

*Program Highlights, Sept, 2004*  
*Teresa Rusinek*  
*Community and Commercial Horticulture, Ag Issues*



- Completed!!!! Baby Seamus, 8lbs.-6oz., 21”

### ***Commercial Ag Production and Marketing***

*Goal:* To bolster Ulster County Agriculture by expanding market opportunities for growers and improving production.

- *Completed* - Small farms and Rural Living Expo 2004 held at Ulster County New Paltz Fairgrounds. This two day event included: fifty educational programs on topics in Business Management, Community and Commercial Horticulture production, Equine and Livestock, Natural Resource Management; ongoing demonstrations and over 60 exhibitors. I was responsible for developing and running the commercial horticulture track and for planting and maintaining two demonstration gardens on the fairgrounds.
- *Completed* - Grower Twilight Meeting held in the cornfield at Gill Farms in Hurley. Growers and industry professionals learned Integrated Pesticide Management techniques on various vegetable crops.

### ***Community Horticulture***

*Goal:* To provide communities with sound horticultural advice and dynamic educational programs.

- ***New Master Gardener Coordinator***- Dona MacWilliams has joined the CCE team after years of working in the sales field in various retail, commercial, and professional nurseries. She also brings her twenty years of experience with Hudson River Sloop Clearwater as a crewperson, volunteer, board member, and coordinator for many of the environmental campaigns and projects. Marie Iannotti has been very gracious to help out during staffing transition. We are fortunate to have Marie continue to be involved in the program as a volunteer.
- ***Wrapping up***- Plant a Row (PAR) for the Hungry. PAR is a program that enlists the help of local home gardeners in feeding the hungry by asking them to plant an extra row of fruit or vegetables in their gardens. Over the summer, the CCE community horticulture program collaborating with the CCE nutrition education programs to deliver the donations, brought in by gardeners to the CCE office, to needy families. In addition, vegetables from the Ulster County Fairgrounds demo garden were harvested throughout the summer by Master Gardener volunteers and brought into the office for distribution. I hope to build this program further next season.
- ***In Progress***- Learning Community School IPM Project for Ulster County, working with regional team and pilot school in New Paltz on sound pest management strategies. Preliminary assessment at New Paltz High School on Oct.13.
- ***In Progress***- Master Gardener Training begins on October 7<sup>th</sup> and continues through March. Fourteen trainees have enrolled in the 100 hour training program.