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York County organizations, bars worry as skill games are removed



James K. DeLisio Jr. talks about three skills games on Oct. 1 that will be leaving the Racehorse Tavern next week after the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled that they had to be removed. PAUL KUEHNEL/YORK DAILY RECORD

‘This is going to hurt’

Teresa Boeckel
York Daily Record
USA TODAY NETWORK – PENNSYLVANIA

Three Pennsylvania skill games will be wheeled out of the Racehorse Tavern in Jackson Township this week.

While owner James K. DeLisio Jr. believes his business will be OK, he worries about the bars, restaurants, VFWs and community organizations that have relied on revenue from the games, especially after the coronavirus pandemic hit the hospitality industry hard. He fears that some might have to close their doors.

“It’s a shame because these ... have been a lifeline for a lot of bars, restaurants and VFWs,” he told the York Daily Record inside the bar on Thursday, Oct. 1.

Places that have skill games, including mini-marts, gas stations, grocery stores and laundromats, will need to remove them from their establishments by Oct. 13 or risk having them confiscated by the Pennsylvania State Police and other law enforcement agencies. Operators also could face criminal charges.

The state Supreme Court ruled in June that skill games are slot machines and can only be operated in state-regulated casinos and qualifying licensed

truck stops. The court gave the state Legislature 120 days to regulate and tax the skill games. Several bills have been proposed, including one to extend the deadline, but nothing has been approved so far.

Some organizations already have removed the skill games from their establishments while others plan to have them taken out within the next week.

The Shiloh American Legion Post 791 in West Manchester Township has three skill games. They will remain in operation until Sunday, Oct. 11 and will

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Your York County weekend guide

Tattoos, celebrations and fall creations among offerings

Anthony Maenza
York Daily Record
USA TODAY NETWORK – PENNSYLVANIA

There’s no shortage of things to do this weekend in York County.

From fall celebrations to tattoo artistry and from craft creations to wrestling inside the squared circle, there is an event in which you may find interest.

The weather should be good for whichever event you want to attend Friday, Oct. 9, Saturday, Oct. 10 and Sunday, Oct. 11 in York County. According to the National Weather Service in State College, conditions should be mild with a slight chance of showers by weekend’s end.

On Friday, it will be sunny and clear with a high near 69 with a low around 49. On Saturday, it will be sunny and clear with a high near 70 and a low around 51. On Sunday, there is a chance of showers with a high around 69 and a low around 56.

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Autumn colored foliage surrounds a pumpkin as it rests on the ground at Flichbaugh’s Orchard & Farm Market in Hellam Township Nov. 5, 2025. DAWN J. SAGERT/YORK DAILY RECORD

York tornado misses federal aid threshold

Meredith Willse
York Daily Record
USA TODAY NETWORK – PENNSYLVANIA

York County didn’t receive enough claims to meet the minimum threshold for federal disaster assistance after the Aug. 20 tornado, officials say.

That news came even as Eastern York School District faces more than \$10 million in repair costs to its high school following the EF-2 tornado.

York County spokesperson Brett Marcy told the York Daily Record that officials hadn’t received enough claims to meet the disaster relief threshold.

Messages left with school officials weren’t immediately returned on Thursday, Oct. 6. Nor was it clear what the threshold was.

The tornado, which was labeled an EF-2 on the Enhanced Fujita Scale that measures tornado strength, damaged the high school and parts of a nearby

residential neighborhood.

While the county is still accepting damage reports through the online tool, Marcy said officials expect the damage will be covered by insurance.

Additionally, he said the county is

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