“THE WAY IT WAS”

History of the newspaper column “The Way It Was”
Written by William Allen Zulker
For the
Lebanon Daily News
Lebanon, PA

In the spring of 2010, I prepared and submitted six columns of “The Way It Was” to the editor of the Lebanon Daily News, asking if he would be interested in publishing them. He responded favorably and said that the columns would begin in July and be published on the first Sunday of each month. The first column appeared on Sunday, July 4, 2010 on page two. Interestingly enough, the front page carried an article on me entitled “Retiree Shares County History.”

SUNDAY, JULY 4, 2010

Retiree shares county history

By STEVE SONDHEIM

At St. Bill Zulker is still a relative newcomer in terms of learning about Lebanon County.

A retired administrator at Lebanon Valley College and his wife of 40 years, Linda, now back in Richland five years ago to be close to their daughter, Brett Shellen, and two of their nine grandchildren.

“Older I get, the more interested I get in the coming experiences of the past,” Zulker said one sunny morning last week, as he sat on the back porch of his Country Lane home, looking over a computer screen.

Zulker’s background and love of history led the retired Presbyterian minister to learn about his own home county.

He started doing research on February 4 at Lebanon Valley College, and the result of that effort is the new column “The Way It Was” that debuts in today’s Daily News.

Each month, Zulker will let his ideas, which appeared in the newspaper during one month from the past.

A couple examples from July 1800, which appear in today’s edition:

- Miss Elizabeth Kerr of 321 Chestnut St. was named “Miss Lebanon, Queen of the City,” at the bicentennial celebration of Lebanon.
- In 1802, 500 citizens of Lebanon, along with those from Lebanon, York, Lancaster, and Adams counties, crossed the Susquehanna River to attend the first Lebanon County fair, held on July 4.

Zulker was born in 1940 in Lebanon and has lived in the county his entire life.

SUNDAY, JULY 4, 2010

Lebanon Daily News

LEBANON DAILY NEWS • SUNDAY, JULY 4, 2010

> St. Paul’s Reformed Church in Schaefferstown continued its 1750th anniversary celebration.
> A two-day issue of the New York World’s Fair cost only $200 including hotel and two days admission to the Fair, offered by Isaac Plantner, Ninth & Clashwine Streets, Lebanon.
> Sunday Dinner at the Bricksville Scheller just $1.00 N.P. Helfman, Proprietor.
> Lebanon City celebrated its 300th Birthday with week-long activities in July.
> An O’s Roast a 2.00 lb. ox in Coleman Park attracted 1,400 with 3,400 sandwiches ordered on the first Friday of the Fourth of July.
> Miss Elizabeth Kerr was crowned Miss Lebanon, Queen of the City, at the bicentennial pageant “Candidate of Lebanon” at 3:00 in the gymnasium.
> Neptune Fish Company of Richland held its annual carnival in July with the Allentown Band as a special attraction.
> A Three-Act Parody of “Have a Coke” was presented by the Methodist Players in the Cornwall H. S. Auditorium, Cost $2.00.
> Carl Karamay was elected President of the Hockey Club of Lebanon.
> “Joe Pakoiva”, “Dette Dugan” and “Tillie the Tall” were the popular comic stripes in the Lebanon Daily News.