

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## CALLING ALL CUTE KIDS

All proud parents are invited to enter their babies (up to twelve months old) in the Carnation 1994 Cute Baby Contest. Five finalists will be selected from official entries, which must be postmarked by May 25. Their photos will appear in the July issue's Carnation advertisement, and *Family* readers will choose the winner by sending in their ballots.

The winner's picture will appear on the cover of the November issue of *Family*. First prize winner will also receive a \$1000 savings bond. The second prize winner gets a \$500 savings bond, third prize takes a \$250 bond, fourth prize is a \$100 bond, and fifth prize wins a \$50 bond. Carnation, maker of Good Start Infant Formula, is the sponsor of the 1994 Cute Baby Contest. Good Start is the only leading formula specially processed to be gentle on a baby's developing digestive system. Carnation also makes Follow-Up Formula for babies 6 - 12 months who are eating solid foods.

## GROUNDBREAKING TO BEGIN ON PREMIER MUSEUM

The only museum in the United States dedicated to D-Day will be built on the grounds of the University of New Orleans. The National D-Day Museum, a two-story, 60,000 square foot facility will have thousands of historical artifacts commemorating the unforgettable day in June 1944.

Conceived by Dr. Stephen Ambrose, a leading WWII historian, the museum will feature state-of-the-art technology, enabling visitors to feel what it was like to land on Utah Beach. The museum will also display photos, tape recordings, uniforms and weapons used in the invasion. Overlooking Lake Ponchartrain, the \$22 million museum honors Andrew M. Higgins, developer of the Higgins Boat, which enabled soldiers to move swiftly from sea to shore. It is the late Mr. Higgins whom General Eisenhower credited for winning the war for the Allies.

## HATS OFF... TO HATS

Hats are more than a fashion statement. According to the American Optometric Association, hats and caps with brims can keep about half of the sun's damaging UV rays from reaching the eyes. But, while hats can help, the AOA also encourages wearing sunglasses that offer

maximum sunlight protection. This may decrease the risk of developing cataracts later in life.

The effects of UV rays are cumulative, say the experts, beginning from the first time a child plays outdoors through adulthood, and the more years the eyes go unprotected, the more they're at risk for clinical eye problems later in life.

Sunglasses that offer reliable protection are available, but not always easy to find. To help simplify the process of buying sunglasses, the AOA has published two pamphlets for consumers. Entitled "Are Your Eyes Safe From UV Radiation?" and "Sunglasses Are More Than Shades," they are free when you send a business-size SASE with your request to Communications Center, AOA, 243 N. Lindbergh Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63141.

## KIDS HELPING KIDS

Thousands of children are abused every day. Some cases are brought to justice, but it's estimated that thousands more go unreported or untried. *Break the Silence: Kids Against Child Abuse*, premiering on CBS on May 31st, is a half-hour documentary which chronicles the lives of four children who have survived physical or sexual abuse. Hosted by Jane Seymour, the show features kids talking to kids about ways to identify abuse, barriers to reporting "problem situations" and where to go for help.

Presented in a non-scary way, the show provides an excellent forum for parents and teachers, making it easy to discuss this sensitive issue with children. Appropriate for 8 - 16-year-olds, *Break the Silence* uses a combination of live interviews and animation to depict the victims' stories and create greater awareness of this crime. The show is expected to air a second time (in June) as well. Check your local listings for time and channel.

## HEY, KIDS, IT'S THE MUPPETS!

Once upon a pond, there lived a frog named Kermit. And so the story of *The Frog Prince* begins, a tale of a bewitched prince who is rescued by true love. This fairy tale, along with *Hey, Cinderella*, a side-splitting twist on the classic, is now available on home video. Both hour-long musicals feature Kermit the Frog and the entire outrageous Muppet cast. The purchase of either video along with any full-

length Walt Disney Home Video release qualifies for a \$5.00 mail-in rebate. Full details are available on-pack.

## Book Nook

### GIVE YOUR CHILD A HEAD START

Your child's performance in the classroom is a good indicator of his or her future success. To give your son or daughter a competitive edge, *Easy Steps to Reading* by Karen Truncellito, B.A., M.S., should be on your bookshelf. With twenty years of teaching experience and a host of credentials to her name, Truncellito has developed a simple two-step method to make learning to read simple and fun for children. This method has been used successfully with children who have difficulties learning to read as well as with kids who just want to get a head start on reading.

Filled with teaching and motivational tips, the book also provides parents with suggestions and models for making comprehensive exercises suited to the needs of their own child. While this program does not come with audio or video cassettes, the author does include a list of educational publishers who can provide supplemental instructional material. For 1/5 the cost of higher priced reading programs, *Easy Steps to Reading* is a valuable resource for parents and teachers alike. To order your copy, call (800)285-3017 or (610)363-1484 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. EST.

### PEEK-A-BOO BOOKS

Combining the charm of a storybook with the appeal of a toy, Mini House Books adds an enjoyable twist to traditional books. These new books, shaped like a house or barn, allow your child to peer inside the windows, pop a latch and then open a door to a story. Captivating and colorful, your child won't be able to put them down!

*Santa's Workshop*, *Old MacDonald's Barn*, *Fire House #1*, and *Noah's Ark* are widely available in bookstores or may be ordered by calling Workman Publishing at (212)254-5900.

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