

# THE T-S-T TIMES

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## *T-S-T BOCES Mission Statement*

*The mission of our Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga Board of Cooperative Educational Services is to identify, to propose, and to provide high quality services for children and for all the customers served which are economical and efficient in their operation, and which complement the educational program provided by the local school districts and other agencies in our region.*

Fall 2009

## **New Visions in Life Sciences Dedicates Art Garden**

The New Visions Life Sciences Class of 2009 completed their senior year at TST BOCES by dedicating an art garden to the Smith School as a final community service project. The garden was designed and project coordinated by Aurora Ulbing, a student from Newfield in collaboration with Christine Hadekel in the Horticulture Department at Cornell University. Aurora was able to secure plant donations from the local community and compost from Cornell University. They also constructed a cedar bench and stepping stones for students and teachers to use. The garden was designed to serve as a quiet “reading nook” for small groups of students as well as a source for plant material to be used in art projects. The centerpiece of the garden is a *Corylus avellana* (contorted filbert tree).



“We’re so grateful to Michele Sutton, Aurora Ulbing, and the rest of the New Visions Life Sciences class for their gift of the Art Garden,” shared Mary Walters, Instructional Supervisor of the Exceptional Education Department at the Smith School. “Not only is the garden beautiful to look at, but our students are already enjoying caring for it and using leaves and other items from the garden for arts and crafts projects. This act of generosity is an inspiration to our students and representative of the Circle of Courage philosophy upon which our programs are based.”

Pictured: front: (L to R) Julie Fergus, Linda Shutts and Mary Walters from Exceptional Education. Middle row: Aurora Ulbing and Christine Hadekel. Back row: Ashley Scott (Ithaca), Mary Marisa (Ithaca), Gerra Goff (Newfield), Michelle Mathios (Ithaca), Aminatta Sanyang (Ithaca), Jenna Lamb (Lansing), Gene Sparks (LACS), Bryan Curtis (Ithaca), Dylan Marcus (Ithaca), Jon Fenner (Lansing), Lynne Adams (S. Seneca)