

FOR THE LADIES...

National Black Nurses Association Sets February 3 'Black Nurses Day'

by **CHester A. Higgins, Sr.**
NNPA News Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The national Black Nurses' Association, Inc., has designated February 3, this year and the first Friday in February Black History Month of every succeeding year to be recognized and celebrated as National Black Nurses' Day.

The Black Nurses Assn., founded in 1971 in Akron, Ohio, said such a day should be set aside honoring them because: "Black nurses have always been an essential part in the health delivery systems of our country; they are committed to excellence in education and in providing high quality nursing care to all people in need." Additionally, although comprising less than one per cent (there are about 75,000 Black nurses in the U.S., according to spokesperson Sadako Holmes, of 1.2 million nurses, overall) Black nurses practice in all the various areas of nursing, clinical, education, administration-research and private enterprise.

Mrs. Holmes told NNPA the Association plans to seek congressional support for the designation of the National Black Nurses' Day.

The Association's membership presently is only seven thousand, Mrs. Holmes said. But the organization plans a "big membership drive in the near future to enlist the remaining Black nurses."

SOAP OPERA GALA SCHEDULED FOR FEB. 5

Days Of Our Lives stars Stephen Nichols (Patch), Mary Beth Evans (Kayla), Billy Hufsey (Emilio), Mathew Ashford (Jack Devoroux), and Richard Biggs (Dr. Marcus Hunter), will appear in a Soap Opera Gala to benefit the Providence Speech and Hearing Center, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping the communicatively handicapped.

The Gala begins at 12 noon Sunday, February 5 at the Cashman Field Center Theatre in Las Vegas.

Tickets are available through Ticketron or by calling (702) 731-9311.

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The Association recently moved into Washington headquarters building of the National Medical Association. The organization is non-profit.

Currently, the organization is actively involved in national, state and community projects such as maternal and child health, AIDS, hypertension in Blacks, cancer, diabetes, chemical dependency and lifestyle behavior, NNPA learned.

The organization also promotes professional career advancement for Black nurses, continuing education opportunities and perpetuating the continuance of Black nurses in the nursing field, Mrs. Holmes said.



DEAR DIALOGUE: How I wish I could get my husband, who is old-fashioned, to give up his cloth handkerchiefs for paper tissues. Do you have any ammunition?

Georgia Y., Yankton, S.D.

DEAR GEORGIA: Yes, Says Michael Castleman, editor, *Medical Self-Care* magazine: "Carry a handkerchief to dress up your jacket pocket if you must, but use paper tissues for blowing your nose. Cold viruses can't hold on for long in tissues, but cloth handkerchiefs harbor live virus and recontaminate the fingers every time you touch them. You should also wash your hands after blowing your nose or wiping a child's nose."

DEAR DIALOGUE: Milk disagrees with my stomach. How else can I boost my calcium intake? Marcia M., Ruidoso, N.M.

DEAR MARCIA: Dr. Robret Reeker at Creighton University in Omaha recommends dark green leafy vegetables such as watercress and spinach in salads. Try blackstrap molasses in lieu of other sweeteners. The five most calcium-rich cheeses are hard Parmesan, Gruyere, Romano, Cheddar and park-skim Ricotta.

DEAR DIALOGUE: I work for a large corporation which offers no employee program in fitness or wellness. How can I convince our corporate leadership that fitness programs make sense? George Y., Fort Worth, Texas

DEAR GEORGE: In a courteous but logical way, you can point out the economic benefits to a company with a healthier work force. Increasingly, insurance companies are discounting premiums to individuals and companies who foster healthful lifeways. Now, according to the Department of Health and Human Services, 66 percent of America's companies with more than 50 employees sponsor fitness programs... because wellness pays.

DEAR DIALOGUE: I have three children who are so different in personality, I swear they must have come from different parents. Milly D., Duluth, Minn.

DEAR MILLY: Consult the *Birth Order Book* by Kevin Lehman, Ph.D. He says first-borns are achievers, perfectionists. Middle-borns are patient, well-adjusted negotiators. Last-borns are a bit bratty, impulsive, loving and selfish.

Do you have a question about personal hygiene or health? Send to Dialogue, The Dial Corporation, 111 W. Clarendon, M.S. 1616, Phoenix, Ariz., 85077. For a personal reply, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

SUZANNE DE PASSE'S CREATIVE VISION BRINGS 'LONESOME DOVE' TO TELEVISION

February 5 through February 8. It stars Robert Duvall, Tommy Lee Jones, Danny Glover and Anjelica Huston, based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Larry McMurtry.

When the novel, a 19th century western, won the coveted prize studio execu-

positively to the manuscript for the book. As a black female in a white male dominated industry, it has been a goal of hers to seek "any" project, and not be limited to those based on race and/or gender. The *Lonesome Dove* acquisition says as much about her guts as it does her



Suzanne dePasse

tives scrambled for the property and learned the rights belonged to Motown Productions. De Passe had bought the rights for her company early on after responding

insight.

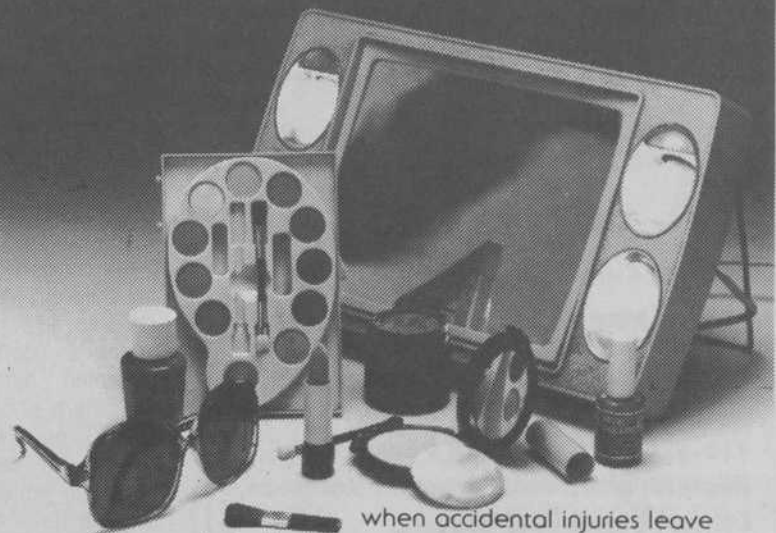
During a chance meeting with prolific novelist Larry McMurtry in 1985, de Passe learned of his upcoming epic masterpiece. Like most

Americans, she has always been a fan of cowboy films and wanted to pursue the property. She moved swiftly, recalling that the manuscript was so enormous that it had to be delivered on a dolly. Immediately, she was drawn to the story's motley crew of characters, the realism and comedy combined with thrilling adventure, and optioned the soon-to-be-released novel. McMurtry is a highly respected Texas novelist, whose other acclaimed books-turned-movies have included Academy Award-winners "Terms of Endearment," "The Last Picture Show" and "Hud."

De Passe's belief in *Lonesome Dove* never faltered, even after learning that prior to her acquisition, it had been turned down by virtually every studio and network. When it became a prestigious prize-winner, her good judgment was affirmed.

The expansive western saga about an epic cattle drive from the Texas town of Lonesome Dove to the fertile land of the Montana territory presents a powerhouse cast directed by Simon Wincer

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