

## *Foreword*

This book is a collection of newspaper articles selected from weekly columns that I wrote for eight years for the Uniontown *Herald-Standard*. It is a sequel to my first book and presents more tales from the colorful past of history-rich Brownsville, Pennsylvania. Featured are many stories with nostalgic themes that will have universal appeal.

The characters in these pages are among the most unforgettable people to walk the streets of Brownsville during the past century. They range from a legendary teacher to a dedicated public servant to a well-loved band director to a soon-to-be centenarian. Many folks will share with you their memories of good times at the Strand and the Plaza; tales of old time medical cures and traditional Easter customs; vivid stories of runaway trucks, unnerving floods, and the “storm of the century;” details of the discovery of a treasure-laden Brownsville-built steamboat; and the stories behind the founding of the town library and the taming of the Monongahela River . . . all culminating with an unforgettable journey back to the days of World War II, when it seemed that all of Brownsville was involved in the war effort.

Each chapter in this book is composed of weekly newspaper articles that originally appeared as a series published over the span of several weeks. In this book, those series of articles have been consolidated into unified chapters. Some of the photographs that accompany the chapters were published with the original newspaper articles; others have been added specifically for this book.

As was true in Volume One, I wish to remind the reader that these articles are presented (with minimal editing) as they appeared when they were originally published in the *Herald-Standard*. The reader should keep in mind that an individual who was living when an article was originally published may have since passed away or may have moved from the place where he lived when the article appeared.

If you would like to know when an article originally appeared in the *Herald-Standard*, the Appendix provides the original newspaper publication date of each series.

I invite you to turn the page, step back onto the busy streets of Brownsville, and meet folks you may know as you revisit some of the town’s most familiar places and relive unforgettable experiences.

Welcome back to old Brownsville!