

WHITE

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Bethware Progressive Club makes it returned to the school," said White.

White said the Fair exhibit hall has become a challenge for her over the years. She drove a Bethware School bus for 21 years and has been in the classroom 20 years. A daughter, Debra Sizemore, is also a Bethware teacher assistant and a school bus driver. A son, Ricky White, of Morganton, comes home for the Fair and the whole family, including White's husband, Sesko, and their grandchildren make the Fair a real family affair.

White actually signed up her husband in the Bethware Progressive Club two years ago. Mr. White says he enjoys the camaraderie of the group and wholeheartedly supports the club's only fund-raising project.

People come from near and far to the annual Fair, according to Mrs. White, who accepts entries from as far distant as York, SC, and Gastonia and Upper Cleveland County.

"It's the biggest little fair in North Carolina and we go by the rules and one of the highlights of my week is hosting a state inspector who comes to the fair," said White, pointing to the various awards the fair has received over the years.

White said the exhibit hall is never unattended. Her crew is on the job along with Sesko White who volunteers as a security guard. She said she will miss her right arm at the fair, the late Lillie Mae Jones who died July 1 of cancer. Mrs. Jones' sisters, Louise McSwain and Sarah Queen, have been recruited as volunteers in the exhibit halls in addition to Louise Wright, Brenda Cook, Nellie Cook, Debbie Sizemore, June Wagner, Anne McIntosh, Donna Parnell, Dot McNamara and Peggy Whetstine.

The Whites reside in the Oak Grove Community and are active in Oak Grove Baptist Church. Mr. White is a retired truck driver. Mrs. White bowls on the J&S Electric team and enjoys softball but she said her grandchildren are the loves of her life. Jason Sizemore was recipient of the Bethware Progressive Club scholarship to attend UNC at Wilmington this fall. Carrie Sizemore is a Middle School student and Kasey Sizemore, fifth grader at Bethware, is the reigning Bethware Fair Queen.

"Once the Fair gets in your blood you can't get it out," says White.

Lightning strikes house and damages roof

Lightning struck the roof of the home of Brian and Myra Johnson on Richmond Drive Monday afternoon and burned a hole in it.

The Bethlehem and Oak Grove Volunteer Fire Departments responded

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GETTING READY - An expansion of the exhibit area in the Bethware School gymnasium is underway by Bethware Progressive Club, sponsors of the annual Bethware Fair. From left, Stokes Wright, Ned Yarbrow, Craig Mayes, Marshall Jones and Glenn Hicks, Fair Managers, and Fred Tate.

FAIR

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Hicks, a Kings Mountain native, got the idea for the expanded exhibit hall when he and Jones attended a convention of fair managers.

Hicks became active in the local club in 1962 when Frank Hamrick was Progressive Club President. He attended Bethware School in grades 6-9 and graduated from Kings Mountain High School in 1964. Married to Vicki Thornburg Hicks, he is materials supervisor for Mayflower Vehicles Systems in Grover which builds cabs for Mack Trucks. He and Jones were appointed co-managers about a dozen years ago and the job stuck.

Jones, who graduated from Bethware High in 1950, became active in the Bethware Club in 1970. His wife, Lillie Mae Jones, had helped register Fair exhibits

for at least a dozen years before her recent death. His mother, Mrs. Blake Jones, 84, also resides in the Patterson Grove Community.

The Jones and Hicks families have been active in the planning of the Fair for a number of years as have other farm families in the community.

They will start working on next year's fair as soon as the current fair closes.

The 1997 Fair is expected to be a banner year with many festivities planned to celebrate 50 years as a community fair.

Stokes Wright, whose late father William Wright was one of the founders of the Progressive Club, recalled that the club started with a handful of members but the enthusiasm was always there.

"The Fair was something we wanted to give to the community and has become a symbol of the good in farm life," he said.

Margrace streets to be repaved

Water Oak Street at the Margrace will be the first street paved in the city's current street paving project, says Karl Moss, Superintendent of Public Works.

"We're waiting on contracts to be signed and then Asphalt Paving will be ready to work," said Moss. After Water Oak Fulton Road from Margrace to Ark Street is next and then Ark Street from Margrace to Maner Road are next in order of priorities.

Moss said that city street crews were working this week to prepare 10 streets to be

paved. He said other priority streets are a traffic island at Ark and Cloninger Street and paving of Wales Street, Dilling Street and Hill Street in that order.

Street paving at city-owned Mountain Rest Cemetery are also on the high priority list.

Moss estimated that some 28 to 30 streets are on the paving list to be paved this year.

Moss said crews have been busy this week fixing potholes and doing drainage work and will work the rest of the week preparing streets for paving.

SUIT

From Page 1-A

city failed to satisfy statutory requirements for annexation by using insufficient data and erroneously computing the percentage of developed land in the annexation area.

The suit challenges the Constitutionality of North Carolina's annexation statutes, saying they deny properly owners' rights to due process and subject them to taxation without representation.

Industrial representatives and individual home owners protesting the move by the city contend the annexation will mean higher taxes, not an increase in services.

The annexation study the city asked Benchmark Inc. of Kannapolis to prepare had indicated that annexation would be a good move by the city moving to overcome money shortfalls, the loss of revenue by the closing of Clevefont Mills and the forthcoming loss of revenue by new water recycling procedures underway at Spectrum Industries, the city's largest user of water and natural gas.

The proposed annexation would bring in more than \$29 million in property worth more than \$100,000 per year in property taxes to the city with the effective date to begin rolling services 13 months away after the city passes an ordinance June 30, 1997 with June 30, 1999 targeted as the completion of Phase I of the utilities construction.

A 1993 amended agreement to the City of Kings Mountain's contract with the City of Gastonia for sewage treatment stipulates that 15 months from the annexation of any territory that includes any sewer lines and appurtenances that Kings Mountain must purchase the sewer lines and appurtenances paying 100 percent of the depreciated adjusted cost to Gastonia plus the expense of meters.

The contract stipulates that any funds received from federal or state grants or unreimbursed amounts paid by developers or Kings Mountain shall be subtracted from the adjusted cost depreciated from the time the same was placed in service by

Edwards commissioned second lieutenant in USAF

Michael C. Edwards has been commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force after having graduated from Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Ala.

Edwards is the son of Pamela M. and David B. Edwards of 108 Starmount Drive, Kings Mountain. He is a 1990 graduate of Burns High School and a 1994 graduate of Gardner-Webb University.

Gastonia to the time of acquisition by Kings Mountain.

The contract stipulates that the capacity of the Crowders Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant assigned to Kings Mountain in 1988 will not be changed as a result of annexation and transferring of customers by Gastonia.

"I feel that we did the right thing in voting to annex this property," said Councilman Norma Bridges.

"We did not take the action hastily."

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