

# Islander gets Willowbrook post

Peter J. McDermott of 11 Brentwood Ave., Randall Manor, has been appointed by Gov. Rockefeller to the Board of Visitors of Willowbrook State School.

McDermott, who is vice president and general manager



Peter J. McDermott

of Island Chevrolet, was recommended to the board by Richard Bolton, county GOP leader and vice chairman of the Republican State Committee, because of his activities in several community organizations.

"I'm going in cold," said McDermott last night. "I'll have to study the situation completely before I can see its true nature. At this time I can't say

what I'll be doing.

As a representative of the community, the Board of Visitors makes recommendations to the state Department of Mental Hygiene after first-hand examination of Willowbrook's conditions.

McDermott, who replaces William McKinley, whose term has expired, says that patients at Willowbrook need whatever help they can get and claims that he will do whatever he can to see to that end.

But McDermott, whose wife has been Republican state committeewoman for the past two years, feels that the Rockefeller administration has been unjustly blamed for the affairs at Willowbrook.

"I think it's going on all over and they're just singling out Willowbrook at this time."

"I've been conscious of conditions there," McDermott said. "We have a certain type of responsibility," and he added that he would be "representing

the community 100 per cent."

A graduate of Wayne State College in Michigan, McDermott is lieutenant governor-elect of the metropolitan division of Kiwanis International, a chairman on the board of the American Cancer Society and a member of the Good Scouts of Staten Island.

McDermott's term, subject to approval by the Senate, will expire Dec. 31, 1977. Members of boards of visitors serve without pay.