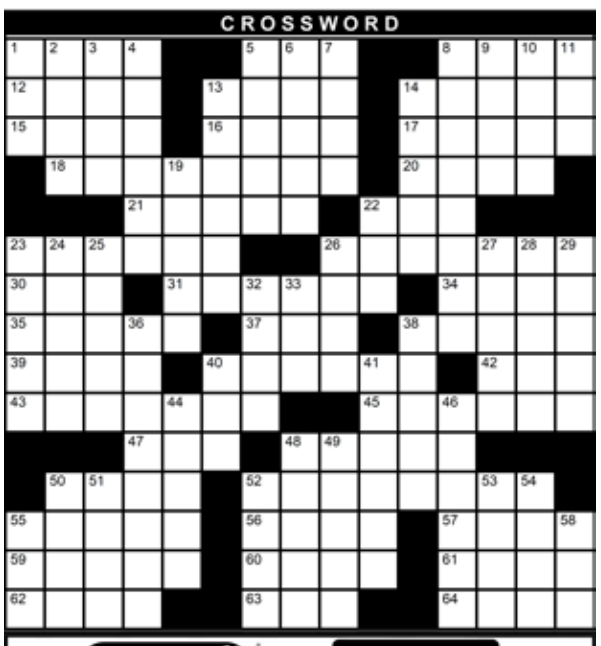
CROSSWORD & SUDOKU PUZZLES

CROSSWORD



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Across

1. Abbreviation, abbr.
5. Corvine bird's sound
8. Aquarium dweller
12. Sandwich shop
13. Half human, half cobra in Hinduism
14. Blatant
15. Don't go
16. *Tony Stark, a.k.a. ____ Man
17. High-quality black tea
18. *Leader of Guardians of the Galaxy
20. Research facil.
21. Words to live by
22. Leo month
23. ____ Tree National Park
26. Period between linked activities (2 words)
30. Not safe in baseball
31. Drunk's speech?
34. Sitar music
35. Doughy snack of Jewish origin
37. Rage
38. Seize a throne
39. Common hosiery shade
40. Nom de guerre
42. "Wow!"
43. What emergency workers do
45. Choice word
47. Young newt
48. Passport stamps
50. Vomit
52. *Doctor Doom's frequent ally (2 words)
55. Deserved consequence
56. One of Great Lakes
57. Iranian money
59. Like Vitruvian Man, e.g.
60. Prima donnas' problems
61. Author Murdoch
62. Like Regina George
63. "____ My People Go"
64. *Sandman can transform his body into this

Down

1. Pop-ups, e.g.
2. Risky business, pl.
3. Cry plaintively
4. Capital of Saudi Arabia
5. Billiards bounce
6. Ancient Greek marketplace
7. Diagon Alley purchase
8. *Captain America's team
9. Albanian monetary units
10. Small cave
11. What Pac-Man did to strawberry
13. Largest Asian antelope
14. Poppy seed derivative
19. Just outside a fairway
22. Inflation matter
23. *Batman's arch-nemesis
24. 1/16th of a pound
25. Not shakes, as in bartender
26. *____ Titans, cyborgs' team
27. L in LOL
28. Acquiesce
29. Rubbernecker
32. Tough spot
33. *Leonardo to Michelangelo
36. *One from Krypton
38. Inuit skin boat
40. *Size-changing ____-Man
41. Yeses, alt. sp.
44. Butcher's refuse
46. Trouble, in Yiddish
48. Threshold
49. "Complete ____'s Guides"
50. Bid, past tense
51. Particular region
52. Comes on a rod
53. Turkish currency
54. Been in bed
55. *____ Possible
58. Lysergic acid derivative, acr.

Solution found on page B5

SUDOKU

		6	9			1	2	
		9			1		4	
			4				7	
4			6	7			9	
		5				7		
	3			8	9			1
	5				2			
	2		1			8		
	9	8			5	2		

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Solution found on page B5

KY ATTORNEY GENERAL COLEMAN FIGHTING TO KEEP VIOLENT FELONS IN JAIL

By ROBERTA CANTRELL
BSN Editor

FRANKFORT- A total of seven individuals who are classified as violent offenders from our area could be among 240 convicted felons released from prison.

In a press release it was announced that KY Attorney General Russell Coleman was heading to the state Court of Appeals in an effort to keep all 240 behind bars.

"At issue is a portion of the Safer Kentucky Act, passed by the General Assembly in 2024 that was struck down by a Franklin Circuit judge last month. The measure broadened the offenses that would classify someone as a violent offender.

That matters because under Kentucky law, violent offenders must serve at least 85 percent of their sentences, whereas other offenders are eligible for parole after serving 20 percent of their sentences.

After the measure was struck down, Coleman went back to court to ask for a delay in implementing the order while the case was appealed. The judge denied that request.

Now, unless the Court of Appeals intervenes, more than 240 inmates previously classified as violent offenders could be released from prison."

Among those from our area are:

JOHNSON COUNTY: Angel Gipson, first-degree strangulation and Sierra Meagher, first-degree burglary;

MARTIN COUNTY: Austin Jackson, two counts of second-degree rape and John Perry, first-degree sexual abuse;

FLOYD COUNTY: Jonathan Fannin, first-degree sexual abuse and William Hall, first-degree strangulation, first-degree criminal abuse and Kathy Salyer, second-degree sodomy.

"The General Assembly passed the Safer Kentucky Act to protect families and support law enforcement," Coleman said in a news release. "Unless the Court of Appeals steps in, more violent criminals could soon be back in your neighborhood."


JONATHAN FANNIN

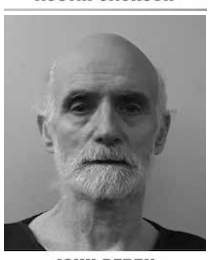

WILLIAM HALL


KATHY SALYER


SIERRA MEAGHER


ANGEL GIPSON


AUSTIN JACKSON


JOHN PERRY

INDEPENDENT VOTERS OUT-REGISTER OTHERS IN FEBRUARY

FRANKFORT — Secretary of State Michael Adams announced that, leading up to the May 19 primary election, most new voters registering in February rejected the two major parties. Of 2,606 net new registrants, nearly two-thirds registered under other political affiliations (mostly Independent).

"Independents are out-registering Republicans and Democrats, leading up to party primaries in which Independents cannot vote," Adams said. "It's no wonder that both Republican and Democratic legislators are filing bills to open our primaries to Independents."

In February, overall registration rose by 6,777 voters, while 4,171 voters were removed: 3,476 who were deceased, 327 felony convicts, 237 who moved out of state, 63 adjudged mentally incompetent, 27 who voluntarily de-registered, 23 non-citizens, and 18 duplicate registrations.

Republican registration constitutes 48 percent of the electorate, with 1,604,469 voters. Republican registration grew by 1,174 voters, a .07 percent increase. Democratic registration accounts for 41 percent of the electorate, with 1,373,995 voters. Democratic registration fell by 261, a .02 percent decrease. There are 376,201 voters registered under other political affiliations (mostly independent), making up 11 percent of the electorate. "Other" registration rose by 1,693, a .45 percent increase.

PSC ISSUES ORDER IN KENTUCKY POWER RATE CASE NO. 2025-00257

SETTLEMENT MODIFIED TO LOWER INCREASE FOR RATEPAYERS

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) issued its Final Order in the Kentucky Power Rate Case on Saturday, Feb. 28, modifying a settlement reached between some parties to the case.

Under the PSC's Final Order, the average residential customer using 1,208 kWh per month will see an average monthly energy bill increase of $10.76 in the first year, resulting in an average bill of $194.13, up from an average bill from base rates of $183.37. This represents an increase of approximately 5.87% percent for the first year, and there will be an additional 0.76% increase after the first year.

The reason for the slight rate increase after the first year is a provision that allows Kentucky Power to use certain deferred tax liabilities to reduce rates. This mechanism, called a DTL Rider, will use those credits to reduce customer bills in the first year rather than in the

future as under traditional ratemaking.

In the company's original application, residential customers would have seen an average monthly energy bill increase of $27.30, resulting in an average bill of $210.67, up from an average bill from base rates of $183.37. This would have represented an increase of

approximately 14.62% percent.

Since the company has a large number of customers with high usage in some months, the PSC approved a new two-tiered rate design for residential customers. It is designed to levelize bills and alleviate some of the high costs paid by customers with the highest usage. The higher usage customers will pay a higher basic customer charge ($38 rather than $24) but all customers pay a lower volumetric rate for every kWh beyond the first 600 kWh used ($0.156321per kWh for the first 600 kWh and $0.117555 for all usage above 600kWh).

The final order also requires Kentucky Power to undergo an independent management audit to review Kentucky Power's operations, decision making processes, and its relationship with its parent company, American Electric Power, with the goal of identifying potential efficiencies that will benefit customers.

"As utility costs in this country continue to outpace inflation, electricity rates have become an issue for every utility in every state in the past few years, but perhaps none more intense than for this particular company, due in large part to a loss of population, about 12,000 fewer

residential customers over the past 14 years, and a 38% decrease in industrial power customer consumption in Kentucky Power's service territory. That has caused the company's costs to be spread among fewer customers," said PSC Chair Angie Hatton.

"We heard emotional pleas at our public comment hearings from ratepayers. They are angry and scared of the additional financial hardship caused by any potential increase," Hatton said. "The PSC must balance the interests of fair rates for all customers with the realities of the cost of providing reliable electric service and issue a decision based on the evidence presented and within the laws that govern rates."

The Kentucky Attorney General, the Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers (KIUC), SWVA Kentucky, the Appalachian Citizens Law Center, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, the Kentucky Solar Energy Society, the Mountain Association, and Kentucky Solar Industries

Association (KYSIA) intervened in the case.

Although it was not ultimately approved as written, a Settlement Agreement between Kentucky Power, KIUC and KYSEIA was filed into the case record on January 9, 2026. The Settlement Agreement proposed a base rate increase of $58,730,654, before application of the

DTL Rider proposed therein, and a new Generation Rider with a first-year revenue requirement of $18,669,720, for a total annual revenue requirement increase of $77,400,374. The PSC reduced the total authorized annual revenue to an increase of $55,046,220, which represents a

$40,512,028 reduction from the $95,558,248 sought in Kentucky Power's original application.

The Commission's approved rate included a modified Generation Rider that was included in the settlement because the rider may facilitate future savings for customers through potential securitization of costs at a later date.

A copy of the final order and the complete record of the case including the application, public comments, and other case filings are available at

https://psc.ky.gov/Case/ViewCaseFilings/2025-00257.

Kentucky Power is a jurisdictional electric utility that generates and purchases electricity that it distributes and sells at retail to approximately 162,511 customers located in all, or portions of Boyd, Breathitt, Carter, Clay, Elliott, Floyd, Greenup, Johnson, Knott, Lawrence, Leslie,

Letcher, Lewis, Magoffin, Martin, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Pike, and Rowan counties. Kentucky Power's last adjustment of its electric rates was in Case No. 2023-00159.

The PSC is an independent agency attached for administrative purposes to the Energy and Environment Cabinet. It regulates more than 1,100 gas, water, sewer, electric and telecommunication utilities operating in Kentucky and has approximately 90 employees.