

For In-Depth Coverage Of The Black Community Read The Post Each Week.



LAMAR GRIER holds two of his huge German-Johnson tomatoes as he stands behind five of the unique variety displayed on a 28" table top. (Photo by Peeler)

Lamar Grier Is

An Avid Gardener With A Very Green Thumb

Lamar Grier, an avid gardener with a very green thumb and the good fortune to have received a tomato of the German-Johnson variety from a lady in Belmont, six years ago turns faces green - with envy - when he proudly displays the 2 1/2 - 3 1/4 pounds of succulent fruit picked from tomato vines in the three gardens he tills on his 2 - acre plot on Garrison Rd. in the southeast Mecklenburg County community of Dixie.

His wife, the former Lula Mae Brevard, says she doesn't pick anything from either garden since she encountered two copperhead snakes dining on the delicious delicacies of the family garden two years ago.

With envy he draws praise and thanks from friends, neighbors, and others when he gives them some of the huge, red, tasty tomatoes that comprise one of the family's favorite dishes.

"I love tomatoes," says Mrs. Grier, "I can get me a plate of tomatoes with a little salt and black pepper, go on 'bout my business," she adds as if experiencing a pleasant sensation.

She says she has frozen 14 gallons of tomatoes so far this season. She has also "put up" six gallon-size bags of corn, okra, and tomatoes combined for use in soups on cold winter days.

"If it rains, lamenting lack of it, Mrs. Grier says, "we'll have plenty of crowder peas and okra."

Last Saturday evening, Grier, who has fabricated custom-made windows at Tarheel Sash and Door Company for ten and a half years, was gathering seeds from his prize tomatoes to carefully store them for next year's planting. He extracts the seeds from the tomato flesh by squeezing and flushing with water until only the precious seeds

remain. He has followed this procedure at harvest time since receiving the treasured gift tomato six years ago.

He plants the seeds in beds in the spring and transplants the healthiest plants to peat moss cup when two-months old.

Grier also saves his okra, pea, corn, bean, and other seeds which he freezes to insure fresh, disease-free, uniformly high quality, fertile seeds for next year's planting to produce a high yield.

The truth of the matter is that Grier is an outdoorsman, in the garden and otherwise he has 14 rabbit dogs - his favorite is a 15 inch high black and white Beagle named 'King'.

He fishes the local lakes, streams, and river and says his largest catch to date was a 6 pound bass that bit a minnow he offered from a short line on a cane pole.

The Griers are members of Mr. Olive Presbyterian Church, pastored by Rev. A.W. Canada. He is a member of the Nominating Committee and will assume the duties as a newly-elected Deacon in 1981.

They have two children - Edward "Bro" Grier and Marjorie Elizabeth Grier, "she married a Grier," explained Mrs. Grier.



MRS. STEVE EARL CLINTON ...She was Miss Doria O. Spears

Miss Doria Olympia Spears Weds Steven Earl Clinton

Doria Olympia Spears and Steven Earl Clinton were joined in marriage 2 p.m. on September 6 at Myers Tabernacle AME Zion Church Rev. Carnell C. Thompson officiated the wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Clinton Spears of 1912 Irma Street are the parents of the bride. The bride was given in marriage by her father.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Robinson of 7231 Cormwell Lane are the parents of the groom.

Organist Stewart Jones and soloist Chris Strong provided the music and song for the occasion.

Joyce Stevenson of Charlotte was Maid of Honor and Mrs. Ianice G. Morrison of Santa Ana, California served as Matron of Honor.

Bridesmaids included Elaine Pyatt (cousin of the bride) from Murrells Inlet, S.C., Maxine Gage (sister of the groom) from Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Cynthia Ballard from Waldorf, Maryland and Pearlina Ross of Charlotte.

Gene Johnson was the best man.

Ushers included Emory Spears (brother of the bride) from Charlotte, Samuel Spears (cousin of the bride) from Charlotte, John Whitten and Grover Garris, both from Charlotte. Alvin Woods of Kingston, Raymond McDowell of Lawrence and Vernon

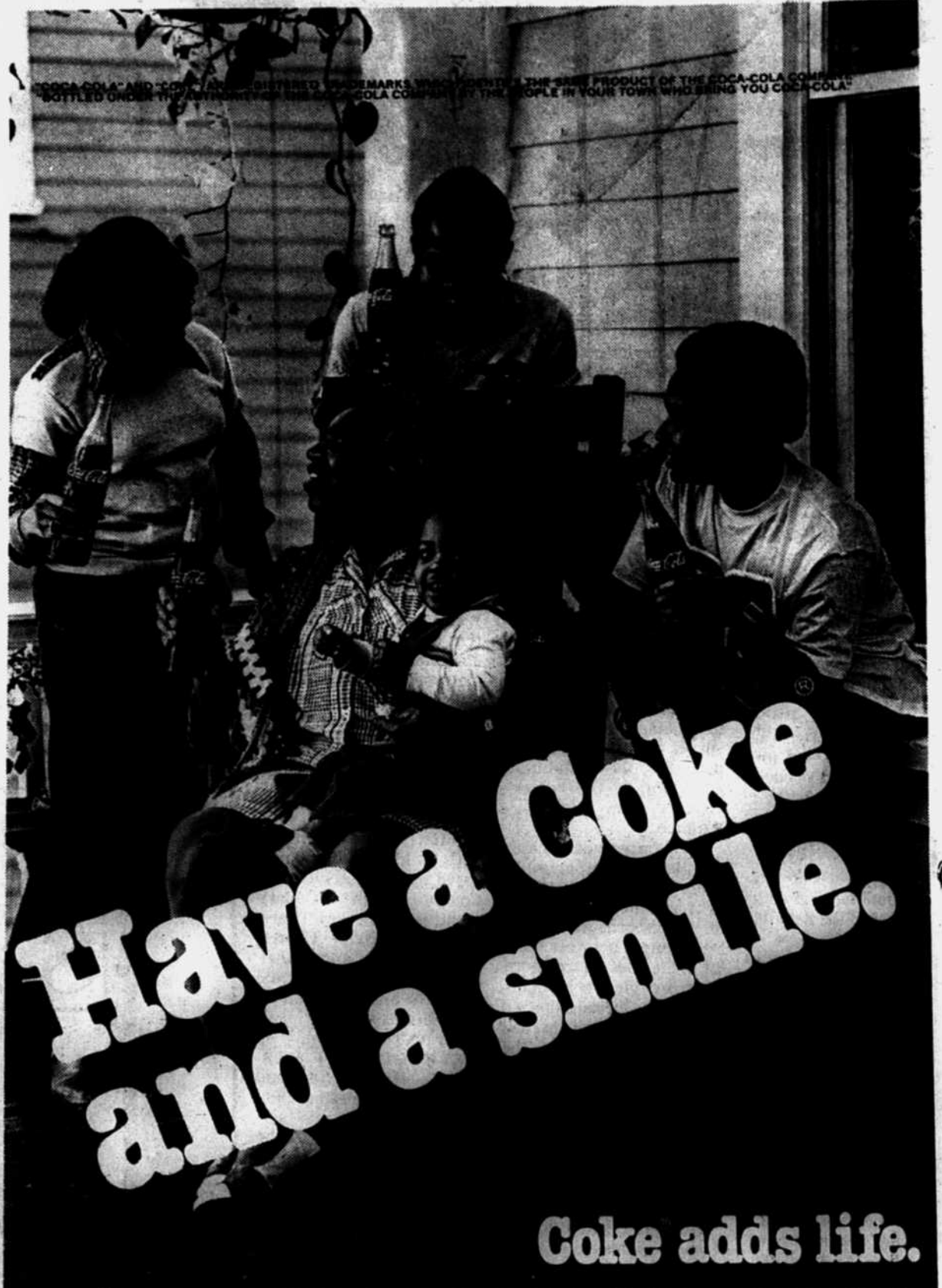
Lawrence of Charlotte were also ushers.

Joye House was the flower girl and Mark Dennis was the ring bearer.

The bride received her B.S. degree from North Carolina A&T State University and her Master's Degree from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She is employed by J.A. Jones Construction Company.

The groom attended Clarksville High School in Clarksville, Tennessee and is now attending Central Piedmont Community College. He is employed at Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church.

The reception followed the ceremony in the church dining hall. The couple's wedding trip was to the South Carolina coast. They will reside in Charlotte.



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TRICHOLOGY CORNER



Mr. Charles, R.B.

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