

Robert Sassone opens Norwood law practice

Robert J. Sassone has opened a law practice on Main Street in the Village of Norwood.

Sassone, who lives on Chase Mills Road in Madrid, is a 1973 graduate of Clarkson College in Potsdam and a May, 1976 graduate of Case Western Reserve University's law school.

At CWRU located in Cleveland, Ohio, Sassone represented the school on its National Moot Court Team and won the Cleveland Bar Association's Individual Moot Court Award in addition to the Ohio and Michigan Trophy for best individual performance in National Moot Court competition.

In December, 1975 he participated in the final rounds of the National Moot Court Championships, held in New York City.

At CWRU he also won the Dean's Briefwriting Award and in his final year at law school was appointed by the faculty to instruct first year law students in legal research, writing and advocacy.

Upon graduation from CWRU he passed the Ohio State Bar examination and accepted a position with the Cleveland law firm of Thompson, Hine and Flory. At the firm he was assigned to the litigation division and participated in the preparation of the brief in the landmark zoning case of Pries City Enterprises, Inc. vs. the City of Eastlake.

That case was recently decided by the United States Supreme Court.

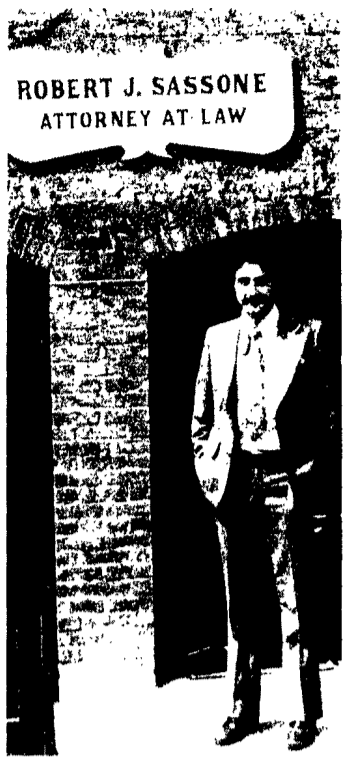
Sassone resigned his position with the Thompson, Hine, and Flory firm due to his desire to return to the north country. He accepted employment with the Mahlon Clemens firm in Canton in January, 1977.

In March he passed his New York State Bar examination and was admitted to the practice of law in New York State in July.

His office is located in the post office building across from the Municipal Building in the Village of Norwood.

His wife, Susan, is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Thomas of 725 Jersey Avenue, Ogdensburg.

Claimants can receive assistance with medical insurance claims by contacting the social security office.



ROBERT J. SASSONE
ATTORNEY AT LAW

Music show to conclude march

An old time country music show featuring many well-known local musicians will be held on September 4 from 4 p.m. until sundown on the Ken Theobald Farm, two miles south of Canton.

The music show will be part of the conclusion of the march in protest of the construction of the 765 kv line in the north country.

Among the performers will be Martin Breakdown; George Dodds of Edwards; St. Regis Valley String Band; members of the North Country Fiddlers Association; Allen Teichman; Tommy Serabian; Makin' bacon, Bob Griswold and Carolyn O'Dell.

Refreshments will be sold and square dancing will be included among the afternoon's events.

Hallada will seek clerk's post Nov. 8

Rita Fuller Hallada, Democratic nominee for the post of town clerk in the November 8 election, is presently participating in the organizational work of the Town Democratic Committee.

Hallada, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Merwin Fuller of Potsdam, was born in Potsdam and graduated from Potsdam High School with a business major. She was employed at the New York Telephone Company as an operator, and also worked as a Centrex operator and receptionist at State University College, Potsdam.

A former secretary of Local 450 of the Aluminum Workers' Union, she is presently employed as library aide for the Norwood-Norfolk elementary schools and has served as president of the Norwood-Norfolk Central School parent-teachers group.

Among her community activities, Hallada is a member of the Grasse River Players, the Tri-Town Singers, St. Andrew's choir, and the Catholic Daughters, Court 715.

A former Democratic committee-woman, she serves as treasurer of the Norwood Village Democratic Committee. She is married to James Hallada, an employee of Reynolds Metal in Massena.

They reside on the Burnham Corners Road and are the parents of three children; Steven, a recent graduate of ATC; Lynne Marie, a student at the Lake Placid School of Art, and James, a sophomore at Norwood-Norfolk Central School.

In stating her reasons for seeking the post, Hallada commented that "I have always enjoyed working with the public and I feel that my training in a number of jobs has given me sufficient experience to prepare me for handling the specifics of this job. I intend to take advantage of all opportunities provided through workshops and schools to add to my knowledge and ability in handling the duties of the office. Actual experience in the town office is not a requirement for election to the post, since such a stipulation would severely reduce the number of potential candidates and would tend to perpetuate political party control. This would deny voters the choice they are entitled to have."

"I meet all the required qualifications stated in the Association of Towns publications regarding candidacy for the post of town clerk. My work in the library involving filing, cataloging, recording, and purchasing will prove beneficial and I would be willing to work to make the services provided by this office as convenient as possible for the taxpayers. For instance, I have already found that a number of area residents have encountered difficulty in acquiring hunting licenses under the present schedule and I would investigate possibilities for extending the hours and locations of sale within the legal limitations," she added.

"I feel that this office should be operated in a manner that is competent and efficient but also shows awareness of the needs of the taxpayers who support it, and I intend to contact as many voters as possible within the coming weeks to ask for their opinions and their support," she concluded.

Potsdam school sets registration dates

There will be a special registration period for students entering the Lawrence Avenue School for the first time in September.

Any student who has not previously attended the Lawrence Avenue School is asked to register at the school office between 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., August 29-31.

Parents should bring their child's birth certificate and immunization record.

Parents transferring students from another school system to Potsdam Central School should also bring records from the school previously attended.



RITA HALLADA

Alcohol federation memberships open

In an effort to respond to the needs and the expressed desires of Alcoholism counselors throughout New York State, concerned alcoholism counselors, program directors, state facility directors and other representatives from the voluntary and private sector have labored since November 1975 to establish the New York Federation of Alcoholism Counselors, Inc. Certified membership in the Federation is voluntary and the standards are high. The Federation is administered by a twenty-member Board of Directors. Each of 10 regions across New York State is forming regional Board of Directors to serve as regional coordinating and supervisory bodies in the respective regions, to review membership applications and to make recommendations for membership to the Board of Directors of the Federation.

The North Country Region Board of Directors representing Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Clinton, Franklin, Essex, and Hamilton Counties has been formed. Until December 31, 1977, this body will be accepting applications from alcoholism counselors for grandfathering into the organization. Thereafter, the mechanism for membership will be by written examination. Any person interested in details should make inquiry from their county Alcoholism Coordinating agency, or from the Community Center for Alcoholism at 314 Stone Street, Watertown, 13601.

Council to discuss water contaminants

The St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council will meet Thursday, August 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the Ogdensburg City Hall. The meeting will be followed at 8 p.m. by a public information meeting on mirex and other chemical contaminants in the St. Lawrence River.

Guest speakers will be Dr. David Axelrod, Director, Division of Laboratories and Research, New York State Health Department and John Spagnoli, Chief of the Bureau of Environmental Protection, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Axelrod will talk about the health effects of mirex and other contaminants. Spagnoli will talk about the state's monitoring program for chemical contaminants in the water.

Also attending the meeting will be Department of Environmental Conservation personnel involved in laboratory analysis of mirex and pesticide contaminants and analysis of data from the statewide monitoring program. Leigh Blake, a fish biologist from D.E.C.'s Watertown office, will also participate in the meeting.

All interested persons wanting information on mirex, mercury or other chemical contaminants in the St. Lawrence River are encouraged to attend. After short presentations by Axelrod and Spagnoli, there will be ample time for questions from the audience.

AFDC ineligibility drops to new low

Fewer ineligible families than ever before are receiving benefits from New York State's Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program, according to preliminary results of a study nearly completed by the state Department of Social Services.

Acting Commissioner Carmen Shang said 6.2 percent of the 375,000 families receiving AFDC during the first half of this year were not eligible for the benefits. That represents a 2.1 percent decrease in ineligibility from 8.3 percent the previous six months, and the lowest ineligibility rate in the program since the state began bi-annual ineligibility surveys in 1972.

Final results of the quality control study will not be available for several weeks, but Shang said the reduction in ineligibility would yield an estimated annual savings of \$25 million in public assistance to ineligible families. Reductions are also expected in losses through overpayments to eligible recipients, but preliminary data were not available.

"Improvements in AFDC administration and reductions in ineligibility occurred throughout the state," Shang said, "including New York City, where the caseload is largest and ineligibility rates historically have been highest."

During the first half of 1977, ineligibility in New York City's caseload of 1.2 million recipients fell from 10.2 percent to 8.3 percent.

The previous ineligibility rate of 8.3 percent was the previous low. Shang said, "A wide range of new and improved management controls are responsible for dramatic improvements in such a short time."

Face-to-Face Recertifications—In New York City, face-to-face interviews to recertify the eligibility of families are now conducted three times a year, allowing more close, systematic review of a family's changing situation and financial resources.

Improved controls over case closings—Districts continue to shorten the time required to close a case and terminate payments to families who lose eligibility.

Child Support Investigations—An increasingly aggressive program of obtaining child support for dependent children and investigating such payments in AFDC families has discouraged some ineligible families from attempting illegally to obtain public assistance benefits.

Mail Surveys—Eligibility questionnaires sent to AFDC recipients are now mailed twice annually in New York City and are required at least once in most upstate counties.

Recipient File Matches—Local Social Services Districts now frequently match recipient payment files against computer files of recipients of SSI, unemployment insurance, Social Security payments and even the employee payrolls of private industry, to identify AFDC recipients with unreported income.

Shang said even tighter eligibility controls and greater savings would result from implementation of statewide computer networks now being developed to operate the welfare and Medicaid programs.

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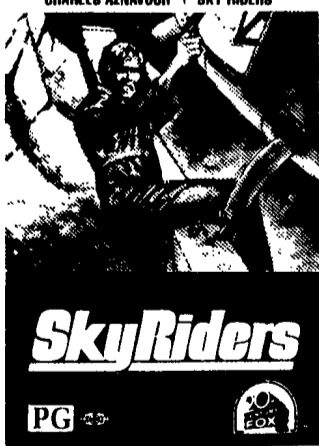
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