ACSD looking at $110M repair bill

By JOHN FLOWERS
MIDDLEBURY — Additional Central School District residents during the past three years have been particularly vocal in support of their preK-12 system, with many voicing to vigorously oppose any potential future efforts to close schools in the ACSD-member towns of Ripton, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury, Sherburne and Westmore.

They might soon get a chance to back up their love of local schools with their pocketbooks.

The ACSD board later this month will receive a major tutorial on the scope of basic capital improvements needed at the district’s seven elementary schools, along with Middlebury Union middle and high schools, based on a recent study of those buildings by Burlington architecture design firm Thrun/Cullins.

And here’s a preview: The company has tentatively placed the cost of updating those nine buildings to current code standards at $110 million. And Thrun/Cullins officials acknowledged that number is underwritten, due to a major surge in inflation and construction costs since the

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Senate this past March passed the Sunshine Protection Act. If it were to pass through the U.S. House and be signed by President Joe Biden, any state in the U.S. observing Daylight Saving Time would begin to do so year-round, starting next November.

You have a local opportunity to add your voice to international condemnation of Iran’s recent crackdown on women’s and human rights. Middlebury College students have organized a rally in support of Iranian women on Friday, Nov. 4, from 2-4 p.m., at the Feminist Resource Center at Chellis House at 567 College St. Participants will have a chance to cut their hair in solidarity with women in Iran, starting at 2 p.m. At 3:30 p.m., participants will march to Mead Chapel and will present the Fellig Hall. Signs will be provided. You are welcome to bring any or your own signs, but please ensure that your words and/or imagery are in no way offensive to women who choose to wear a hijab.

The Vermont Agency of Transportation is again inviting Vermont schoolchildren to name the state’s big orange snowplows. Last year, participating public and private schools, homeschooling students, and nursery schools nominated 163 of the state’s fleet of full-sized plow trucks. This year, VTrans is asking students to name the remaining 47 trucks. Each school may submit only one name. This is not a contest; every school that submits a name will participate, though it’ll be first come, first served to name the 47 trucks. Schools that participated last year may not submit another name. The trucks that they named last year will keep the same names this year. The school principal or director should review the name to ensure it’s appropriate and not already in use. The list of 2021 plow names is at vtrans.vermont.gov/vermont-plow-day. Students that they named last year may not submit another name. The trucks that they named last year will keep the same names this year. The school principal or director should review the name to ensure it’s appropriate and not already in use. The list of 2021 plow names is at vtrans.vermont.gov/vermont-plow-day. Schools that participated last year may not submit another name. The trucks that they named last year will keep the same names this year. The school principal or director should review the name to ensure it’s appropriate and not already in use. The list of 2021 plow names is at vtrans.vermont.gov/vermont-plow-day. Schools that participated last year may not submit another name. The trucks that they named last year will keep the same names this year. The school principal or director should review the name to ensure it’s appropriate and not already in use. The list of 2021 plow names is at vtrans.vermont.gov/vermont-plow-day. Each school may submit only one name, so you’ll have more energy the next day.

AmeriCorps members are helping the Middlebury Area Land Trust through which seven local individuals are helping manage the trail, and MALT recently added new AmeriCorps members to its staff. Below, MALT Executive Director Jamie Brookside took part in the TAM Trek.

MALT

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Simon Schreier and Lands & Trails Manager Caleb Boss, MALT now — for the first time ever — has a full-time position is being funded through the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board. Kim and Walsh are both working four to six hours per week, with funding from a new MALT giving board. Moody’s full-time position is now — for the first time ever — on the Trail Around Middlebury, or TAM, that is stewarded by the Middlebury Area Land Trust. The fundraiser garnered more than $16,000 to maintain the trail, and MALT recently added new AmeriCorps members to its staff. Below, MALT Executive Director Jamie Brookside took part in the TAM Trek.

MALT Executive Director Jamie Brookside said of the AmeriCorps members. Local individuals are helping manage the trail through which seven local individuals are helping manage the trail, and MALT recently added new AmeriCorps members to its staff. Below, MALT Executive Director Jamie Brookside took part in the TAM Trek.

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ENERGETIC YOUNGSTERS TAKE off all the start of a 5K fun run / walk at the 19th annual TAM Trek, which featured races on and around the Trail Around Middlebury, or TAM, that is stewarded by the Middlebury Area Land Trust. The fundraiser garnered more than $16,000 to maintain the trail, and MALT recently added new AmeriCorps members to its staff. Below, MALT Executive Director Jamie Brookside took part in the TAM Trek.

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