

# Blue Valley Farm Show

Continued from page 1

## Upcoming Events

June 21, 2025 - 3rd Annual All Motor Show

August 12-16, 2025 - Blue Valley Farm Show

October 11, 2025 - 2nd Annual Bulls & Barrels Blow-out

Nov.-Dec. - Annual Holiday Cookie Sale.

## About the Blue Valley Farm Show

The inception of the Blue Valley Farm Show dates back to 1945, guided by the vision of Samuel Hicks, Vice President of the Bangor Exchange Club. Collaborating closely with George Ott, the FFA Advisor and Agriculture Teacher at Bangor Area High School, the event was conceived to provide a platform for students enrolled in the High School Vocational Agricultural course to showcase their projects and vie for awards.

Initially, the Farm Show found its home for the first five years adjacent to the baseball field at Bangor Park.

In its inaugural year, the showcase featured a diverse array of entries including dairy heifers, swine, and garden exhibits ranging from string beans to field corn. The event was adorned with performances by the Circle-J Rane Riders of Allentown and marked the debut of The Bangor Apollo Male Chorus under the direction of Russell Sandercock, following the conclusion of World War II. A total of 50 cash prizes, amounting to over \$400 at the time, were awarded to the winners.

The Farm Show expanded its footprint in 1950 when the Bangor Exchange Club acquired land between Pen Argyl and Bangor, erecting its first building to accommodate exhibits. The participation of Pen Argyl area High School commenced in 1951, with the inclusion of Northampton County 4-H Clubs in 1965. The event boasted a diverse lineup of attractions, from horse shows and truck and tractor pulls to daily musical con-

certs and livestock exhibitions catering to both FFA and 4H members. Additionally, family-oriented festivities such as Down on the Farm Day, Pet Parades, and quirky contests like Mr. Legs and Windy Woman added to the event's charm.

Over the years, the Farm Show has undergone a significant transformation, transitioning from its humble beginnings featuring tents, animals, and music to a multifaceted extravaganza encompassing rides, exhibitors, and family games. In anticipation of its 75th Anniversary in 2020, the Blue Valley Farm Show Board of Directors recognized the need for a fresh perspective to invigorate its appeal. Thus, the Youth Advisory Committee was established, comprising young adults aged 15-21 tasked with infusing innovative ideas into the event. Furthermore, tractor pulls have made a comeback at the Farm Show Complex, now featuring trucks alongside, in recent years.

