

Proclamation

A Proclamation On the Occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the Passage of the 19th Amendment

WHEREAS, upon the founding of the United States, women were not automatically granted the right to vote, and;

WHEREAS, as early as 1848, women began organizing at a national level, as part of the Women's Suffrage Movement, and;

WHEREAS, locally, on May 2, 1914, women decorated the city's homes, businesses, and buildings were decorated with yellow flowers and bunting, to symbolize the suffrage movement, and

WHEREAS, Also, on May 2, 1914, a Women's Suffrage Parade was held in Downtown Monessen, and culminated with a rally of 1,500 people at the corner of 4th and Donner, in front of the former Monessen Borough Building, and;

WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ratified the 19th Amendment on June 24, 1919, and was one of the original 36 states to do so, and;

WHEREAS, The 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution was passed on August 18, 1919, granting women the right to vote, although that right would not be fully realized until the Civil Rights Movement made it easier for women of color to also enjoy this same right, more freely.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Matthew T. Shorraw, Mayor of the City of Monessen, commemorate the occasion of the passage of the 19th Amendment, and encourage everyone, no matter their party affiliation or lack thereof, to exercise their right to vote in a free and fair election. I remember and commemorate the tenacity and strength of the women of the suffrage movement. Their contributions should be remembered, always.



Matthew Shorraw
Mayor, City of Monessen