

The Heritage Green area will soon be served by a new elementary school. On November 14, 1986, I joined Regional Chairman Bill Sears, School Board Chairman Rhea Springsted, and other members of the Board in the sod-turning ceremony for the Janet Lee Public School.

School develops sense of community in work

By JOHN MOORE The Spectator

STONEY CREEK — A school is more than just classrooms and lockers, desks and books.

A school is a feeling, a sense of community generated from the shared experiences of the people who work and study there.

In a new school, that camaraderie takes time to develop, as the students of Janet Lee School have discovered.

Drawn from three other schools in the area, the students of Janet Lee were placed in an unfamiliar environment with few recognizable

"It was hard to get used to the school, we felt like we didn't know anybody," said Sandra Deslandes, a grade 7 student.

But thanks to a determined effort by the administration and staff of the Gatestone Drive school, which had its official opening last night, things are getting better.

We've tried to develop a sense of cohesion by having things like a Sports Day, when all the different age groups got together and took part in games," said principal Barry Jackson. "And we've mixed kids from the different schools into each class and had older and younger

students working together."

An important piece of the puzzle, said Mr. Jackson, was to gather together a staff that exhibited the qualities that fostered togetherness. And being afforded the freedom to choose whomever he wanted was a

"I wanted personality as a first quality ... the ability to get along with people and to gain respect quickly," said Mr. Jackson. "Then I looked at their teaching records and tried to get an even split between male and female teachers.

Oct 78 /87

The Latest Addition

Janet Lee School is on Paramount Drive in Upper Stoney Creek and is on schedule to open in September 1987. It will be a fifteen room school with a guidance room and a resource room. The gym, with a stage, and the library resource room will be located in the centre of the school with classrooms around the periphery.

At present it is staffed for twelve classrooms, Kindergarten through grade eight, with an anticipated enrolment of approximately three hundred students.





Cheerful Politician Deputy-Mayor Jim Barlow was obviously enjoying himself at the opening of Janet Lee School.

had b school up here. Well, build we're still working on that one," he said. Bob Coulter, former

principal of Mount Al-bion School and then Billy Green School, said that when he started teaching at Mount Albion in September, 1956, "there were just empty fields where we're sitting now.

Mr. Coulter, who is now superintendent of elementary schools for Wentworth County, made one of the philosophical speeches for

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He talked of pride for the school, the fine teachers who worked there ("most of whom I know quite well") and the importance of

loyalty.
"I look forward to all the good things flowing from this school," said

Mr. Coulter. Janet Lee Davis, granddaughter of the woman after whom the school is named, was introduced and the Erland Lee Museum Home Committee gave a presentation about Janet

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