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CITY/COUNTY DIGEST

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In Baltimore City

Group protests proposal to close elementary school

Chanting "save our school," about 70 parents, teachers and pupils paraded last night outside Charles Carroll of Carrollton Elementary/Middle School at Orleans Street and Central Avenue to protest its proposed closing.

The rally was one of the first since education officials announced last week they are considering closing 12 schools.

Amirah Benton, the mother of a prekindergartner who attends Carrollton, said parents are concerned about the safety of children forced to go to school outside their neighborhood. Some of the children would have to cross major intersections to attend the school where they would be transferred, she said.

House OKs renaming post office after Cole

The House of Representatives voted yesterday to rename the main post office at 900 E. Fayette St. the "Judge Harry Augustus Cole Post Office Building" in honor of Maryland's first black state senator.

Cole, who died in 1999, also was the first black assistant state attorney general and the first black appointed to the Court of Appeals, the state's highest court, in 1977.

Rep. Elijah E. Cummings, a Baltimore Democrat who sponsored the measure, called Cole "a trailblazer" who "walked through uncharted territory and left a clear path for others to follow." The measure now goes to the Senate.

Development of Midtown is topic of forum today

A plan to guide development of four neighborhoods in Midtown will be the subject of a forum at noon today at the Johns Hopkins University's Downtown Center, Charles and Saratoga streets.

Community activist and historian Charles Duff, who heads Jubilee Baltimore, is scheduled to speak. Jubilee Baltimore developed the plan, which affects Mount Vernon, Bolton Hill, Madison Park and Charles North, for the Midtown Community Benefits District.

The forum is sponsored by the Baltimore Architectural Foundation.

In Baltimore County

Police find car belonging to slain Perry Hall woman

TOWSON - A car belonging to a 24-year-old Perry Hall woman who was killed Saturday morning was found yesterday in East Baltimore, county police said.

The vehicle had been missing since Saturday, when two men with whom Sandra Elizabeth Shipley had been riding shot her and ran over her body with the car in Rosedale in eastern Baltimore County, police said. The 1990 Plymouth Acclaim was found in the 3500 block of Chesterfield Ave. by a county detective.

Officials are examining the car at police headquarters in Towson.

School joins program to equip pupils for future

DUNDALK - Dundalk Middle School has become part of a network of schools involved in an initiative called Making Middle Grades Matter.

The program was developed by the Southern Regional Education Board and includes standards that are used to try to improve schools' instructional programs. The goal is to provide pupils with the skills and knowledge to be successful in high school programs without the need for remedial help.

Representatives of the board, the state Department of Education and the community will visit the school from Tuesday through Sept. 28 to evaluate its progress.

Loading Dock to join Turners Station cleanup

DUNDALK - The Loading Dock, a nonprofit company dedicated to recycling construction materials, will join Baltimore County's Pitch In for Progress weekend on Saturday by distributing materials from the Fleming Community Center, 641 Main St. in the Turners Station neighborhood.

The free, one-day distribution will be for Turners Station residents only. It will provide recycled paint in 1- and 5-gallon containers, carpet sections and TSP, a product used to prepare surfaces for painting.

Several cleanup and beautification projects will take place in Turners Station Saturday. More than 400 volunteers are expected to participate. Information: 410- 887-2483.