

# 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Schnecksville Community Fair

Rte. 309, Schnecksville, PA Near LCCC



**TUESDAY, JUNE 20TH – SATURDAY, JUNE 24TH**



**Admission: \$7, \$4 for seniors 65+, Children under 10 Free**  
**Includes: Entertainment ★ Exhibits ★ Parking**



# Schnecksville Community Fair

## 2023 Tentative Schedule of Events

### SUNDAY, JUNE 18

1:00 - 6:00 pm All non-animal entries received

### MONDAY, JUNE 19

8:30 am Judging of non-animal competitive exhibits

1:00 - 7:00 pm Animal entries received & weighed in

7:00 pm Animals must be in pens

### OPENING DAY

### TUESDAY, JUNE 20

5:00 pm Fair, exhibit areas & rides open

6:30 pm Keystone State Quarter Midget Race Club (KSQMRC)

6:30 pm Dairy Show - Open, 4-H & FFA

6:30 pm Entertainment in the Pavilion - Rehrig Brothers

7:00 pm Opening Ceremonies

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

5:00 pm Fair, exhibit areas & rides open

5:45 pm PA Preferred™ Junior Baking Contest -

Cookie, Brownie or Bar

6:00 pm Sheep Show - Open, 4-H & FFA

6:30 pm Angel Food Cake Contest

6:30 pm Entertainment in the Pavilion - DJ Hot Wheelz

### THURSDAY, JUNE 22

5:00 pm Fair, exhibit areas & rides open

5:45 pm Houser Auctioneers' Youth Cupcake Contest

6:00 pm Steer Beef/Dairy Beef Show - 4-H & FFA

6:00 pm International Chainsaw Carving Competition  
(Sponsored by Snowscapes)

### THURSDAY, JUNE 22 CONTINUED

6:30 pm

Keystone State Quarter Midget Race Club (KSQMRC)

6:30 pm

New Tripoli Bank's Blue Ribbon Apple Pie Contest

6:30 pm

Entertainment in the Pavilion - Chelsea Lyn Meyer

### FRIDAY, JUNE 23

5:00 pm

Fair, exhibit areas & rides open

5:00 pm

Market Goat Show, followed by Dairy Goat Show, and  
Breeding Meat Goat Show - Open, 4-H & FFA

5:45 pm

Refreshing Rhubarb Dessert Contest

6:00 pm

International Chainsaw Carving Competition  
(Sponsored by Snowscapes)

7:00 pm

Entertainment in the Pavilion - Dirty Roxx

10:00 pm

Fireworks

### KID'S DAY

### SATURDAY, JUNE 24

3:00 pm

Fair, exhibit areas & rides open

4:00 pm

The Neffs National Bank's  
Homemade Chocolate Cake Contest

4:30 pm

Keystone State Quarter Midget Race Club (KSQMRC)

6:00 pm

International Chainsaw Carving Championship  
(Sponsored by Snowscapes)

7:00 pm

Children's Pedal Tractor Pull

7:00 pm

(Partially Sponsored by Eckroth Equipment)

Entertainment in the Pavilion - Sons of Izzy

### SUNDAY, JUNE 25

11:00 - 3:00 pm Entry Pick-up

VISIT [WWW.SCHNECKSVILLEFAIR.COM](http://WWW.SCHNECKSVILLEFAIR.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION



## JUNE 20-24, 2023

**Admission: \$7**

**\$4 for seniors 65+ • children under 10 are free**

Admission includes entertainment, exhibits and parking.

Carnival rides provided by AEB Amusements

**Wednesday Night ride special:**

**2 wristbands for unlimited rides for \$20**

## -FREE SHOWS-

Masters of the Chainsaw Demos & Comps

4-H Barnyard Zoo

Animal Exhibits

Agricadabra/Brad Matchett Comedy Hypnotist

Shane Hansen's Rock-N-Circus

Lehigh Valley Dreamweavers Dog Agility Club

Antique Tractors

Wanna Be a Farmer & Firefighter

Local Bands

Quarter Midget Racing (Tue, Thurs, Sat)

**FIREWORKS FRIDAY!**

*Congratulations to the Schnecksville Fair on 38 years of Family Fun!*

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# Local Community Supports Fair

Forty-two years ago, the Schnecksville Community Fair got its start as a Fire Company carnival, consisting of hay rides on a 1932 fire truck and a hot dog stand. Today as a full-fledged fair, entertainment, animals, midway glitter and lots of food stands fill the fairgrounds with bumper-to-bumper crowds, blending community traditions with our agricultural roots.

The Schnecksville Community Fair thrives as local people get together to reward one another for their accomplishments, to celebrate their regional differences, and to engage in friendly competition.

The Fair Board cordially invites the community to assist in the production of the fair. A total of nearly seventy-five folks give their time to make the fair happen. This includes the twenty officers and board members who work for the love of the fair, not monetary reward. Additional volunteers are always needed in many areas. If you would be willing to assist for just a few hours during the fair, call the volunteer chairman, Gail Heintzelman at 610-799-4666.

The community supports the fair in many ways. Our sponsors help us with funding and promotion. To date, nineteen corporate sponsors have committed to the 2023 Fair.

**Houser Auctioneers** is the sponsor of the Youth Cupcake Contest, which takes place on Thursday, June 22 at 5:45 p.m.

Sponsoring the Blue Ribbon Apple Pie Contest is the **New Tripoli Bank, New Tripoli**. This event will be held on Thursday, June 22 at 6:30 p.m.

**The Neffs National Bank, Neffs**, is the sponsor of the Homemade Chocolate Cake Contest on Saturday, June 24 at 4:00 p.m.

**Yocco's, Allentown**, is sponsoring the Special Quilt Competition. The winner of each category, Hand Stitched and Machine Quilted, not only receives a Best of Show ribbon,

but also a monetary award of \$100.00.

Our chainsaw carving demonstrations and competitions are supported by **Snowscapes, Easton**.

In the children's area, **Wanna Be a Farmer**, the fun-filled hands-on ag adventure for kids, is being sponsored by **Nestlé Purina PetCare, Allentown and Parkland Chiropractic, Schnecksville**.

The children's Pedal Tractor Pull Contest, held on Saturday, June 24, at 7:00 p.m., is being partially sponsored by **Eckroth Equipment, New Ringgold**.

The following companies support the fair as a whole: **UNFI, Schnecksville; Astound Broadband, Bethlehem; Bachman's Roofing, Building & Remodeling, Schnecksville; M&J Outdoor Services, LLC, Lehigh Valley; J.P.**

**Mascaro & Sons, Allentown Division; S & G Asphalt Service, Slatington; Lisa D. Andruscavage, Realtor, Coldwell Banker Heritage Real Estate, Allentown; Everett Plumbing & Heating, Orefield; Imperial Auto Sales & Service, Schnecksville;**

**Kermit K. Kistler Inc., New Tripoli; Geo. A Kohler & Bro., Whitehall; and The Pennsylvania Lottery.**

Local businesses and individuals also provide or often donate important goods and services for the fair. We'd like to recognize them for their invaluable support: **Michael Koehler; Attorney Robert Johnson; Grim's Orchard & Family Farms, Breinigsville; Lehigh Carbon Community College, Schnecksville; Berger Sanitation, Lehigh Valley; M&J Outdoor Services, LLC, Lehigh Valley; and, of course, Community Fire Company #1 of North Whitehall Township.**

Another way the local community supports the fair is through advertising in the 150+-page Premium Book. Ads range from \$40 to \$295. Fifty-six local businesses supported the book. Be sure to pick one up in the exhibit hall

or look at it online ([www.schnecksvillefair.com](http://www.schnecksvillefair.com)) and check out all the ads.

A very big, very sincere **THANK YOU** goes out to all of the volunteers, sponsors, donors, and advertisers who help make the fair a success each year.

The Schnecksville Fair is a non-prof-

it corporation that has as its focus education and the showcasing of Lehigh Valley agriculture. Schnecksville is located in Lehigh County just seven miles north of Allentown on Route 309, near Lehigh Carbon Community College. Come out this year and join us in "Growing the Future."



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# Schnecksville Community Fair History

Eighteen hundred acres of orchard -- it was part of a vast agricultural empire built by General Harry Trexler in the early years of the twentieth century. It nearly surrounded the village of Schnecksville. It was perfect orchard land, with sharply rolling hills and a breeze that never quit. The breeze prohibited early season frost from forming on the buds and assured a good crop of peaches, apples, and pears. It was beautiful. The immaculately groomed orchards also provided a way of life for many of the local inhabitants, but now the pressures of suburban sprawl and commercial development were becoming too great for the orchards to survive. It was decided to cease orchard operations and market the land for development.

The first party to express an interest in some of the newly available land was the Schnecksville Fire Company. Located at the center of the village; it was growing out of its quarters and had no room for expansion. In 1980, the fire company bought a tract of land a few feet off Main Street and in September of that year, decided to

build a large open-air pavilion and hold a carnival to support the building fund. That fall, many of the trees were cleared and a road was graded back to the site of the pavilion, which went up the next spring.

A carnival was held in August of 1981. In the strictest sense of the word, it was nothing like a carnival. The bed of a 1932 Ford Fire Truck was outfitted with hay bales and provided the only ride, a journey around the perimeter of the fire company's new land. It was enjoyed by young and old alike. The Ladies Auxiliary provided lots of home-cooked food and the bands performed on the back of a flatbed trailer supplied by George Husack Trucking. "Pappy," Joe Horwith, was the man in charge and in the end, he reported an income of \$4,986.44 to be put against the \$23,727.00 price of the pavilion.

The Second Carnival was held in August of 1982. This time, it was a real carnival with rides, popcorn, cotton candy and games of chance. That fall, Pappy renamed the carnival "The Schnecksville Community Fair." The first "real" Schnecksville Communi-

ty Fair was held in May of 1983 and was five days long. It had a sideshow with live lions and tigers and featured a "fireworks spectacular" on Friday night. Admission was free, but there was a \$2.00 donation for parking.

Otto's Amusements provided the midway in 1982 and 1983. In 1984, Nonweiler Amusements and their "Big Ely" Ferris wheel would start a relationship with Schnecksville Fair that would last more than a decade. 1984 was the transition year in which the fair became a "Fair." The committee became a board. Officers were elected. A premium catalog was issued and application was made for membership in the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs. The fair was now in the hands of people who knew absolutely nothing about running a fair. All they could do was learn. And learn, they did, albeit the hard way.

In 1985, the Lehigh County 4-H Stock Club was invited to participate in the fair by bringing their Petting Zoo. They were housed in a large tent that they decorated beautifully inside and out with flowers and split rail fence. A second tent

housed the competitive exhibits and a third tent housed a new craft show. Schnecksville Community Fair was beginning to look like a fair.

A few good things happened in 1985. Dale and Naomi Grim came with the 4-H Petting Zoo and offered to organize and run animal exhibits and judging for the fair. Also, Donald Kuntz and Skip Joseph stumbled over some pretty shoddy wiring on the midway, must have felt sorry for the fair and volunteered their knowledge and services as the fair's electricians. The fair's officers still didn't know what they were doing, but people who did know a thing or two were stepping up and showing the way.

In 1986, the Grims led the fair into the world of animal showmanship. In the years that followed, the fair would have to build four animal buildings and a covered showing ring to provide space for all the animal exhibits. Helping to build most of the buildings was Emory Minnich, who came on board shortly after the Grims. He also did most of the work on the main stage and single handedly built the livestock office

See **HISTORY** on Page 6



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## JUNE 28-JULY 3, 2023



### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28:

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### SATURDAY, JULY 1:

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### THURSDAY, JUNE 29:

PRIDE NIGHT  
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### SUNDAY, JULY 2:

MERMAID NIGHT  
POST-GAME FIREWORKS



### FRIDAY, JUNE 30:

MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT  
POST-GAME FIREWORKS



### MONDAY, JULY 3:

POST-GAME FIREWORKS





## HISTORY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

and the ticket booths at the three gates.

In 1991, the fair became a nonprofit 501(c)(3). In 1993 new board member Beverly Gruber, who had recently moved to eastern PA, brought with her a wealth of county fair experience and expanded the competitive exhibits area. As the fair grew through the nineties, Goodtime Amusements was invited to be the

fair's new carnival and as the old century gave way to the new, Henry T. Cole Shows took over operation of the midway. With the introduction of the Cole midway, the fair became a pay-one-price entity, where the price of admission included all rides and entertainment.

With the growth of the fair, another change came about in 1998 when a permanent cattle building was erected. 4-Hers and open classes were eager to show their animals and compete.



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Paul Schwarz served as President of the fair from its humble beginnings until 2004, when he stepped down. At that time, Emory Minnich took the reins and he still continues on as President.

As the years progressed, so did the fair. In 2006, many changes were made. Jim Houghton's Enterprises came to provide exciting rides and games. Larry Grim was instrumental in establishing the Keystone State Quarter Midget Race Club for youngsters and a track was built at the rear of the property. A new modular building was brought on site and revamped from a former district judge's office to become the new fair office. (Furniture had been very carefully placed in the old office so no one would step in certain areas and go through the floor!)

In 2007, an addition was added to the show ring to accommodate the number of exhibitors in growing classes. 2008 came and 250 feet of midway was paved to make walking and pushing strollers more convenient.

Enter the age of technology and the ever more quickly changing times. The website, which was started by the younger Donald Kuntz, has been administered by Steven Reppert for the last several years. In 2009, when ticket sales at the small games of chance booth were slow, Michelle and Kevin Minnich established a Facebook page for the Fair, posting photos of events as they happened and listing the winners of the competitive contests. In 2013, they expanded the Fair's social media presence to include Twitter and YouTube. The premium book was also posted online for the first time and entries were accepted through email.

In more recent years, the grounds have undergone several changes. In 2011, the Fire Company entered an agreement in which they acquired

an additional 52 acres of land, some of which the fair is able to use for parking. This was a great improvement as some folks fought crossing heavily traveled Route 309 in previous years. In 2012 and 2014, permanent fencing was installed around the grounds. Eliminating the temporary fencing, which had to be put up and removed each year and was prone to come down during heavy winds, made it much easier for those who maintain the grounds. With the help of some grant monies, the midway by the pavilion up to the ball field was repaved in 2017.

In 2018, the fair made a major change in patron admission, moving away from the pay-one-price model utilized for nearly 25 years. Fair admission was reduced, and unlimited carnival rides were no longer included. With this change, the fair began a relationship with a new carnival ride and game provider, AEB Amusements from Easton, PA. the food booths, from the competitive exhibit hall to the animal pens, there's something for everyone to see and do.

Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the fair was canceled for 2020 and 2021. The Fair Board had to make some tough decisions balancing the health and safety of all involved and the viability of the fair.

From its humble beginnings through to the present, the Schnecksville Community Fair has never waived in its purpose: to provide several days of family fun and excitement for northwestern Lehigh County and the surrounding communities. From the midway to the food booths, from the competitive exhibit hall to the animal pens, there's something for everyone to see and do.

As we remember the past, join us in "Growing the Future" at the 38th edition of the Schnecksville Community Fair from June 20-24, 2023.



# Great Food is a Highlight of the Schnecksville Fair

With fun, things to see, bright lights on the midway and great entertainment to watch, there is plenty to love about the 2023 Schnecksville Community Fair, and we haven't even mentioned food!

Food plays a big role in the reason people love fairs. The wonderful aroma coming from the many different food stands is tantalizing. It's hard to decide with such a variety to choose from. Out on the midway we have it all...hot sausage, shish kabobs, wings, pizza, fresh cut French fries, pit beef, pulled pork, and of course cotton candy, ice cream, candy apples and fresh-squeezed lemonade.

Because we are in Schnecksville, we have Pennsylvania Dutch food at our Fire Company Café in the Pavilion, in the center of the fairgrounds. A crew of workers from the Fire Company manages the Café, does all the preparation work, and

serves all of the patrons. These volunteers get great satisfaction from helping and take pride not only in their community but also in the tradition of fairs. Featured menu items for the week include meatloaf, mashed potatoes, and corn on Tuesday; a hot roast beef platter with coleslaw and mashed potatoes or fries on Wednesday; tacos (hard, soft, bowls) on Thursday; clams, corn on the cob, and red potatoes (subject to availability/market price) on Friday; and mac and cheese bowl/burnt ends, hamburgers, hot dogs, french fries, pierogies, corn nuggets, and chicken fingers on Saturday.

Don't miss out on the great food at the Schnecksville Community Fair, being held June 20-24 at the Schnecksville Fire Company on Route 309 near Lehigh Carbon Community College. We guarantee you won't leave hungry!



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# A Showcase for All Ages

The 2023 edition of the Schnecksville Community Fair will make its debut when the gates open on Tuesday, June 20th at 5:00 p.m. The fair, now in its 38th year, has become one of the best-attended events in northwestern Lehigh County.

Carnival rides, food, entertainment and animals all come together to make a great attraction, but what makes this Schnecksville event different are the competitive exhibits. Local people compete with each other, whether it's for the best strawberry jam, the loveliest rose, or the foremost dairy beef animal.

Nearly \$12,000 in cash was awarded last year in the twenty-four departments of fair competition. Ribbons were given out to nearly all exhibitors. Ribbon colors are 1st, Blue; 2nd, Red; and 3rd, White. The big purple ribbon is for Best of Show.

The amazing thing about the competitive exhibits is that you can be any age to enter, and youngsters don't have to be enrolled in a 4-H program to participate. For example, in 2022, exhibitors ranged in age from elementary school through senior citizens. Also, entries are not limited to residents of Lehigh County; we welcome exhibitors from everywhere! (Special baking contest entrants must be Pennsylvania residents, however.)

This year, competitive departments include animal classes for Dairy, Beef, Goats, and Sheep. The individual shows for each species will be held in the 4-H pavilion each evening from Tuesday through Friday. Check the schedule in this publication or on the website ([www.schnecksvillefair.com](http://www.schnecksvillefair.com)) for times.

The Food and Canned Goods Department features over 175 different classes of homemade goodies or canned foods that you can enter. This includes everything from a jar of pickles to an apple dumpling. Why

not try out your baking skills and win that "Best of Show" big purple ribbon! A section on baking with honey was added this year, and it is part of the apiary products department. In addition, four of six of our special baking contests are statewide and the winners qualify to enter the 2023 Farm Show competitions.

The Needlecraft department also has many categories—from Afghans to Handcrafted Clothing for specific family members. A special Quilt Contest is again being held this year, sponsored by Yocco's and two winners in this contest will receive \$100.00 plus a Best of Show ribbon.

The Arts, Photography

and Crafts Department is an annual favorite for competitors and fairgoers alike. Scores of beautiful homemade items, paintings and photos are judged. Crafts are put on display and artwork and photos adorn the walls of the exhibit hall. If you have an artistic flair, why not enter and showcase your talent?

If you can boast that you have a green thumb, the Vegetable, Hay and Grain, Edible Nuts, Fruits and Berry, Horticulture or Christmas Tree Departments are for you. All of these departments have sections in which you could be a winner.

Back again this year will be a Legos contest in

the Youth Department. We're counting on the kids to make this contest grow!

When you visit the fair this year, don't forget to stop and check out the competitive exhibits and be sure to visit the animals in the livestock area. Agricultural fairs are fun places to visit, but they are even more fun when you participate and win. The premium book, which lists everything you may enter and the amount of prizes awarded, is available by calling 610-799-9467. You can also pick one up in various retail stores in the Schnecksville area. The entire book is available online at [www.schnecksvillefair.com](http://www.schnecksvillefair.com).



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## An Animal Show Every Evening

Agriculture is the cornerstone of the fair industry. It is the one main attraction that makes fairs different from other entertainment venues, and farm animals are the mainstay of the Schnecksville Fair.

We expect that there will be over 100 dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, and goats in the livestock barns this year. Many of these animals, which are entered in livestock competition, are owned and shown by 4-H members from all over southeastern Pennsylvania. The 4-H program, which is administered by Penn State Cooperative Extension, teaches youth age 8-18 to be future leaders.

A child's dedication to their animal, whether it be a rabbit or an eleven hundred pound steer is a special bond. This bond helps make the daily tasks of feeding and caring for the animal go more smoothly. The end result of the program is the responsibility that the 4-H'er has learned.

The 4-Hers also organize and work in the 4-H Barnyard Zoo at the fair. This year the Zoo will feature goats, dairy calf, and sheep. They do a great job landscaping the area and encourage all youngsters to stop in and check out the animals.

Education is an important way to maintain the viability of Pennsyl-

vania agriculture. Informing the consumer where their food and fiber comes from, and how it gets to them, is critical if Pennsylvania agriculture is to prosper.

The fair is one of many venues that can play a role in educating the public about agriculture. Fairs throughout history have been a reflection of the people and their times, as well as an agent of change. Fairs are also one of the few places left where a large number of people can view a broad spectrum of agriculture.

A different species of animal is featured each evening in the Show Ring Pavilion in Schnecksville. Tuesday is dairy

night, which starts at 6:30; Wednesday is sheep at 6:00; Thursday is steer and dairy beef at 6:00; and Friday is market goats at 5:00, followed by dairy and breeding meat goats.

Although not a "real" cow, you can learn how to milk a "pretend" cow in the "Wanna Be a Farmer" tent at the fair. Volunteer Darlene Wirth and her crew man the tent that is geared to youngsters under the age of eight. Many other farm-related activities are also available.

So load the kids in the car, and come to the 2023 Schnecksville Community Fair from June 20-24. It's a fun learning experience for the whole family!





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**Schnecksville Community Fair  
wishes to express  
our most sincere gratitude**

to all the advertisers who made this supplement possible. Over our many years of operation, we have been very fortunate to have had so many supportive friends.

**Our friends** include the businesses and organizations who sponsor our premium book, this special edition and activities; the competitive exhibitors, all of whom we are very proud; and the hundreds of volunteers who give their valuable time and talents.

**Our biggest debt of gratitude,** however, is owed to the public – the thousands of fair-goers who have attended over the years and the new ones who are about to discover us for the first time.



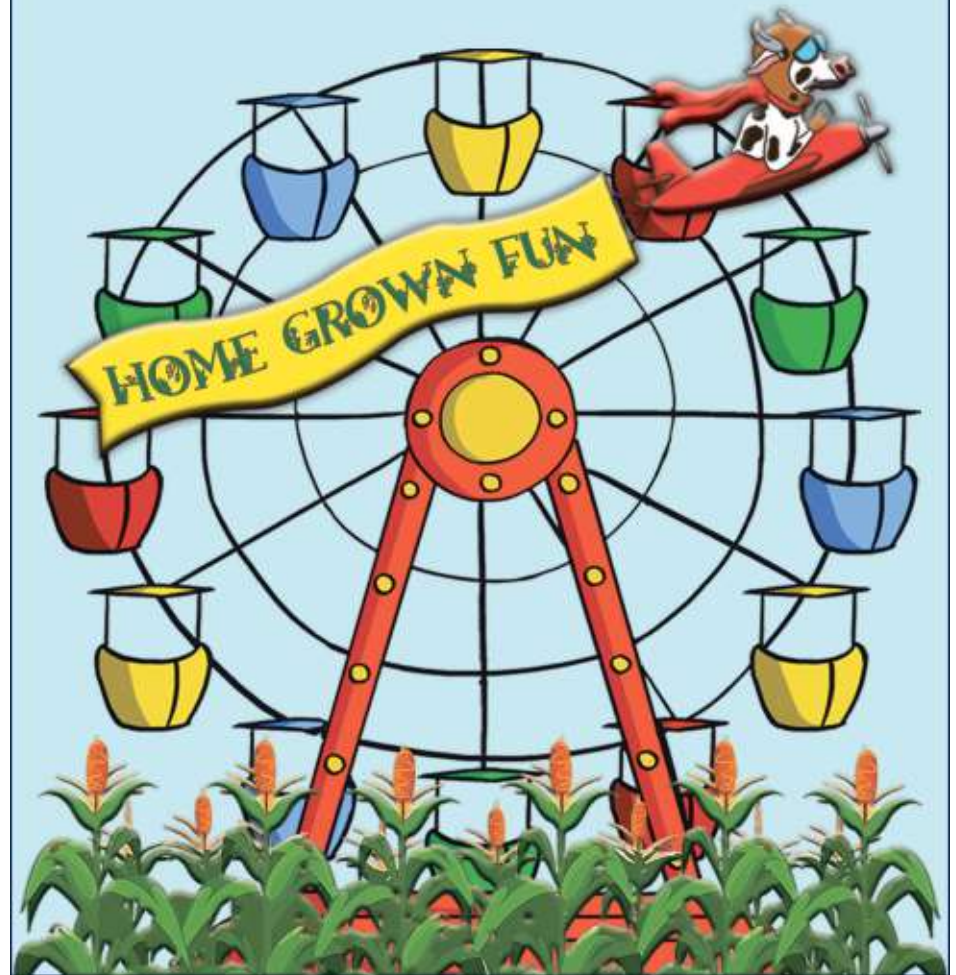
**2023  
OUR 38<sup>TH</sup>  
YEAR!**

*Thank you one and all,*  
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For concert info - **AllentownFAIR.com**