

Your Opportunity to Become a Part of The Ted Grace Reading Grove @ Corcoran High School

The Ted Grace Reading Grove at Corcoran High is quickly developing as a visual symbol of the importance of literacy to our community. Through the Reading Grove, we celebrate the commitment and educational accomplishments of Ted Grace, a Corcoran graduate, Syracuse University professor, literacy advocate, and accomplished storyteller. In honor of his enormous contributions to promoting literacy in our community, the Corcoran High School PTSO, in conjunction with the Corcoran Alumni Association, Syracuse University and the Cultural Resource Council, is building the Ted Grace Reading Grove, a seating area and outdoor amphitheater to be located on the Corcoran High School campus. Photographs and more information about the project are available on the Corcoran High School website. <http://weblink.scsd.us/~corcoran/TGRG/TGRG.htm>

Since the project's inception in 2006, the Corcoran campus has been transformed. Forty years of neglect, litter and overgrowth has been reversed and the campus is once again a source of beauty and pride. For this, we are very grateful for the tremendous contribution of the community as well as the staff and students of CNY Works. We have raised sufficient funds to install the first phase of the structure we envision, a performance platform on the south lawn of Furnace Brook. The site has been excavated and the foundation will be installed this spring. A dedication ceremony is planned for May, 2010; during which members of Ted Grace's family will unveil the platform and memorial signage.

The next phase of the project is to install the roof structure to complete the amphitheater concept. In order to raise the funds to move forward, we are offering the opportunity for supporters to purchase brick pavers to be laid on the platform foundation. The pavers will be engraved to display the message of your choice: a personal memorial tribute, a recognition of Ted Grace's impact on our community, a parent expressing pride in their student's accomplishments, alumni remembering their Corcoran experience, a staff member celebrating the school's success as a learning community, or a business or community member sending a message of support. The pavers will complement the design used in the adjacent Cougar Outdoor Learning Area, unifying the themes of learning, literacy and campus pride.

An order form and pictures of the project as it unfolds are available on the website listed above. For more information, contact Rae DeFuria (delrae86@clearwire.net) or phone 463-6280) or Ellen Donovan (edonovan4@twcny.rr.com) or phone 436-8120). We look forward to including you in this exciting project and thank you for your support.