

## Board Names Mason Interim Superintendent

The Fairport Board of Education has appointed Robert W. Mason as Interim Superintendent of Schools for the Fairport school district, effective October 15.

Mason will assume the duties of the chief school administrator on an interim basis following the resignation of Dr. William J. McPhee. Dr. McPhee is leaving the district to take a position in the eastern part of the State.

The interim superintendent will continue in office while the Board searches for a Superintendent of Schools. The process is expected to take several months.

Mason has served the Fairport district for the past eight years, most recently as Assistant Superintendent for Administration. Commenting on his appointment, Board President Edward J. Gallagher said, "The Board is looking forward to continuity of leadership in the district and a continuation of efforts to maintain the quality of programs and services which characterize the Fairport district."

Mason came to Fairport in 1969 as Director of Research and Personnel. He has served as the District's chief negotiator in collective bargaining with employee groups. He has been responsible for recruiting and hiring of teachers and other District personnel, and has served on numerous committees concerned with teacher evaluation, facilities usage, district reorganization, school calendar and others.

His background includes experience in East Irondequoit as an elementary teacher and administrator, and a summer as acting superintendent of the district.

He received the Bachelor's and Master's degrees from



Robert Mason

SUNY Brockport. His "Handbook for Substitute Teachers," developed as a graduate thesis, is used currently in Fairport's elementary schools.

In addition to his professional interests, Mr. Mason has been active in community affairs, as coach of a Little League baseball team and a parish high school basketball team for Church of the Assumption (CYO). He is on the Board of Directors, Day Care Center for Handicapped Children.

Mason, his wife, Barbara, and their four children, reside at 48 Winding Brook Drive in the village of Fairport.

## To Recruit Volunteers

Fred A. McCormick, Director of the Monroe Developmental Center, announces the formation of a Volunteer Advisory Committee. The Center is an agency of the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene serving the developmentally disabled of Monroe County.

Appointed to the committee are Mrs. Leta Belgard, Mrs. John Biemiller, Mrs. George Bird, Mrs. Gene Costantini, Gerry Gizz, Robert H. Gnagy, Mr. Robert Gomperts, Mrs. Betty Hupp, Rodney Houck, Sister Mary Louise Helferman, Mrs. Pat Koenig, Mrs. Sandra D. Koon, Miss Anne Law, Mrs. David Masters, Paul Pierce, Ronald Raig, Mrs. Roger Robach, Mrs. Ronald Smith, Mark Sweetland, Mrs. Robert Tabor, Dr. James Toney, Richard Walsh, Richard Wiles, Mrs. Karl Warner, and Mrs. Richard T. Ziehm.

The Advisory Committee has scheduled their first meeting for September 30, at the Center.

## Tennis Doubles Delayed

The Perinton Recreation and Parks Department rescheduled its Doubles Tennis Tournament from last weekend due to bad weather. In the Men's Doubles, Bob Whiting and Bob Coppola defeated Dave Thomas and Dave Reddington 7-6, 6-0 to win the final match. John Hotchkiss and Gary Moran, Cal Deymond and Larry Lar-

## Applauds Law on Battered Spouses

Family Court Judge H. Robert Herman today applauded recent amendments to the Family Court act which allow battered spouses to have their cases heard in either Family or Criminal Court, and announced a new procedure to assist persons filing petitions in family offense and PINS proceedings.

According to Herman, the Monroe County Department of Probation has been directed by the Monroe County family court to assist in filing petitions, following a directive from the Office of Court Administration which says that the Family Court staff cannot prepare the papers that the Court, itself, will be renewing.

"This is a necessary service for victims who need counseling in determining what action they will take, and should be done by someone outside the actual Court staff," said Herman. "This is our first move in implementation of the new State law and it is essential in making the law function properly."

Herman also called on the State Legislature to make further amendments in the law (Chapter 449, 1977) to protect victims of spouse abuse.

"While the recent amendments to expand the services and choices available to the victim of a family offense are a positive step forward, the statutory coverage requires further refinement."

Among the changes Herman would like to see in the law would be an extension of the time a victim has to determine in which court their case be heard: 'Abuse and battering are humiliating, embarrassing, and dangerous situations. Too often, the victim does not know the law or have enough information to make a quick decision on pressing criminal charges or going through a Family Court proceeding. I am suggesting that we give the victim a reasonable period of time to make that choice. That period might range from

72 hours - as much as fourteen days. This also will give the victim the option of changing courts once the crisis has subsided or leveled off in emotional intensity.'

Herman also believes that the law should include both protection and probation in the case of spouse abuse.

"The combination of an order of protection and probation should be an available alternative," he said. "Both are necessary to provide quick access to police support in the event of further incidents, and probation may well be a necessity to supervise a program of remedial help such as family therapy, and alcohol or drug treatment."

Herman stressed the urgency, also, of amending the law to cover step-parents and stepchildren, and to give criminal courts the ability to issue certificates of orders protection.

"We must give the victims of abuse every possible alternative in dealing with their particular problems," said Herman. "While the new law is a step in the right direction, I am asking our State Legislators to review additional amendments and to make the changes which will improve the law."

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