# "Bus Driver Of The Month" Honor Thrills Mary Kersey "Beyond Words"

By Loretta Manage
Post Managing Editor
Being named "Bus Driver of the
Month" might seem "Illustrations" Being named "Bus Driver of the Month" might seem like small potatoes to some people, but not Mary Kersey. It was a recent honor she received that simply thrilled her beyond words. As a matter of fact, being a bus driver is one of the most exciting things Mrs. Kersey feels that she does

In spite of the fact that Mrs. Kersey has only been driving the school bus for two years, it has been a long time dream of hers. "I've been wanting to drive a school bus for the past 17 years, ever since the day I put my oldest son on the bus, his first day of school."

Mrs. Kersey explained that each year she consulted her husband about being a bus driver. "All he would say was that it was a lot of responsibility. Then, finally, he told me 'Why don't you go ahead, because you're not going to be satis-fied unless you do."

Those were just the words Mrs. Kersey had been waiting to hear. Ever since she was hired by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System, Mrs. Kersey has been laboring from love. Speaking of the children who ride her bus, Mrs. Kersey gleefully stated, "I love every one of the kids on my bus and with every child I'm concerned. I try to talk to them about any problems they may have."

Mostly what concerns Mrs.
Kersey about the children who ride
her bus is that they arrive back and
forth from school safely. "I'm always watching to see if cars stop

#### Democrats

#### Create Five \$1,000 **Scholarships**

Washington, D.C. - Democratic National Chairman Paul G. Kirk Jr. announced recently the creation of five \$1,000 National Democratic Party Martin Luther King Jr. College Scholarships, to be awarded each year on the civil rights leaders birthday anniversary.

"The Democratic Party will help young people live Dr. King's dream," Kirk said. "We think these scholarships will be a fitting tribute to a man whose life made a better future possible for so many young

"On the occasion of the first federal holiday honoring Dr. King, it is important that the Democratic Party commemorate the life of one of the most important figures in our history with deeds as well as

"Every life we touch with a helping hand furthers the unfinished work of Martin Luther King, who inspired Americans of all races to pursue the goals of justice, equality and opportunity

and opportunity.

Kirk said he will appoint a committee to create a competition for and to administer the new King scholarships. The first five college scholarships will be awarded on Dr. King's birthday anniversary in

Kirk also announced that Democratic National Committee officers participated in activities urrounding the first federal holiday honoring Dr. King.
Kirk and Party Treasurer
Sharon Pratt Dixon attended a

ceremony on January 16 which included the unveiling of a bust of Dr. King in the U.S. Capitol

Vice Chairman Roland Burris and C. Delores Tucker, who chairs the caucus of black DNC members, also

caucus of black DNC members, also attended activities in Atlanta.

Ms. Tucker is a board member of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Change and founder and president of the Philadelphia Martin Luther King Association, the only such organization commissioned by Coretta Scott King. Ms. Tucker spoke at the 18th Annual ecumenical service at the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlants on January 20.

#### CMS Board Meeting

The school board will hold its next neeting at Thomasboro Elemen-ary School instead of the Educa-

chool instead of the Educa-enter. The meeting will be held ay, January 28, at 8 p.m. meeting is the first of three 1986 that will be held at a The board is moving some ags into schools at the sug-a of member Arthur Griffin homasboro is located at 538

### Nature Film



Mary Kersey prepares to leave her job at Plaza Road Elementary School to pick up anxious youngsters at Winthrop Park and Merry Oaks Elementary Schools and then safely transport them home. (Photo by Bernard Reeves)

before I let any of the kids off the bus. Getting them home okay, at the end of a school day is my major

Every day as a bus driver Mrs. Kersey looks forward to seeing "smiling faces." "That's what makes my job worthwhile. I feel good when I talk to them or if I'm able to help them tie their shoes."

Commenting that she doesn't experience any serious discipline

problems while transporting her students to and fro, Mrs. Kersey children. And if I find them thers on the bus.'

Grant Kersey to whom she has been married 26 years, Mrs. Kersey re-ceived \$100 for being honored "Bus Driver of the Month."

While she admits she has had no accidents, she attributes much of

the credit to having a good supervisor. "Leon Mitchell is my supervisor and I just feel that having a good supervisor makes you want to do the best you can."

When Mrs. Kersey is not assuming

her duties as a bus driver she is working in the cafeteria at Plaza Road Elementary School. Mrs. Kersey works with the assurance and the knowledge that "my job is important,"

## Donaghue Establishes Affirmative Action Policy copies of the policy statement be posted conspicuously by each or-

Charlotte - Bishop John F. Donoghue announced the establishment of an affirmative action policy for the Catholic Diocese of Char-

Bishop Donoghue will formally sign the policy statement Saturday, January 25, at the first diocesan celebration of the Martin Euther King Jr. national holiday at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Charlotte. A specific program to implement the policy is scheduled to be operational by June 30.

The bishop told a news conference that the policy will cover all diocesan organizations except those, such as hospitals and universities, which are covered by federal Executive Order 11246 which governs government contractors. Those institutions will develop their own affirmative action programs under the terms of the Executive

Bishop Donoghue assigned primary responsibility for implementing and managing the affirmative action program to the Chancery Office headed by Father Joseph A. Kerin, chancellor of the diocese. He will be assisted by a 23-member Affirmative Action Advisory Council appointed by the bishop.

The affirmative action policy covers not only all aspects of employment and participation in voluntary organizations, but also all construction activities, purchases, contracts, banking, use of lending institutions and other economic ac-

The policy forbids any discrimination on grounds of race, color, religion (except where religion is a bona fide occupational qualification), sex, national origin, age, handicap, or veteran's status.

Bishop Donoghue directed the

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ganization, office, parish, and school within the diocese and that it be included in all contracts and subcontracts, including collective bargaining agreements. It also is to be read at all Masses at least once annually, preferably around the time of the King holiday. AFFORDABLE

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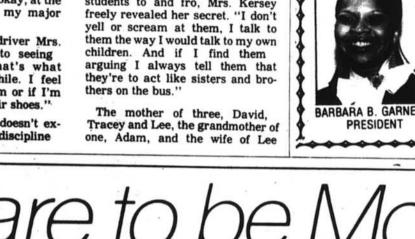


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yell or scream at them, I talk to them the way I would talk to my own arguing I always tell them that they're to act like sisters and bro-BARBARA B. GARNETTE The mother of three, David. Tracey and Lee, the grandmother of PRESIDENT one, Adam, and the wife of Lee





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