

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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10 CENTS



NEW METHOD — Hogs on Perquimans County farms aren't fed as they were years ago. These pregnant sows are limited to four pounds of a well balanced ration a day during gestation. To keep "boss" sows from hogging the trough, the expectant mothers are fed in individual stalls.

Shortages & Inflation May Make Smiles Fewer

By KATHY MARREN
Staff Writer

There's much talk these days about inflation and the gas shortage and how it's affecting the average citizen. But to a 72-year old lady, these two things are threatening to put her out of a business that she's grown to love.

Her name is Elsie Lane and she makes dolls.

How are these things affecting her? The gas shortage will become a deciding factor in her summer sales, at her home at Rt. 1, Hertford; as well as at Nags Head. And as everything else, the price of material has gone up. Elsie put it like this, "Material is going up, so then the prices of my dolls will have to go up. But many people don't understand that. And the gas shortage means not as many will be stopping by my house or there won't be as many tourists going to the beach. I may have to close down."

Although she started the doll business six years ago, she began making dolls as a little girl. She said, "When I was little is when I guess it started. I used to dress corn cobs dolls in scraps." She also made dolls for her children and grandchildren. Elsie has had no training; she taught herself.

She makes all types of dolls as well as patchwork pillows. Her big dolls include what she calls bed dolls and Raggedy Anns. The smaller dolls are sock dolls, rag dolls, corn shuck dolls, dolls made from clothespins, corn cobs and hickory nuts. And the tiniest members of her family are dolls with bead heads and dough heads.

Her best sellers are Halloween shuck dolls and scarecrows.

Elsie first began her doll-making with apple dolls, but she has discontinued it since they don't keep due to the climate. The dolls are made by hand, but also include some machine work.

In front of her home is what is referred to as Elsie's Dollhouse. In the winter months, the Dollhouse is closed but she takes orders in her home that keep her busy. Orders for her homemade dolls come in from all over. At present, she is working on an order from New Jersey. The largest order she's received was from the Lost Colony production for over 100 dolls. One of the things Elsie enjoys most about her doll business is meeting people. She said, "I make lots of friends and I love them all because they're so nice to me." These friends are usually tourists who see the sign in front of her house advertising her dolls and crafts.

Her dolls sell at various prices. One of her rather small hickory dolls sells for four dollars. She can make about four small dolls in a day, but the larger ones take about two days.

Elsie's sales increase in the summer months and around Halloween when people stop to buy pumpkins which line her entire front yard.

Elsie has entered her dolls in Craftsmen Fairs and she once sat up an exhibit booth at the State Fair.

Adding to the problems of no gas and high costs of material, Elsie Lane admits that she is getting too

old to keep up with the overwhelming orders.

Elsie does all the work on the dolls alone and keeps the business going.

She said that she wanted to get someone to help her, but as of yet she hasn't found anyone.

Hopefully she'll be able to continue the work that often brings a smile to a little girl's face.

Completes First Course

Joseph C. Welch, 20, son of Mrs. Frances E. Welch, Route 1, Hertford, N.C., completed an 11-week engineer equipment maintenance course at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo.

The course prepares students to perform maintenance on powered bridging, engineer construction, and earthmoving and support type equipment.

Pvt. Welch is the son of Wiley C. Welch, 91 Boreum St., Brooklyn. His wife, Betty, lives on Route 1, Moyock, N.C.

SACRED MUSIC

A concert of sacred music will be presented at Up River Friends Meeting Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Appearing will be the Men's Chorus of Eastern Menonite Seminary directed by Roy Roth. About 15 men will travel from Harrisonburg, Virginia, to present the concert. The public is invited.



DAVIS STILLSON

Makes First Record

WOODVILLE—Davis Stillson along with backup from Bhakti has cut his first record, The Great American Dream.

The 26-year-old artist wrote the words and music for the disc. Stillson said it's his message to people to tell them there is more to life than one thinks. His message can also be taken as life is a fast take.

One of the lines in the song goes "Don't tell me about life, I've been there before."

He began playing the guitar while serving in the armed forces. He has played in leading nightclubs while in the army in the Near East. He also performed in night spots in the States.

The record has been played on area radio stations, both AM and FM. The record, for \$1 can be purchased from The Magic Mushroom, Dolphins Club, Elizabeth City Music Company or by writing Wind Screen Productions, Rt. 2, Box 684, Elizabeth City, N.C.

Dr. Phelps Slated At Museum

The next Members' Series for the Museum of the Albemarle will be on Monday, March 11, at 8 p.m.

At this time Dr. David Phelps, associate professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology at East Carolina University, will give a talk, entitled "A Search for the Past in Northeastern North Carolina."

Dr. Phelps was born and educated in North Carolina. He has been a part of many projects in Archaeology and Anthropology in our state; and also published a number of publications on these subjects. He has worked at several sites in the Albemarle Area and plans to do further work soon.

Morgan Promises Not To Be 'Bought' In Bid

By FRANCINE SAWYER
ELIZABETH CITY — Robert Morgan, U.S. Senate hopeful told political leaders of the Albemarle Monday, he would not be "bought" by special interest groups.

The North Carolina attorney general is seeking Sen. Sam Ervin's seat in the nation's capital.

Morgan explained the kind of campaign he would be running. He indicated he

would not be spending a great amount of money and will stay in the \$400,000 budget range set by federal guidelines.

An aide of Morgan's told The Perquimans Weekly Morgan would not be coming "down east" often. "Maybe one more time," he said. The aide explained the abundance of votes are in the Piedmont section of the state. The aide said Morgan could get as many votes in

one precinct there as he could in the Albemarle's ten-county area. The aide added, "Morgan has a great deal of friends in the east."

Morgan urged the gathering to "get out the vote." "We need a heavy vote in the east."

When asked about President Nixon and the scandal which surrounds him, Morgan indicated it would be improper "for me

to speak of Nixon's possible involvement."

A record of 10 candidates are seeking Sen. Ervin's coveted seat. Morgan said he felt Nick Galafanikis would be his strongest opponent in the May primary, but he (Morgan) feels he will win.

Saturday night Morgan, as a guest of Willie Ainsley visited the courthouse employes who had their annual courthouse party.

Bateman Named Manager

The Norfolk & Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Company announced today that Thomas A. Bateman, 40, was recently appointed Local Manager for the company's exchanges serviced from Edenton. The appointment was part of an overall restructuring within the company which realigned departments and is designed to make the company more responsive to the growing needs of its more than 35,000 stations, more than 6,000 of which are within Bateman's territory. Bateman's duties will be to represent the company to the public and to the employees, and to act as liaison with the corporate offices. He will administer the company's policies and programs.



TALKING WITH CANDIDATE — Ed Nixon, left, and Willie Ainsley, right, takes time to tell U.S. Senate hopeful, Robert Morgan, some of the hopes of the people of Perquimans County. The two Perquimans residents were on hand Monday in Elizabeth City for the informal Morgan breakfast. (Francine Sawyer Photo)

Heart Fund Nets \$1,800

Through many activities and county-wide participation, the Perquimans County Chapter of the Heart Fund raised an approximate total of \$1,800.

Those heading the Heart Fund Drive included: Wayne Ashley, chairman, Ed Nixon and Ray Ward, co-chairmen for the auction sale; Janie Boyce; town Heart Sunday chairman; Kerry Jones and Mrs. M.B.

Taylor Sunday chairman: Wayne Sayland, business solicitor, and Billie Miller, balloon and tag day events.

slow, auctioneer who kindly donated his time.

NEW HOURS

Beginning Monday, March 18, the Perquimans County Schools will go back to normal hours. The schools will begin at 8:30 a.m. EDST and end at 2:45 p.m.

Teachers will report at 8 a.m. and work until 3:30 p.m.



FLANDER'S FIELD OF JONQUILS — Goodness, the weather has been beautiful in Perquimans County for the past several days. Of course, this was written at press time Tuesday. No telling what the weather will be today. However, for the past several days, the doldrums of winter, which was mild, got even better, as residents took to bikes, motorbikes, and yes, even walking. Mother Nature took it upon herself to open the lovely yellow jonquils. (Sawyer Photo)



A RETURN TO CHILDHOOD — Mrs. John Lane displays the various types of dolls she makes and sells at the little house by the road she calls Elsie's Dollhouse.