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Courier Journal

Louisville, Kentucky

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Derby Week has big price tag for city

Police department spends hundreds of thousands

Killian Baarlaer
Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Each year, hundreds of thousands of people descend on Louisville and the iconic Churchill Downs Racetrack for the Kentucky Derby and the festivities preceding it.

With that influx of people comes a price tag for Louisville taxpayers and the city agencies that provide various public safety and emergency response services to support the events.

Those expenses came into focus in 2025, when Louisville officials discussed renewing a financial incentive for Churchill Downs. Under the deal, which

Inside

- What you should (and shouldn't) wear to Derby. **3A**
- Experts will break down the field and give advice at Courier Journal event. **6A**

was approved by the Louisville Metro Council last December, Metro Government can issue up to \$1.2 billion of industrial revenue bonds with 30-year

terms on behalf of Churchill Downs Inc. to help the company finance improvements to the iconic racetrack that's home to the Kentucky Derby.

The deal entails Metro Government taking ownership of the track and some surrounding lots and leasing it back to the company, giving the company a break on local property taxes. The deal replaced one that was first put in place

See **DERBY WEEK**, Page **6A**

Jacqueline Coleman to run for governor in 2027



Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman announces her campaign for governor in Frankfort on April 20. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL CLEVINGER/COURIER JOURNAL

Lieutenant governor hasn't named running mate

Lucas Aulbach
Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

FRANKFORT – The race to follow Gov. Andy Beshear into the governor's mansion next year is off and running.

Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman, who has served as the two-term Demo-

cratic governor's second-in-command throughout his time in office, started the week by launching her 2027 gubernatorial campaign in Frankfort, according to a campaign website that became public just ahead of a scheduled press conference.

See **COLEMAN**, Page **2A**



Coleman gets a hug from her daughter, Evelynne, as she is joined by her family after announcing her campaign for governor in Frankfort.

Ceasefire negotiations on shaky ground

Talks uncertain after U.S. seizes Iranian ship

Kathryn Palmer, Adrianna Rodriguez and Francesca Chambers
USA TODAY

Iran is considering attending peace talks with the United States in Pakistan, a senior Iranian official told Reuters on April 20, following moves by Islamabad to end a U.S. blockade of Iran's ports, a major hurdle for Iran to rejoin peace efforts. However, the official stressed that no decision had been made.

With a two-week ceasefire set to expire on April 22, a senior Iranian official said Tehran was "positively reviewing" its participation but no final decision had been made. The comments conveyed a clear change of tone from earlier statements ruling out attendance and pledging to retaliate for U.S. aggression.

The Iranian official said mediator Pakistan was making positive efforts to end the U.S. blockade and ensure Iran's participation.

The ceasefire had appeared in jeopardy after the United States said it had seized an Iranian cargo ship on April 19 that tried to evade its blockade in the Strait of Hormuz and Tehran vowed to

See **IRAN**, Page **7A**

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