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# THE **KENBRIDGE VICTORIA** DISPATCH

VOLUME 101

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*Devoted To The Interests Of Lunenburg County*

## Road reopens after sinkhole filled

By Jeff Moore  
*The K-V Dispatch*

All of 4th Street in Victoria is open again for traffic, after work crews fixed a sinkhole that developed last week.

Victoria Town Manager Rodney Newton said the town's public works staff have

been repairing the problem, which developed on 4th Street between Washington and Main Streets on Tuesday, Oct. 17. The street was closed to through traffic, but left open for residents to get to their homes.

"The investigation revealed a sewer line collapse around

### VICTORIA

a lateral connection from a residence on that street," Newton said. "The crews began excavating to make repairs and discovered a deteriorated sewer main."

Newton said that after the public works crew got to the

sewer line, they made the decision to replace it due to the existing pipe's condition.

About 400 feet of 8-inch line has been replaced to stop the leak, so the sink hole could be back-filled to resolve the issue, he explained.

Google Maps shows the section of 4th Street is a resi-

dential area with about a half dozen homes, just two blocks from downtown.

As of Monday afternoon, Newton said all residents on the affected street have been connected to the new sewer main.

See SINKHOLE, Page 5

## Central High crowns homecoming court

By Brian Carlton  
*The K-V Dispatch*

Central High has a new queen and king. During the homecoming celebration at halftime of Friday's game against Cumberland, Angeleka White-Freeman was named this year's homecoming queen, with Maxi Hernandez Alvarez chosen as king.

White-Freeman is a student council representative at Central High, while also taking part in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Kindness Matters programs. The daughter of Joyce White Freeman and Jacoby Freeman, Sr., the latter of which escorted her on Friday, she plays volleyball, basketball and is a cheerleader at the school. Prior to Friday, White-Freeman said her favorite homecoming memory was walking across



Photo by Connor Thompson

Angeleka White-Freeman and Maxi Hernandez Alvarez celebrate being named this year's homecoming king and queen.

See COURT, Page 5

## Miyares asks sheriffs to donate

By Brian Carlton  
*The K-V Dispatch*

Virginia Attorney General Jason Miyares sent a letter out on Tuesday, Oct. 17, one that went to Lunenburg County Sheriff Arthur Townsend, along with every other sheriff in Virginia.

He just included one request, asking all 123 sheriffs to consider donating their expired or excess law enforcement gear to the Office of the Attorney General. Then in turn, Miyares explained, the AG's office would send it all to the Israeli military.

"I am shocked and grieved by the senseless terrorist attacks on Israel by the Hamas terrorist organization," Miyares wrote. "The loss of innocent life and disregard for human rights is painfully tragic to see."

Miyares said he's seen multiple groups offering support or humanitarian relief. What he wanted to do was something along the same lines, but given to a different group.

"My office is coordinating efforts to collect surplus body armor, protective gear, and tactical equipment from local law enforcement departments that want to help the Israel Defense Forces fight terrorism in Israel and Palestine," Miyares said in the letter. "If you have excess law enforcement protective

See MIYARES, Page 5

## Three counties. One enterprise zone. No answers.

By Jeff Moore  
*The K-V Dispatch*

It's something you don't exactly see every day. Lunenburg, Charlotte and Prince Edward counties are connected to each other through an enterprise zone, one that exists on each of their respective borders. But the problem is that the enterprise zone, where specific incentives and other deals can be made for economic development, is going away unless something changes in the next 12 months.

The counties have until the end of 2024 to get a five-year extension on the zone. But to

date, no state lawmaker has been willing to carry that bill.

County officials agree the enterprise zone makes the region more appealing to prospective business and industry.

"The Lunenburg Board is aware of the possibility of expiration of the zone and supports its continuation," Lunenburg County Administrator Tracy Gee said Monday.

Gee's counterparts in Charlotte and Prince Edward agree.

"It's been a great opportunity to be collaborative and really have a regional approach to economic development," Prince Edward Director of

See ENTERPRISE, Page 3

## Central eyes No. 1 seed in Region 2A

By Matt Hatfield  
*The K-V Dispatch*

For the fourth game in a row, Central High took care of business on the gridiron, defeating Cumberland 48-6 last Friday to improve to 8-1 overall on the season.

Athletic Director Wallace Owen, who's also the defensive coordinator for the football team, was honored before the game. That was one of the highlights for what tends to be a stressful week for Chargers head coach Will Thomas.

"Homecoming week is See CENTRAL, Page 2



Photo by Connor Thompson

Linebacker #11 Connor Mattox hammers a Cumberland runner, almost causing him to fumble the ball.

**Anthony sets timeline for new music**  
Page 10

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# SINKHOLE: An aging sewer line collapse caused the problem

FROM PAGE ONE

The sinkhole has been filled, he said.

“Repaving of the road will occur after some time for setting,” he added. The Town of Victoria has

been working to make upgrades to its aging infrastructure. In a statement to *The K-V*

*Dispatch* earlier in March after a series of water leaks developed around the town, officials said the town “is

striving towards upgrading water and sewer infrastructure throughout the town, but this will take time.”

# MIYARES: Letter sent to all 123 sheriffs in Virginia

FROM PAGE ONE

equipment, my office will collect them and ship it to the Israel Defense Forces.”

## IS THAT LEGAL?

And understandably, that brought up some questions and concerns. Questions from Virginia residents who asked if it was legal for an attorney general to do this and concern from people who won-

dered if excess supplies from some of the wealthier counties in Virginia couldn't be better used in places like Lunenburg, where departments don't have as much funding.

Miyares said he recognized some departments couldn't contribute.

“While I'm aware that some police departments are stretched for resources, there are many departments that have expired equipment (that is) required to be donated or discarded,” Miyares wrote. “During

my trip to Israel earlier this year, I met women and men who serve in the Israel Defense Forces who are willing to give their lives to maintain peace in this region of the world. They are committed to democracy and the public safety of their land, and I am proud to stand with them during this difficult time.”

As for the question if it is legal, the answer appears to be yes. *The Dispatch* reached out to three different law schools and while none of the professors would go on the record, those we talked to said they saw no legal problem with the concept.

*The Dispatch* reached out to Sheriff Townsend for comment, but he was unavailable by presstime. The staff confirmed they received the Attorney General's letter but beyond that said we would have to talk with the sheriff.

# COURT: All levels represented in this year's group

FROM PAGE ONE

the field as a member of the 2022 court with her grandfather. Now she's the new homecoming queen, with plans to go to college and study to become a physical therapist or a dentist.

Taking the role of homecoming king is Maxi Hernandez Alvarez, the son of Maria Castro. Alvarez told the school in his questionnaire that he likes to bike and draw in his free time, but above all, he tries to serve his community however he can. He plans to attend Roanoke College next year.

## THE HOMECOMING COURT

Now beyond king and queen, there are several more members of the homecoming court to name. First, we spotlight the senior princes and princesses. The senior princes for Central High this year are Christopher Tomlinson and Matthew McNeese.

Tomlinson, the son of Chris and Holly Tomlinson, works at Food Lion in Victoria and he plans to go to a four-year university next year, majoring in nursing. McNeese, the son of Rebecca Thompson, works at Sunset Ornamental Concrete. After graduation,

he plans to go to an auto mechanic trade school.

This year's senior princesses are Riley Jaden Owen and Cayley Stokes. Owen, the granddaughter of Glinda Owen, works at Bliss of Lunenburg and next year, she plans to attend community college and major in psychology with a minor in child development. Stokes, the daughter of Aaron Stokes and Jennifer Wallace, is a member of Kindness Matters and plays softball and basketball. In her free time, she loves to spend time with family and friends and riding four wheelers. Next year, Stokes plans to attend Mary Baldwin University to continue her education and play softball.

Representing the junior class are junior prince Tristan Hamm and junior princess Julianna Bender. Hamm, the son of Melissa Hamm, works at Sundaes in Kenbridge and enjoys helping out with Toys for Tots. Bender, the daughter of Michael and Courtney Bender, is a junior class officer who participates in MGA, FCA, Student Council, CHS Cares, and Kindness Matters. She

is also a member of the track team, sideline and competition cheer.

For the sophomore class, Jeremy Lawson II is this year's prince and Lydia Anderson is this year's princess. Lawson is the son of Jeremy and Missy Lawson. He told the school questionnaire that he loves to play guitar and skate. Anderson is the daughter of Chris and Stephanie Anderson. She plays club softball, school volleyball and

basketball. Lydia is also a cheerleader and member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Finally, representing the freshman class this year is Chad Mattox as prince and Lilly Gary as princess. Mattox, the son of Joey and Stephanie Mattox, plays football, baseball and is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Gary, the daughter of Steve and Michelle Gary, is a cheerleader and dancer.



Know the when, where, and how. Then vote.

AARP Virginia has collected all of the most up-to-date voting information. Visit [aarp.org/VAvotes](http://aarp.org/VAvotes).



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I would like to take this time to say thanks!  
**To my family; sisters, nieces, nephews and many friends for your love**  
 And support and concern you all gave me when I was in the Hospital and my return home. Thank you for your prayers, food, phone calls and anything you did show you care.  
 May God bless and keep you in his care.  
 With much Love, Cleveland Johnson

**UPCOMING AUCTION**  
**On Site Auction Preview - Friday, October 27th, 9-5 PM**  
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## Legal Notice

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC., FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW RATE SCHEDULE RNG AND TARIFF PURSUANT TO § 56-236 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA CASE NO. PUR-2023-00159

On September 7, 2023, Columbia Gas of Virginia, Inc. (“CVA” or “Company”) filed an application (“Application”) pursuant to § 56-236 of the Code of Virginia. CVA’s Application seeks approval of its proposed Rate Schedule RNG: Renewable Natural Gas Receipt Service (“Rate Schedule RNG”). Specifically, the Company proposes Rate Schedule RNG to allow renewable natural gas (“RNG”) producers (“RNG Producers”) to interconnect with CVA’s distribution system and deliver RNG into CVA’s system, and allow CVA to recover the costs associated with such interconnection(s) from RNG Producers. The Company states the rate for Rate Schedule RNG service will be unique to each of the RNG Producers who enter into an agreement for service under the proposed tariff. CVA states that the rate will be based upon the cost of service associated to the Company’s facilities required to make the interconnection and service available.

In support of its Application, the Company states that it has been approached by potential RNG Producers who have expressed an interest in connecting their facilities to CVA’s distribution system and delivering RNG to the Company. The Company asserts that the proposed Rate Schedule RNG enables CVA to recover the costs associated with such interconnections from the RNG Producers, and not from CVA’s general body of customers. The Application states that service under Rate Schedule RNG will be available to RNG Producers in CVA’s certificated territory who enter into a Facilities Interconnect Agreement with CVA for an interconnection to deliver RNG to CVA for CVA’s system supply. The Facilities Interconnect Agreement will specify the terms and conditions of the interconnection of the RNG Producer’s facilities to the Company’s facilities including the cost thereof.

CVA requests that the Commission find Rate Schedule RNG to be in the public interest because, according to the Company, it allows RNG Producers to interconnect with CVA’s system and thus the ability to provide RNG, a low to zero carbon fuel, to CVA’s customers. CVA states that the use of RNG will reduce the carbon emissions of CVA’s customers. The Company further states that RNG interconnection service also provides an opportunity for further development and investment in RNG production with its related environmental and economic benefits. In addition, the Company notes that it has the potential to provide additional supply to CVA.

Further details are set forth in the Company’s Application and supporting materials, and interested persons are encouraged to review these documents.

TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may adopt rates and terms and conditions that differ from those appearing in the Company’s Application and supporting documents.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Comment that, among other things, directed the Company to provide notice to the public and provided interested persons an opportunity to comment on the Company’s Application.

To promote administrative efficiency and timely service of filings upon participants, the Commission has directed the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings, unless they contain confidential information, and required electronic service on parties and Staff in this proceeding. Please refer to the Commission’s Order for Notice and Comment for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

An electronic copy of the Application may be obtained, at no charge, by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company: T. Borden Ellis, Assistant General Counsel, NiSource Corporate Services Company, 1809 Coyote Drive, Chester, Virginia 23836, or [tbellis@nsource.com](mailto:tbellis@nsource.com). Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission’s website: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

On or before December 13, 2023, any interested person may file comments on the Application by following the instructions on the Commission’s website: [scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](http://scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments). Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All such comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2023-00159.

On or before December 13, 2023, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation with the Clerk of the Commission at: [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the

address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel. A copy of the notice of participation also must also be sent to counsel for the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (“Rules of Practice”), any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, *Counsel*, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2023-00159.

On or before December 13, 2023, any interested person may request that the Commission convene a hearing in this matter by filing a request for hearing electronically via [scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling). Those unable, as a practical matter, to file electronically may file a request for hearing by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such request for hearing shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. A copy of the request for hearing also must also be sent to counsel for the Company. Requests for a hearing shall include: (i) a precise statement of the filing party’s interest in the proceeding; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; (iii) a statement of the legal basis for such action; and (iv) a precise statement why a hearing should be conducted in this matter. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2023-00159.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission’s Order for Notice and Comment, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Rules of Practice.

The Company’s Application, the Commission’s Rules of Practice, and the Commission’s Order for Notice and Comment may be viewed at: [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

COLUMBIA GAS OF VIRGINIA, INC.

## Consumer fraud triples

The numbers are in. The Federal Trade Commission released its annual compendium of fraud reports from last year, and the news is shocking. Over the past three years, reported losses to consumer fraud has tripled, coming in at a reported \$5.9 billion in 2021.

Nearly six million US consumers reported a scam last year and the median loss was \$500. But the FTC can only tell us about fraud that was reported – we know the losses and number of victims is far higher.

Many factors contribute to under-reporting, including the abundant shame victims feel. AARP officials argue this has to change, starting with how we talk about fraud victims. That means changing the current narrative that suggests it’s the victim’s fault – she was duped, he was swindled, they fell for it. AARP officials urge people to focus instead on the crime and the criminal. That means easing the emotional burden while making it clear that fraud is a crime.