#### Celebrations



Youngue and Knox

•Germaine Yvette Youngue and Frankie Lee Knox will be married at Victory Christian Center at 1 p.m. on Saturday. The bride is the daughter of Mr. Milton J. Sr. and Freda T. Youngue. The brides maternal grandparent is Ms. Sadie Thompson and her paternal grandparent is Ms. Johnsie Youngue.

The groom is the son of Mr. Willie and Clara Knox.

The maid of honor will be Clyshonda Beverley, a friend of the bride. The matron of honor will be Mia Y. Boyd, the brides sister. The ring bearer is Collin Beverley, a friend of the groom and the flower girl is Kiana shepard, the grooms

The best man will be Johnny Heath, the grooms cousin. The groomsmen are David Gray and Samuel Jones, friends of the groom. The usher will be Milton J. Youngue, Jr., the brother of the bride.

Pastor Lawrence Price will conduct the ceremony. The music will be provided by Christopher G.M. Jackson.

The bride is a graduate of UNC Greensboro and she currently attends Queens Vail School of Nursing. She works at Carolinas Medical Center.

The groom served four in the United States Marine Corps and he is currently serving as the treasurer for the Charlotte Fire Department Union.

The reception will be held at the Charlotte Firefighters Union Hall.

The couple will honeymoon in Wakiki, Hawaii and reside in Charlotte.

· George Willard Johnson, Jr., 72, and Dorothy Payne Johnson, 72, will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Friday. They were married in 1946 in Atlanta.

George was the director of finance for the U.S. Postal Service. He retired after 41 years of service. Dorothy was a public school teacher in Atlanta for 23 years and for 15 years in Charlotte Mecklenburg.

In cooperation with the American Bridge Association, they had a formal celebration with family and friends at the Renaissance Place Restaurant on Sunday.

The Johnsons' children are



The Johnsons then...



...and now

Philip G. Johnson of Atlanta and Bilal F. Muhammad of

See CELEBRATIONS on page 16A

# Tips for growing the best lawn



Fred Smalls of Charlotte mows his grass to keep the lawn neatly trimmed.

Summer heat can be murderous on lawns. However, there are various ways to help make your lawn look greener and more lustrous. "The first step in having a

well kept lawn begins with keeping the proper length of grass," said Greg Howard, a Nu-Turf Landscape coordina-"This can be done by keeping the lawn cut at four inches above the soil. The reason for this procedure is to maintain moisture in the soil to keep it from drying out. When grass is higher, more moisture is retained in the soil because the grass acts as a

"When you cut grass to low it can be disastrous," Howard said. "Cutting grass too closely will cause it to thin and die

"The sharpness of the lawn mower blade also has an effect on the appearance of a persons lawn," Howard said. "Dull blades cause grass to be broken and not cut and as a result the grass can become brown and unattractive.

"Things that will help a lawns appearance is proper fertilization, watering and regular maintenance, Howard said. "A person needs to soak the lawn at least three days a week, but this depends a lot on the condition of the soil. Some turfs will need more water while others will require less, depending on

Howard said: "There is a dif-

ference between light watering and soaking a lawn. Light watering can cause the roots to come upward and close to the surface and during a dry spell these roots will die.

Soaking the soil maintains proper moisture in the grass to keep it from drying out during the summer months.

Fertilization plays a key part in maintaining a beautiful lawn. Fertilization, which is nutrients for the soil, gives the soil the required nutrients to help obtain a healthier lawn, Howard said.

"There are various types of fertilizers, but the most natural type is dehydrated cattle manure," he said. "Fertilizers are labeled by ratios like 12-4-8 and these numbers represent different amounts of nutrients.

"New lawns should start out with fertilizer ratios 12-4-8. Howard said, "A lot of people mistakenly use large amounts of fertilizer ratio 10-10-10 and this is not healthy for the grass because it contains too much phosphate. Most turf responds well to the 3-1-2

"The best time to begin a new lawn or improve your current lawn is to refertilize, reseed, and aerate your lawn during the fall," Howard said. "The best type of aerator to use is the plug-type aerator, which puts holes in the soil and allows the seeds and fertilizer to fall into the ground."

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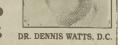
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### Early Childhood PTA



Early Childhood PTA officers (from left) Lisa Guillory, Vivian Williams, Sheila Amaning, Ellen Ruberstein

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Early Childhood PTA was recently honored at the National PTA's 100th Convention held in Washington, D.C.

The community-based ECPTA was singled out to win the State Advocates for Children Award. ECPTA Co-President Sheila Amaning, State PTA President Sandy Carmany and CMS Staff Coordinator Vivian Williams were on hand to receive the award.

The Early Childhood PTA was recognized for its Educational Gift Packages that are presented to parents of all newborn babies in 'Charlotte hospitals, its parenting workshops, and its outreach efforts with the Teenage Pregnancy Services

Department of Public Instruction selected the Early Childhood PTA to receive one of its prestigious Golden Key Awards for parent involvement earlier this year.

Founded in 1992, the ECPTA was organized to support families in their roles as parents; educate families about the needs and development of preschoolers; assist families in preparing school children for school readiness; and encourage future family and parent involvement with the schooling process.

By joining the ECPTA, members have the opportunity to meet and share parent concerns and solutions. Informative sessions on topics of interest to preschool children are offered to each member. Quarterly meetings are held throughout the year.