

## 'Boarders jump on Hudson River Construction's completed project



**Text & photos by Liz Elvin**

**T**o the delight of kids and parents, the Town of Clifton Park's first (and only) skateboard park has been up and running since the end of the summer, thanks to Hudson River Construction Co., Inc.

It was a first for the Hudson River, too, according to Peter Hallock. "We've done a lot of different parks but this one's quite remarkable," he said just before the grand opening of the Clifton Park Action Park, designed for skateboarders and in-line skaters. The town installed the \$400,000 park to keep skateboard-enthusiastic local kids from skateboarding through shopping centers or on roads.

Hudson River Construction's share of the 100-by-100-foot park included all the dirt work, the structural concrete and the concrete floor. Subcontractors put up the fence and pavilion as well as installed the electrical work. A specific playground equipment company from Missouri was responsible for installing and putting together the numerous ramps and jumps.

The park was designed by the sports division of AGC member Clough, Harbour & Associates, which was familiar with Hudson River's work and called them in for the project.

While Mr. Hallock says the concrete work was "fairly straightforward," with ramps, walls and decks, he does add that the concrete had to be modified to prevent cracking and

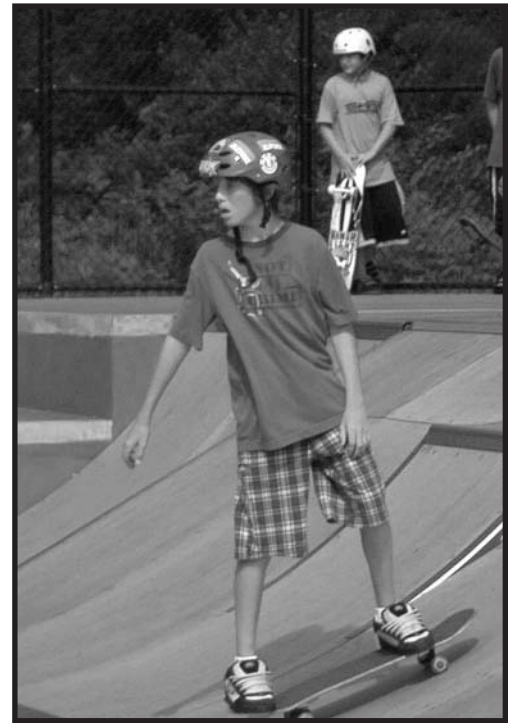
the number of joints had to be reduced to give the 'boarders a smoother surface. In addition, Hudson River had to meet certain flatness requirements, which it exceeded.

"The boarders will be happy. It looks super."

Although this was Hudson River's first skateboard park, Mr. Hallock says he would tackle another one. "Everything is unique. Each job is a new job and while you rely on your past experience, no job is a carbon copy of any other and that's the challenge of it.

"The real fun is when it's done and you can take a look at it and it looks good."

Judging by the happy faces on opening day, it works as good as it looks.



**Avid Clifton Park skateboard enthusiasts eagerly await the ribbon-cutting and grand opening of the Clifton Park Action Park, a 100-x-100-foot enclosed park made just for them to learn and practice tricks, instead of trying them on flimsy homemade ramps, in the streets or on other public property.**

**Judging by the turnout, happy faces and excited shouts, not to mention the number of falls, it was a great success.**