

Kids Korner

Camper Teams Mold Sand Champions

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— Rainbow colored ribbons were just one of the rewards for a job well done for . . . playing in the sand!?!

That's how some Grange Fair campers in Centre County finished their summer.

They formed teams, then entered the Sand Castle Building Contest at the encampment playground.

Sixteen teams dug, pushed, plowed, and patted sand into creations designed to catch the judges' eye.

While they "worked" feverishly, judge Harriet Roseberg sat on a park bench and thought feverishly. She needed 16 titles for awards, for every child on every team would take home a beautiful ribbon.

Hmmm . . . let's see. Most creative. Best teamwork. Best use of natural resources.. Most ag related. How about . . . Most likely to collapse!

The Grange Fair

The 123rd Grange Encampment and Fair in Centre Hall is

one-of-a-kind. The seven-day event boasts daily crowds of more than 25,000.

In the encampment more than 950 green Army-like tents stand at attention shoulder to shoulder with little, if any, breathing space. The 1,300 campers know space is at a premium. But even more valuable is the chance to even camp there at all!

That's why generation after generation of families camp at the Grange Fair. They look forward to seeing their Grange friends, plus it gives them a front row seat to nationally know entertainers in the Grandstand and more than 7,500 items exhibited for the \$40,000 in prize money.

Meanwhile, Back At The Playground . . .

When the time is up, Harriet and her friends announce each award. Each child reaches up for his or her own rainbow colored ribbon as parents and onlookers admire the sand creations. They see starfish, race tracks, igloos, and tunnels. Lots and lots of volcanoes. And of course, sand castles!



With more than 1,300 campers in more than 950 tents, children soon learn to use space wisely. Here, a group of campers from the Bellefonte and Jersey Shore areas lined up their shoes (without being told!) before building their castle. They won the Best Castle Award but deserved the Neatest Shoes Award!



The Best Tunnel Award went to team 5.



Not just dreaming of castles in the sand, a group of cousins and friends from the Aaronsburg area work on their sand creation, "Rollin' Into the Grange Fair. Their structure, complete with ramps and tunnels, won the Most Original Game Award.



These kids from Bellefont were camping at the Grange Fair with their grandparents. They built the Best Speedway.



Norman and Sandra Selbert's children joined forces to build the castle with the most tunnels. The family lives in Virginia Beach, Va. Sandra's been a Grange Fair camper for 37 years.



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