

Greens

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"Education is a national security issue," Clark said, explaining that education needs to be democratized. "An ignorant nation is an insecure nation, she added. "We need students in medicine, agriculture, energy and engineering."

Clark then pondered why New York state can't feed, clothe and house its citizens. "It's because our curriculum excluded agriculture," she said, adding that agriculture cuts across every aspect of our lives. "Our educational system must incorporate [courses focusing on] self-sufficiency.

"We must begin to talk about the wars," Clark said, listing numerous conflicts in which the U.S. has been and continues to be involved. "Cut the defense budget by 60 to 70 percent," Clark demanded, "and end the wars at home: poverty, injustice ... rebuilding infrastructure and funding programs that benefit children."

Both Clark and Lawrence adamantly oppose the "for-profit" healthcare system currently embraced by both major parties; they want to see a single-payer system that gives every person in the country access to medical care.

They invited Rebecca Elgie and Bernie Fetterly, of the Tompkins County Health Care Task Force, to talk about the current state of healthcare reform.

The recently-passed legislation is simply an extension of the for-profit health industry, said Elgie, noting that the task force is disappointed in the outcome of the healthcare debate. She called for Medicare for all, "something that expands and improves the current system." After criticizing the current administration, Elgie pointed out that one of the proposed bills (HR 676) would provide comprehensive care for everyone while saving about \$400 billion in administrative costs.

To learn more about Lawrence and Clark and their stand on the issues, visit www.cecilelawrence.org and www.coliaclark.org.

Oil Spill

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in helping in the Gulf area may contact the Deepwater Horizon response team at (866) 448-5816.

Another department at Cornell, the Lab of Ornithology, has also weighed in on the subject. They are asking, via the website NestWatch.org, that birdwatchers report any evidence of the effects of

birds coming in contact with oil directly or by eating contaminated animals in the gulf area.

Again, Tompkins County residents can be of help, even without leaving home. Pat Leonard at the lab notes, "Many of the bird species that migrate into or through Tompkins County, including Red Winged Blackbirds and Tree Swallows, spend their winters in the gulf area. Making detailed notes of the number of birds that arrived and nested successfully this year and keeping track of the changes in those numbers over the next several years is important."

It's also possible that a bird directly affected by contact with oil, or having eaten oil-contaminated animals, will reach Tompkins County before it becomes sick or dies, she adds, noting that the oil and the aftermath of the spill will be with us for many years to come.

There may be a few birds that have started a second family this summer, so check nest locations in your yard and register that activity. If you notice a bird with oiled feathers, or a bird behaving abnormally next spring, or find a dead bird with no obvious explanation in your yard, follow the nest watchers code of conduct and the nest monitoring protocol and register your information on line at

www.ebird.org.

You may also contact Leonard at 254-2137.

Principal

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planning to do all of the normal things like attend student athletics and theater and musical performances," he says. "I'm also really interested in getting involved with the local chamber of commerce because I feel like that's an important role for a principal to take on. The school is a powerful force in the Trumansburg economy and also a key factor that relocators take into consideration."

He and his wife plan to live in the Trumansburg area and their two children will be entering fifth and second grade in September.

TCSO Superintendent Paula Hurley believes that Koeng will be an excellent addition to the district's administrative team and will bring consistency, vision, and a sense of community to the Charles O. Dickerson High School.

Student Farm

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There is also no agreement on safe levels of lead. Dilmun Hill has adopted the level of 400 parts per million as a safe mark, given that is EPA's level for children's playgrounds.

Emma Landau, a junior in natural resources at Cornell's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, is one of the student managers running the Best Management Practices study. Hoping that people will realize that there are strategies to cope with less-than-perfect soils, she says, "You are able to build these beds. These are the barriers you can use. We hope people will be encouraged."

Dilmun Hill will hold an open house on Thursday, Sept. 2, from 5-7:30 p.m. at the farm on Route 366 just east of the intersection with Pine Tree Road.

Summer Cypher Event Announced

Unity Studio at the Southside Community Center will hold its second annual Summer CIPHER freestyle competition on Friday, Aug. 27. Registration begins at 4 p.m. with the competition starting at 4:30 p.m.

DJ Split Image will be spinning tracks and a panel of five judges will provide constructive feedback to contestants and award the prizes. Grand prizes include five free hours of recording time at Rep Studio, interviews on Hits 103.3, a 160 gig iPod, studio headphones, cash and lots more.

Contestants will be broken down into three age categories: 10-15, 16-21 and 21-plus.

Summer CIPHER will take place during the Congo Square Market. It will also be the culminating event in Southside's commemoration of Black August, which seeks to educate our community about injustices in history while focusing on the principles of unity, self-sacrifice, political education, physical fitness, resistance and spiritual renewal.

All who get on the mic must be registered. Rules of the event will be posted during registration. The Southside Community Center is located at 305 S. Plain St.

Contact Dani at Southside with questions at 273.4190 or ddiacio@sscc-ithaca.org.



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