby girl. (06-14-1918) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. John Savanic, of 97 Donner Avenue, had a baby girl, which they named **Kathleen**. (06-19-1918) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Fay Braddock, of Donner, had a baby girl on June 18, 1918. (06-19-1918) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Lemley, formerly of Monessen, had a baby boy. (06-27-1918) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Hicks, of 410 Donner Avenue, had a baby girl on July 18, 1918. (07-18-1918) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Morgart, of 1023 Knox Avenue, had a baby girl on July 19, 1918, who was named **Viola May**. (07-22-1918) Daily Independent

A son was born on July 21, 1918 to **Mr. and Mrs. Earl Arnold**, of 623 McKee Avenue. (07-23-1918) Monessen News

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Taylor, of Donora, had a baby boy on July 22, 1918. Mrs. Taylor was Miss Hilda Ryan, of Monessen. (07-23-1918) Monessen News

A nine and a quarter pound son was born to Mr. and Mrs. John Giffen on July 27, 1918. (07-27-1918) Daily Independent

Memorials
In memory of Louise Dudas by Frank and Elizabeth Schmidt
In memory of Louise Dudas by Don and Mary Swaney
In memory of Louise Dudas by Vito and Shirley Beneccio
In memory of Louise Dudas by Vernon Nelson
In memory of Louise Dudas by Thomas and Tamara Bojsen
In memory of Louise Dudas given by Nick and Virginia Fisfis
In memory of Louise Dudas given by Susanna Swade
In memory of Louise Dudas given by Richard and Donna Dudas
In memory of Louise Dudas given by Ron and Cathy Furio
In memory of Louise Dudas given by Rosalie Nicksich
In memory of Louise Dudas given by Gary and Judy Strelick
In memory of Louise Dudas given by Suzanne Surdyn
In memory of Louise Dudas given by Frances Tarquinio – St. Peter and Paul Society
In memory of Louise Dudas given by Mary Smith
In memory of Louise Dudas given by Pierina and Richard Alcorn

In memory of Louise Dudas given by Helen Peresolak

In memory of Louise Dudas given by Dr. Martin and Madeline Dudas

In memory of Louise Dudas given by Kristin and George Joseph (Joseph’s Nursery)

In memory of Nancy Billick given by Dr. Martin and Madeline Dudas

In memory of Susan Urko given by Dr. Martin and Madeline Dudas

In memory of Richard Urko given by Dr. Martin and Madeline Dudas

- GMHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
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Candis Elyanich Kelley, Mailings
Tim Donner, Honorary Seat (Great Grandson of William Henry Donner)

Dan’s Archives

A Look Back to 1935



Monessen’s Miss America, 1935

Miss Henrietta Leaver, Miss America of 1935, was the daughter of former Monessen residents, Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Applegate, before they divorced. She attended grade school in Monessen, then moved to McKeesport, with her mother and sister to live with her grandmother. Henrietta was jobless, when she decided to enter the beauty contest and improve her luck.

Ninth Street Park Work

Ninth Street Park will soon become a permanent playground and recreation area. Work has started on a \$12,000 WPA project providing for grading, planting and improvements, such as a regular baseball diamond on Knox Avenue, planting grass in the outfield and erecting wooden bleachers seating between 1,200 and 1,500 spectators. The project will provide employment for 40 to 50 persons for a period of five months. Grading will continue on the triangle between Morgan

Avenue and Schoonmaker Avenues for planting grass. There will also be a continuation of the stone wall of Tenth Street to the alley. The bleachers will be 150 feet long and 36 feet deep, containing 12 rows of seats. Four acres of the six acre tract will be renovated. The balance is inaccessible and consists of slopes.

Shade Tree Project

Dr. Jo Griffith, of the Rotary Club, had long advocated the planting of shade trees along Third Street. He brought the matter to a head by passing around a sheet to all the members of the Rotary asking each one to sponsor the purchase of a tree or trees. At the end of the meeting, he received 32 tree pledges. It was estimated it would take 70 trees with each one being planted 50 feet apart. John F. Butler, the Head of Parks and Public Building, on Monessen City Council, will take care of the planting of the trees. The Oriental Plane, a variety of Sycamore, has been selected to be placed in two rows lining Third Street. Citizens were urged to consider sponsoring a tree.

Sample Recipe from one of our cookbooks:

Hungarian Apple Soup

3 green apples

4 c. water

1 c. sour cream

1 tsp. sugar

1 Tbsp. flour

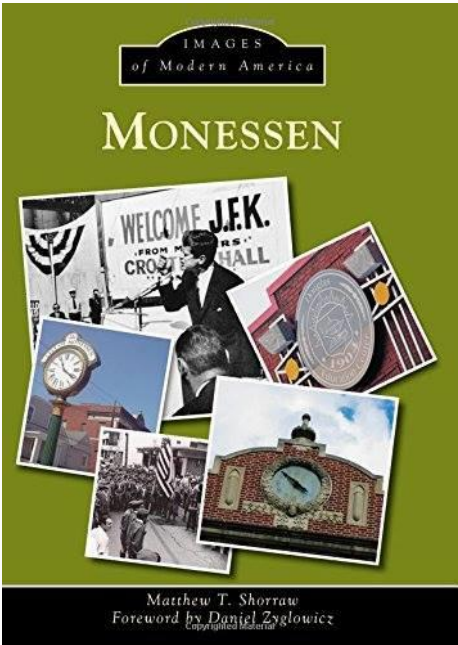
1 cinnamon stick

Wash and core green apples (do not peel) and cut into small cubes. Boil with 1 teaspoon sugar in 4 cups of water. When soft, make a thickening of flour and a little

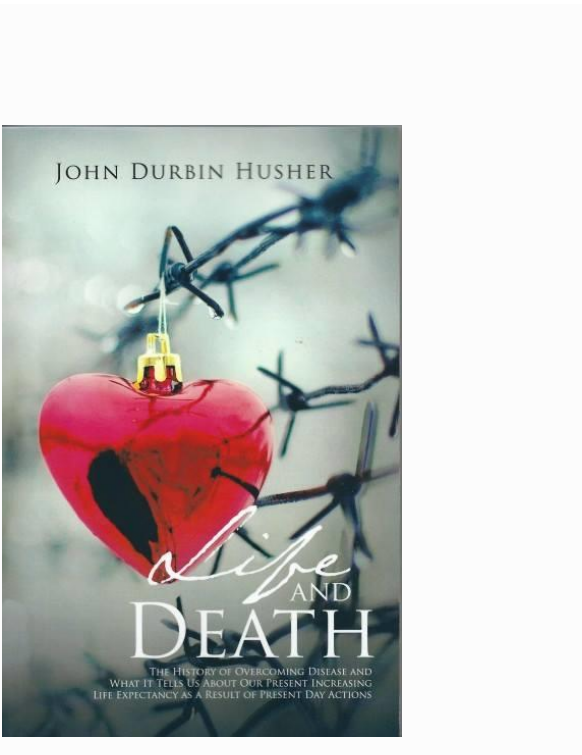
cold water. Stir into soup and boil 5 minutes. Remove from heat and add 1 cup thick sour cream. A small piece of cinnamon added during the boiling will improve the taste, but should be removed before the cream is added. Chill before serving.

From: Calvin United Presbyterian
Treasured Recipes Cookbook (Hungarian)
on sale in the Museum Shoppe (\$15)

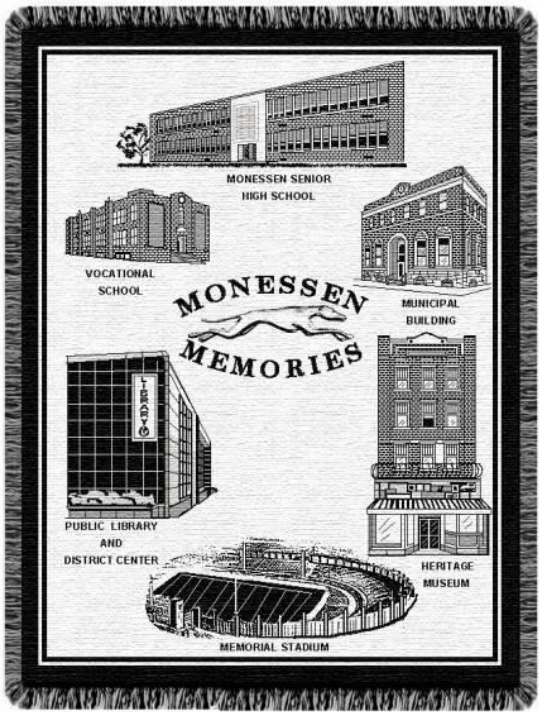
Some other items in the Museum Shoppe



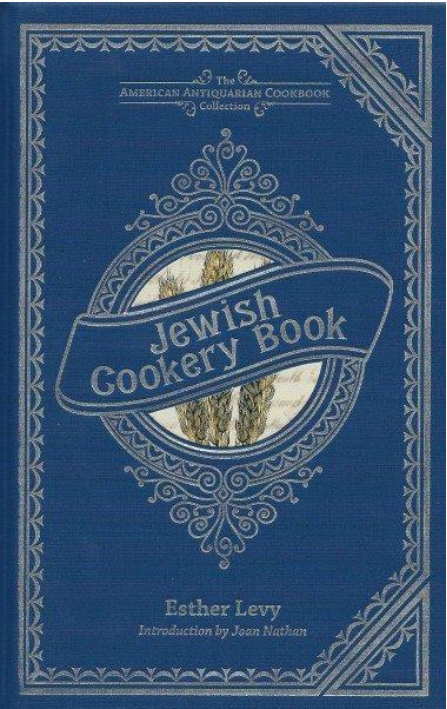
By Matt Shorraw -- \$22.99



By John Husher -- \$20.00



Monessen Memories Throw -- \$50.00



Old Fashioned Jewish Cookbook -- \$15.00