

New faces, new places:

Hertford welcomes Ayscue Cafe

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a continuation in a series of weekly articles featuring new businesses and professional people in and around Perquimans County.)

Text & Photos
By KATHY M. NEWBERN

"The reception that the people have given us is just unbelievable. From the moment we opened the doors, we've had business."

That statement was made by Wilma Ayscue concerning the public's reaction to the opening of Ayscue's Cafe on July 6.

Owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. John Ayscue, the restaurant has enjoyed a thriving business.

The 10 employees are kept busy with the 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. schedule seven days a week.

Ayscue's has several specialties and boasts of all home-cooking. Mrs. Ayscue explained that all fresh vegetables are used, homemade pies and desserts can be ordered, and a good old country boiled dinner is included on the menu.

Her husband, John has 27 years experience in the U.S. Air Force where he has served as an auto pilot specialist training personnel. Mrs. Ayscue has worked as a professional

In the news

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Matthews were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Hudson at Virginia Beach, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant Anderson of Concord, Mass. were recent guests of Mrs. Edgar Lane.

Miss Hope Stallings of Belvidere spent last weekend with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George Winslow.

Mr. and Mrs. Julian Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Dail, and Robert Stallings of Winfall spent last weekend at Nags Head.

Miss Sybil Skinner spent last weekend in Reaford with Mr. and Mrs. Dave Barrington.

Mr. and Mrs. John Richard White of Virginia Beach, Va. were recent guests of Miss Louise Chalk.

Mrs. C.C. Banks, Mrs. Howard Williams, Jr. and Mrs. Tony Winslow were guests of Miss Linda Banks at New Bern last week.

seamstress and both have moonlighted in insurance work. Also, both have some background in book-keeping and financial matters.

One might wonder how such backgrounds would result in the operation of a small restaurant in Hertford.

Well, Ayscue's Cafe actually has been a two-fold dream come true for the couple. John has long considered opening a cafe and Wilma has long desired an old home for the family. And now, in Hertford, the family has found both. They live in the old stately home next to the cafe which makes it convenient and pleasant.

Wilma explained that while this may be the couple's first attempt in food management, they have both been fortunate to have training in areas that have proved useful. Their work with books, finances, and most importantly, people management, has paid off.

Both have the attitude that they have found a life's career and both are happy with the results so far. Wilma said, "We came to stay and we're hoping to."

Part of the success of the Ayscue Cafe story can be attributed to the people of the community. Mrs. Ayscue explained that initial customers are coming back and bringing their friends. One reason for that might be the family's policy expressed by Mrs. Ayscue, "Everyone is going to be treated special here in a friendly atmosphere."

Another part of the story has been the employees that "have pitched in and

gotten everything going smoothly." "They are the most important people here," Mrs. Ayscue said.

While the cafe is open and running with satisfied customers, things have not been quite that cut and dried for the Ayscues. They have quite a record of hard work behind them.

When deciding to re-open the cafe, the Ayscues had to do a complete overhaul. The kitchen is entirely new, from wall to floor. The only thing that remains from previous ownership is one range. The inside also has a new look with all new paneling, flooring and ceiling. Much of this work was done by the owners with some help from their family: two sons, a daughter, and a foster daughter. All are adults and none are living in Hertford, but the children's experience in food related work has been applied. All have helped out and offered suggestions while visiting here.

The only area that the Ayscues see concerning future change is the problem with parking. Mrs. Ayscue explained that they are aware of the need for additional spaces and this is being kept in mind for the future.

While Ayscue Cafe has fulfilled a dream for its owners, Mrs. Ayscue also explained that they feel their work can be viewed as an offering to the public, an additional place for friends to meet and dine.

And a quick check around lunchtime will assure anyone that their attitude is correct. Ayscue's Cafe has been welcomed by the local people.



OWNERS — Ayscue Cafe owners, John and Wilma Ayscue, are shown involved in part of the business operation, ordering supplies for the coming week.



CHIEF COOKS — Two people that make things work at Ayscue Cafe are chief cooks Irma White (left) and Dorcas Lowder. They are shown dipping up some of the home-cooking the cafe is becoming known for.



SMILING HELP — Helping portray the policy of a friendly atmosphere at Ayscue Cafe are two of the waitresses, Dona Chappell (left) and Wanda Owens.

Civic calendar

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3
Hertford Lions Club meets.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5
The Perquimans County Horse & Pony Club will sponsor a show starting at 6 p.m.

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A car wash will be sponsored by the Poplar Run Junior Choir on the church lawn starting at 10 a.m. Cars will be washed for a \$2.50 donation.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6
The Edenton Jaycees will have a disco dance from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. at the Edenton Jayvee Building. Hors d'oeuvres will be served and music will be provided by Terry Williams of radio station WCDJ. Perquimans Jaycees, exhausted roosters, and their guests are invited to attend.

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The Holiday Island Civic League meets at 1 p.m. in the club house. The meeting will include election of officers.

MONDAY, AUGUST 7
Winfall Fire Department meets.

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The Winfall Town Council meets at 8 p.m.

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The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners meets in a morning session.

+++
The Perquimans County Board of Education will meet at 8 p.m.

+++
The Hertford Town Council meets at 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8
Hertford Rotary Club meets at 8:30 p.m.

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The Perquimans Masonic Lodge meets.

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A meeting of the Perquimans County Horse & Pony Club will be held.

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