

This is how the Howard Isaacs dealership looked in 1938

PHOTO COURTESTY OF FRITZ CHAMBERLAIN **WILLIAM SAMUEL** 

## • Isaacs' plan begins to take shape

By GRACE R. DOVE Post Staff

TRUCKSVILLE - The former Howard "Duke" Isaacs car dealership, a Back Mountain landmark, will soon be transformed into three professional office and retail build-

According to architect and engineer Lynn Wallack, the site

will become home to three buildings with a total of 34,000 square feet of space and 190 parking spaces, to be built in three phases.

"We're trying to avoid the strip mall concept," he said. The first phase will consist of a

12,000 square-foot building housing a major bank and other offices, planned for the southern end of the site. Wallack said he hopes these businesses will be able to open April 1, 1996. The second building, which may be built at the same time as the first, will contain a restaurant and several commercial retail busi-

A new right turn lane from the southbound lanes of Route 309 and a new traffic light will be set up at the entrance. The traffic light will be tied into the new system being installed on the highway by the state, Wallack said.

The site plan for development of the former Isaacs car dealership shows three buildings and parking.

The familiar blue showroom building won't disappear from the area, however - a construction company has bought it and plans to dismantle and rebuild it in Wyoming Borough.

The old block buildings which once housed the body shop at the back of the site will be demolished next summer.

## Samuel

(continued from page 1) settled with fists out behind the back shed," Chamberlain said. "Bill could hold his own then with anyone." Samuel's friend, Leon Decker of the United Mine Workers, often brought friends to his Cease Terrace home on weekends to play cards, Chamberlain continued.

One Friday night, Decker called

berlain said laughing. When Samuel went to the prothonotary's office in the courthouse for his passport and was asked the year of his birth, he fired back, "Put down 1903 - who the hell gives a damn?"

Samuel's favorite thing was serving other people, Chamberlain continued. Until very recently,

"Bill was a one-of-a-kind guy. They may replace him, but it won't be with one person."

> Don Kivler Friend of Bill Samuel

Samuel to go to the Avoca airport with him to pick up Jimmy Hoffa, who was coming in for a card game. Hoffa had met Samuel the previous weekend and had gotten such a charge out of him that he asked for Samuel to be there again.

Bill Samuel was also known for his unorthodox way of greeting

"If Bill saw you two blocks away, he'd yell 'Hey, Fritz! How the hell are you?" Kivler said laughing.

Samuel enjoyed razzing friends and fellow businessmen in Nanticoke, he added. He'd go into Woolworth's soda fountain and start saying things like, 'Hey, where the hell's the help? Where the hell's the manager?'

Nobody will probably ever know Bill Samuel's true birth date - his passport said 1904, but his driver's license said 1903, Cham-

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Samuel enjoyed doing things around the house for his family doctor, Dr. Richard Alley. If there was a task he couldn't do, he'd bring along someone who could.

He was famous for giving many elderly women around Lake Silkworth rides to do errands, go shopping and to doctor's appoint-

He ran unsuccessfully for state representative and the Lake-Lehman school board, and served on the school authority when the new Lake-Lehman high school was

Samuel was a member of many area organizations: the Lake Silkworth Fire Company for more than 40 years and its president for most of that time, treasurer of the Lake Silkworth Firemen's Relief Association, a member of the Nanticoke Kiwanis, the Nanticoke

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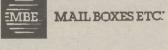


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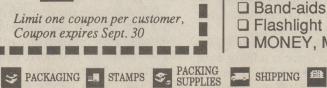
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Masonic Lodge 451, the Caldwell Consistory Valley of Bloomsburg, the Irem Temple Shrine, and chairman of the board of trustees of the Nanticoke First United Methodist Church. He was one of the founders of the Lake Silkworth Protective Association and the Lake-Lehman Taxpayers' Association.

Bill Samuel drove his car until the hard winter of 1993-94, when the ice and heavy snow got the better of him, Chamberlain said.

He was very aware of current events and everything happening around him until the day he was admitted to the hospital with a broken hip.

"His driver, Mike Paraschak, found him lying on the floor where he had fallen," Chamberlain said. "Bill told Mike to 'call that SOB Fritz Chamberlain' and rattled off the phone number while Mike was still trying to find it in the book."

Samuel died after a stroke in the hospital Thursday, August 10. "Bill was a one-of-a-kind guy,"

Chamberlain and Kivler said. "They may replace him, but it won't be with one person."



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