

Valley Historian



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Monessen Heritage Museum

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The Greater Monessen Historical Society

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William Howard Taft

Annual Founders Day Dinner

In October of 1919, the Monessen Board of Trade invited former President William Howard Taft for a two day visit to the city. Taft was scheduled to highlight the lecture series sponsored by the Board of Trade. His topic was the League of Nations, and if America should be part of the new organization set up following the Great War. On the second day of his visit, Taft spoke to the students at the High School and

ate a banquet held at the Pittsburgh Steel Company.

The annual Founders Day Dinner will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2019, at Jozwiak Hall, in the St. Vincent DePaul Society Building on Grand Boulevard. The meal will replicate the food served to the president. Our menu consists of stuffed chicken, roast beef, scalloped potatoes, mixed vegetables, fruit cocktail and cake. Call the Museum and reserve your tickets today, which are \$30 each. Historic dress of the period is encouraged. **724-684-8460.**

Give Big Pittsburgh (Day of Giving)

The annual day of giving will be on Tuesday, December 3, 2019, from 12 AM to 11:59 PM. The popular fundraiser is a single online donation platform hosted by Pittsburgh Magazine in conjunction with the Pittsburgh Foundation that offers the Historical Society and other local nonprofits the chance to raise funds to support our crucial mission. Please remember GMHS that day and

consider donating!
<https://www.givebigpittsburgh.com/>

Jewish Heritage Preserved

Following our offer to preserve the Jewish heritage of Monessen, Temple Beth Am donated two prayer stands from the original synagogue on Schoonmaker Avenue, the B'nai B'rith gavel block from the 1920s, a dedication booklet and photos to the Museum. On our end, Board Secretary Virginia Mussano Fisfis interviewed Monessen attorney Bernie Shire for an oral history series on Monessen's Jewish past. If anyone has photos or information to share, please contact the museum to loan or donate the material.

Cookbook Recipe

Pineapple Squares

1 cup shortening
1 cup sugar
3 eggs
1 ½ cups sour milk
1 tsp. salt
4 cups flour
½ tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. baking powder

Cream sugar and shortening. Add the eggs, beaten, then the rest of the ingredients with the sour milk. Beat thoroughly. Pour half the batter into a greased and floured 9 x 13 inch pan. Add the filling, then the rest of the cake batter on top. Before baking, sprinkle ground nuts mixed with sugar on the batter. Bake at 375 degrees for about 45 minutes.

Filling ingredients:

1 can crushed pineapple
½ cup sugar
2 Tbsp. brown sugar
1 Tbsp. butter
1 Tbsp. lemon juice

Cook until it thickens and cool.

Recipe can be found in "Our Daily Bread", a Hungarian -American cookbook from the Calvin United

Presbyterian Church, which is available in the Museum Shoppe. (\$15.00)

Memorial Contributions

In Memory of David Dyky by Lisa Murdock.

In Memory of David J. Dyky by Dr. John Kent Folmar.

In Memory of Henry Glogosh by Wife, Marjorie Glogosh.

In Memory of Ann Fisfis by Dr. Martin and Madeline Dudas.

In Memory of Ann Fisfis by Greg and Mary Lou Simkins.

In Memory of Irene Sendek by Dr. Martin and Madeline Dudas.

In Memory of Norman Visca by Paul and Katherine Barton.

Annual Membership Renewal and Fund Drive in October

You are the reason why we are here! We depend on your generosity to sustain us and help us grow! Please be as generous as you can be. We need your donations to continue the Annex renovation work! Memberships cover the expenses of keeping the museum open and preserving local history. Gift memberships make great gifts! The annual membership renewal and fund drive will commence in October. Watch your mail for the appeal and renew your membership!

Please Keep in Mind that We are Always In Search of:

- *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!

Planned Estate Giving

Make a Plan. Make a Difference. Create a Legacy.

Making a gift of estate assets can be simple to do and will provide lasting support for the Greater Monessen Historical Society's efforts to connect people to history. It will also ensure that the heritage and legacy left by our immigrant ancestors continues into the future.

Volunteers wanted

Do you have talents to share? Do you have spare time? Do you want to give back to the community? Do you enjoy history? If so, please consider joining our group and volunteering at the Museum. Call for details.

**One Hundred Years ago in the newspapers
August to October, 1919**

Miss Emma Novahova, a Czecho-Slovak Red Cross representative, will speak at the Slovak Catholic Church on assistance

for the babies of the Czecho-Slovak people. (08-01-1919) Daily Independent

The Negro Civic League and the A. M.E. Church will hold a patriotic meeting at the High School on August 3, 1919. (08-05-1919) Daily Independent

Joseph M. Leone, has sold his barber shop in the Sheetz Hotel to Andy Ezerski. He will take over the ten chair shop in the basement of the dining room at the Pittsburgh Steel Company. (08-09-1919) Daily Independent

A fire at the Dewey Hotel, at the corner of Eighth and Schoonmaker, caused between \$5000 and \$8000 damage. The hotel is owned by Mrs. B. L. Beatty. (08-12-1919) Monessen News

Hibbs and Woodward sold the brick residence at 649 McKee Avenue, owned by George Nash, to N. Eisenberg for \$8,500. (08-15-1919) Monessen News

The former home of Alexander McMahan will be torn down, and twenty-five new homes will be constructed on the McMahan lands. The homes will consist of six rooms each with gas, water and electricity. The construction project was planned by Pittsburgh Steel and will feature three styles of homes. (08-16-1919) Daily Independent

Following two years of litigation between rival factions of St. Michael's Church, the Russian contingent withdrew their suit, paid costs and turned over the keys to the Syrians led by Mike Joseph. (08-29-1919) Daily Independent

H. Dallas McCabe purchased a 400 acre farm in Bedford County consisting of a 40 acre apple orchard, 200 acres of meadow land and 160 acres of woodland. The farm is named "Spring Meadow Farm" and was owned by former Lieutenant Governor John M. Reynolds. (09-02-1919) Monessen News

Four hundred children were confirmed at St. Leonard's Roman Catholic Church by Bishop Canevin of Pittsburgh being assisted by ten visiting priests and two local priests. The altar was decorated

with scarlet gladiolas. The girls wore white dresses, veils, and wreaths, while the boys wore white shirts, ties and dark trousers. (09-02-1919) Monessen News

More than five hundred Slovaks gathered at Electric Park for the Sokol drills on Labor Day. (09-03-1919) Daily Independent

Sam Small, the evangelist and famous orator, will speak at a community rally to be held in the First Christian Church. The address is called, "Is Our Civilization a Failure". (09-06-1919) Daily Independent

Due to overcrowding, two basement rooms in the Linden Elementary School were equipped for use as classrooms. (09-09-1919) Monessen News

The Star Theatre reopened after a fire damaged the building four months ago. Two thousand seven hundred patrons attended the opening day shows. (09-16-1919) Monessen News

During a borough council meeting, the council asked for the resignation of the borough clerk, due to a "mudding" of accounts, following the discovery of discrepancies. (09-16-1919) Daily Independent

Michael Giba sold his grocery store in Wireton and will now be manager of the foreign department of the Citizens National Bank. (09-16—1919) Daily Independent

The pipe organ in the Olympic Theatre has been repaired at a cost of \$1,500. (09-17-1919) Daily Independent

The Palace of Sweets is using the basement of the Monessen Savings and Trust Company building to make two hundred and eighty four kinds of candy. (09-19-1919) Monessen News

A meeting is planned to form an American Legion post for the African American veterans of the town. Samuel S. Turner is in charge of the movement. (10-07-1919) Daily Independent

The first session of Night School for the foreign population will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 pm. Courses available include English, reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, singing of patriotic songs, naturalization, which includes history and civics, mechanical drawing, cooking, sewing, bookkeeping, shorthand and typewriting. (10-07-1919) Daily Independent

Stockholders of the Monessen Savings and Trust Company approved a merger with the Monessen Trust Company. (10-03-1919) Monessen News

The Monessen Moose has a membership of more than a thousand. They will soon add a third story to their building and open a gymnasium. (10-17-1919) Daily Independent

Beautiful hats trimmed in the latest style can be found at the McMullen Millinery Parlor, second floor, Trust Company Building. (10-18-1919) Daily Independent

Morris Rozner will build a three story brick building on a vacant lot on Schoonmaker Avenue, near Fourth Street. (10-20-1919) Daily Independent

Franz and Boyd and N. W. Schlup Store on Donner Avenue are laying a concrete sidewalk along their eighty-eight foot frontage, The Schlup Store is owned by August Karlowsky. (10-21-1919) Monessen News

In connection to the steel strike, a bomb was detonated at the home of R. Crosby, an African American mill worker, at 39 Grant Street. (10-31-1919) Daily Independent

Summer and Early Autumn Weddings, Divorces and Engagements of 1919

Harry Brandis, of Monessen, and Miss Margaret Steele, of Donora, received a marriage license in Pittsburgh, on July 31, 1919. (08-01-1919) Monessen News

John Elgin, of Monessen, and Miss Mary Filipeck, of Charleroi, were granted a

marriage license in Pittsburgh, on August 2, 1919. (08-04-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Ella Ammon, of Webster, will wed George R. Warman, of Monessen, on August 5, 1919. (08-05-1919) Monessen News

Ammon/Warman wedding (08-06-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Florence M. Fretz, of Monessen, and Hugh McManus, of Philadelphia, married on June 18, 1919, in Wellsburg, West Virginia. (08-08-1919) Daily Independent

John Kuth, of Monessen, arranged for Wasyl Hustko, of Monessen, to marry Miss Anne Konich, of Wisconsin, but the bride changed her mind on the day of the wedding and went to Charleroi to stay with her aunt. (08-09-1919) Daily Independent (After charges were filed, the bride returned the wedding gown and paid \$85. (08-11-1919)

Miss Kathryn D. Reagan, of Uniontown, and Walter J. Tormay, of Monessen, were married on August 11, 1919 at St. John's Catholic Church in Uniontown. They will reside in Charleroi. (08-12-1919) Daily Independent

George Stark, of Fayette City, and Miss Mary Zindal, of Snow Shoe, Pa, wed. The groom is a fireman for the P&LE Railroad. (08-18-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Isabel McGaughey, married Glenn Braddock, of Washington, Pa, on August 19, 1919. The groom works at the Tin Mill. (08-18-1919) Daily Independent

Dante Fesolin and Miss Emma Fontanella, both of Monessen, eloped to Wellsburg, West Virginia, on August 18, 1919. The groom is a baker. (08-19-1919) Daily Independent

Charles Gansler and Miss Elizabeth Mahelak, of Monessen, were granted a marriage license in Pittsburgh, on August 18, 1919. (08-19-1919) Daily Independent

Melvin E. Libengood, of Monessen, and Miss Cora Beal, of Eckhart, Maryland, were granted a marriage license in Cumberland, Maryland on August 19, 1919. (08-20-1919) Daily Independent

Lipton/Ralosky wedding. (08-21-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Melda Edwina Ankney, of Latrobe, and Chalres Franklin Crownover, of Huntington, Pa, are engaged. Bride is the principal of the Webster School. (08-21-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Adeline Barpelli and George Bonari, both of Monessen, eloped on August 19, 1919, to Wheeling, West Virginia. The bride was formerly a cashier at Shrocco-Cuddy Store, at Third and Schoonmaker. (08-22-1919) Daily Independent

Ralph Lipton, the owner of Stender Pharmacy on Schoonmaker Avenue, quietly married Miss Jane Ralosky, of Youngstown, Ohio, in Pittsburgh on August 21, 1919. They will reside in Monessen. (08-22-1919) Monessen News

Miss Margaret Turnbull, of Charleroi, married John Roberts, of 54 Reed Avenue, on August 16, 1919, in Pittsburgh. (08-22-1919) Monessen News

Miss Frances McDonough, of Belle Vernon, and William H. Lentz, of Charleroi, were married on August 18, 1919 at St. Leonard's Church. The bride has been employed for three years as an operator for the Bell Telephone Company. (08-23-1919) Daily Independent

Earl V. Warman, formerly of Monessen, divorced Lenore B. Warman, at Youngstown on Charles of gross neglect and adultery. (08-27-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Bessie Daugherty, of West Newton, and David Wells, of West Newton, wed on August 28, 1919. (08-29-1919) Monessen News

Earl Warman, formerly of Monessen, was granted a divorce from Lenore B. Warman, at Youngstown. The custody of the two sons, aged 5 and 8, was given to the father. (08-29-1919) Monessen News

Miss Helen Crowe, of Pittsburgh, wed P. Arthur Dalton, of Braddock, were married at St. Leonard's Roman Catholic Church. They will live on Delaware Avenue. The groom works at the Tin Mill. (09-02-1919) Monessen News

Miss Betty Bickerton, of Parkway Avenue, married Arthur Carnes, of Aliquippa Avenue, on September 3, 1919, The groom works at the American Sheet & Tin Plate Company. They will live on Reed Avenue. (09-05-1919) Monessen News

Albert Lily, of Monessen, and Miss Anna Rice, of Uniontown, wed on September 6, 1919. The groom is employed at Hagerson and Dague Feed Store on Donner Avenue. (09-09-1919) Monessen News

W. E. Wreath, of Monessen, filed for divorce from Florence Wreath. They were married

on October 17, 1917. He is a recently returned veteran and named three men of having improper relations with his wife, while he saved the nation. (09-10-1919) Daily Independent

Rose M. Windell asked for an annulment of her marriage to Walter Windell. They were married on November 27, 1908 in Oakland, Maryland. She cites intolerable treatment. (09-10-1919) Daily Independent

Albert Ney and Miss Maybelle Gregg will marry on September 16, 1919. (09-15-1919) Daily Independent

David Dougherty, of Elizabeth and Miss Elizabeth West, of Monessen, were granted a marriage license in Cumberland on September 15, 1919. (09-16-1919) Daily Independent.

Miss Elizabeth Lafferty, of Second Street, will marry John H. Staib, of Monongahela, on September 17, 1919. The bride works as an agent at the freight station. The groom works as an agent for the Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Railroad at Webster. (09-16-1919) Monessen News

Miss Mabel Gourley, of 647 Knox Avenue, married Kenneth Vaughn, of 489 Reed Avenue, at Beaver Falls on September 13, 1919. The groom is employed at the Pittsburgh Steel Company. (09-16-1919) Monessen News

Lafferty/Staib wedding. (09-17-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Hannah Hawkinson, of 667 Reed Avenue, wed Jack Kaupp, of Charleroi. They will live in Charleroi. (09-23-1919) Monessen News

Alonzo B. Loy, of Monessen, married Miss Goldie Brown, of Stockdale, on September 24, 1919. They will live on First Street. (09-26-1919) Daily Independent

Fillipie Agostini, of Uniontown, and Miss Mercede Luciani, of Monessen. Wed on September 27, 1919 in the Italian Lutheran church, on Seventh Street. The bride is the daughter of Erminio Luciani, the well known local stone contractor on Lenawee Avenue. (09-27-1919) Daily Independent

James W. McKenna and Miss Mary Moran have advertised their marriage banns in St. Leonard's Roman Catholic Church. The wedding will take place on October 15. The groom is a member of Keefer and McKenna Real Estate. The bride is employed in the

office of Pittsburgh Steel. (09-29-1919) Daily Independent

Miller/Morrow wedding. (09-29-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Leila Orange, of Charleroi, will wed Rev. David Earl Daniel, of Hawthorne, Pa., on October 9, 1919. (09-30-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Anna Miller and Ray D. Morrow married on September 27, 1919. The bride is employed as a clerk for the Peoples National Bank. The groom works for the Page Company as a foreman. (09-30-1919) Monessen News

William A. Richards and Artilissa K. Anderson, both of Monongahela, were issued a marriage license in Pittsburgh on September 30, 1919. (10-01-1919) Daily Independent

Beaumont/Lane wedding. (10-02-1919) Daily Independent

John M. Frost, Tin Mill employee, and Miss Mary Elizabeth Marshall, of Bentleyville, wed on September 30, 1919 in Monongahela. (10-02-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Flora Lane and Albert Beaumont, of Belle Vernon, wed on October 1, 1919. They will live in Monessen. The groom works for Pittsburgh Steel. (10-03-1919) Monessen News

William L. McGifin, formerly of Monessen, and Miss Irene Ostranger, of Donora, wed this week. (10-03-1919) Daily Independent

Frank Lohman, of Monessen, and Miss Maud C. Hennebry, of Joliet, Illinois, advertised their wedding banns in St. Leonard's Roman Catholic Church. They will wed on October 25, 1919. (10-03-1919) Daily Independent

Henry Irwin Redwin and Miss Bessie Lee White, both of Monessen, received a marriage license in Greensburg on October 3, 1919. (10-06-1919) Daily Independent

Rodges/Timbrook wedding. (10-13-1919) Daily Independent

George Rodges, the yard foreman at the Westmoreland Lumber Company, married Miss Elsie Timbrook, of Augusta, West Virginia, on October 7, 1919. They will reside at 64 Reed Avenue. (10-14-1919) Monessen News

McKenna/Moran wedding. (10-15-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Lena Denio, of 943 Schoonmaker Avenue, and Samuel Azzerello, of Cleveland, are engaged. (10-15-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Mildred Isenberg, of Monessen, and Fred Bowers, of Belle Vernon, wed on September 27, 1919 at Wellsburg, West Virginia. (10-15-1919) Daily Independent

Kruell/Motz wedding. (10-16-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Mary Moran, of Belle Vernon, and James W. McKenna, of Monessen, wed on October 15, 1919. They will live at 34 Reed Avenue. (10-17-1919) Monessen News

Miss Tussie Gaspich and Edward Dusie, of Monessen, received a marriage license on October 16, 1919 in Pittsburgh. (10-17-1919) Monessen News

Miss Gustave Kruell, of Donner Avenue, and W. R. Motz, were married in Columbus, Ohio on October 9, 1919. (10-17-1919) Monessen News

John I. McKenzie, of Monessen, and Miss Louise Brinback, of Columbus, will marry on October 29, 1919. (10-17-1919) Daily Independent

Peter M. Roman, of Ohio, and Miss Mary Karoly, of Monessen, obtained a marriage license in Greensburg on October 16, 1919. (10-18-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Bessie Goodchild, of Donner Avenue, wed Aaron Boalick, of New Castle, on October 18, 1919. (10-21-1919) Monessen News

Milton H. Wilkes and Miss Maude J. Martin, both of Monessen, received a marriage license in Greensburg, on October 20, 1919. (10-22-1919) Daily Independent

Harry Sherman and Miss Cordelia V. Bland, both of West Newton, obtained a marriage license in Pittsburgh on October 23, 1919. (10-24-1919) Daily Independent

Frank Lohman, of Monessen, and Miss Maude C. Henebry, of Illinois, were married on October 25, 1919. (10-27-1919) Daily Independent

Joseph Harris and Anna Lance, of West Newton, received a marriage license in Greensburg. (10-27-1919) Daily Independent

William F. Peters, of Sutersville, and Elizabeth Coughenour, of West Newton,

obtained a wedding license in Greensburg. (10-27-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Maud C. Hennebry, of Joliett, Illinois, married Francis Lohman, of Monessen, on October 25, 1919. They will reside in Monessen. (10-28-1919) Monessen News

Alexander Skekel and Miss Malissa McKnight, of Monessen, were granted a marriage license in Greensburg on October 25, 1919. (10-28-1919) Monessen News

David Canova, and Miss Lillian M. Heinline, both of Monessen, received a marriage license in Pittsburgh on October 27, 1919. (10-28-1919) Daily Independent

Hugh Landsperger, of Charleroi, and Miss Emma Coughenour, of Elizabeth, obtained a marriage license in Pittsburgh on October 27, 1919. (10-28-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Jessie Rove, of Jacobs Creek, and Frank Showalter, of Monongahela, will wed in December. (10-30-1919) Daily Independent

John W. Luksich, of Monessen, and Francis A. Sursich, of Pittsburgh, received a marriage license in Pittsburgh on October 30, 1919. (10-31-1919) Daily Independent

Summer and early Autumn Births of 1919

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Reid, who is a druggist at the Hirsch Drug Company, had a baby boy on August 3, 1919. (08-04-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Levkanick, of 42 McKee Avenue, had an eleven pound boy. (08-06-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Nick Mavromatis, of Belle Vernon, are the parents of a baby girl born on August 5, 1919. (08-06-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. W. Morse Ney, of Knox Avenue, had a baby boy weighing eight pounds on August 12, 1919. (08-12-1919) Monessen News

Mr. and Mrs. Shad Beeler, of Knox Avenue, had an eight pound boy. (08-19-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. John Kimball had a baby boy. (08-22-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Reiner, of 38 Linden Avenue, had a baby boy on September 14, 1919. (09-16-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. George Reese, of 25 Schoonmaker Avenue, had a ten pound baby boy on September 16, 1919. (09-16-1919) Daily Independent

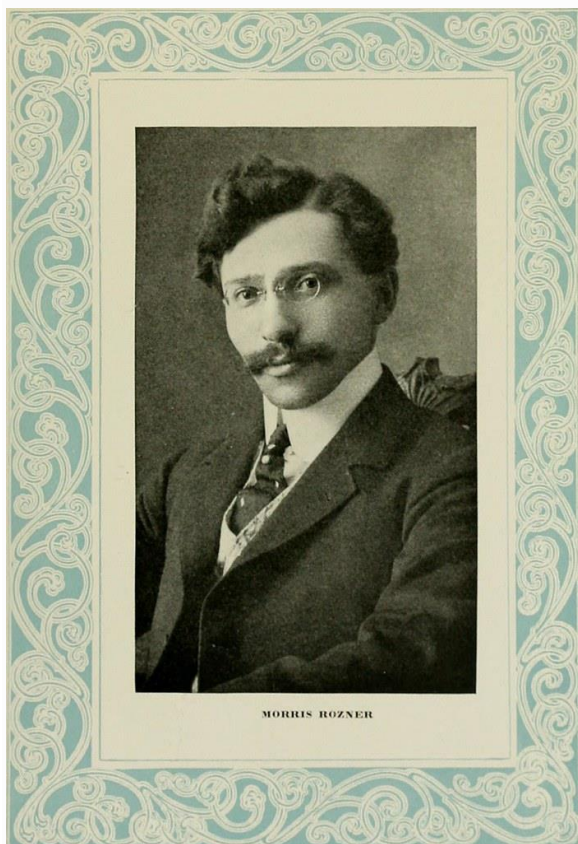
Mr. and Mrs. William Sager, of Schoonmaker Avenue, had a baby boy on September 29, 1919. (10-03-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Eisley, of Allenwood, had a ten pound boy. She was formerly Miss Dora Phillips, of Monessen. (10-21-1919) Monessen News

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Rose, of 1007 Knox Avenue, had a nine pound baby girl last week. (10-22-1919) Daily Independent

Morris Rozner was born on March 7, 1875, the son of Osher and Feige Rozner, of Griebo, Austria Hungary. At the age of 14, Morris came to America looking for a better life. He settled in the new town of Monessen in 1900 and established a butcher shop. In 1903, he married Miss Freda Israel, of McKeesport, and together they had two sons and a daughter. They lived first at 251 Schoonmaker and later on McKee Avenue. Morris was known to be charitable and religious. A fire in 1916 destroyed his building at Fourth Street and Schoonmaker Avenue, after a match was thrown into some straw and garbage in the rear alley. He constructed a new three story brick building on the site in 1919. When the Monessen Chamber of Commerce was created from the old Board of Trade, Morris was the first merchant to join the organization. He passed away on November 24, 1940, from pneumonia.

Dan's Archives



Morris Rozner

As part of our effort to record and preserve the Jewish heritage and history of Monessen, we take a look back at one of the prominent early Jewish businessmen, Morris Rozner.

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Remember, the Heritage Museum is YOUR museum and can be visited for FREE at any time! Stop by and see the history of Monessen.

Don't forget to send in your membership renewal!