Cousin Emma's Bed & Breakfast

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Have a sit down and relax in Mayberry.

What's News?

Howdy all! Mayberry Days and Halloween happened again and with them came the amusing and the abyssmal. Let's be amusing first: The Frankensteins visited from Tennessee and came to town and all-decked out as you can see. They slowed up to look at



the *outhouse in my front yard* while I was sitting on the porch. Her giant head 'thing' was amazing, I was scared it was 'real'. Of course, I invited them to the porch for a visit and a posed picture.

For the past several years, Mount Airy merchants have sat outside their various downtown stores and given out candy to children of all ages. The police close off street traffic in an effort to keep everyone safe for a couple or so hours once lots of big loads of cars and even church busses from smaller towns or isolated areas get into town for a visit.

Now, for the abyssmal: I can easily remember the old days when we kids would go out in a band with usually one brave parent. When we would walk along the blocks, giggling and ringing doorbells to get a treat, we always politely said thank you before moving on to the next. This year, for the two hours I sat on my porch with the goodies I'd put out, and I only heard ONE thank you….ONE! Due to the strangeness of the times and wanting to make sure nobody got anything here that might cause sickness, I instead filled two broiler pans with non-edibles: assorted colored pens, individually sealed tea bags in various flavors, and sealed crackers of sweet flavors. I laid it out on the wide top step of the porch and I sat in plain view and watched. Well, a 'church van' pulled up with a load of probably kindergarten, first grade kids led by a woman who came with them and let them grab big bunches



and put in their buckets. I'd clearly said, "one item per child so everyone stopping gets something and we get a lot of kids coming along this main path to the Squad Car tours and Wally's Service Station..." But this is the finale: she saw me watching and after hearing what I said, she reached down and emptied what was left into a pillow case and said 'I will give this out at church tomorrow' and they drove off! I am never short on words but I was so horrified! And, we wonder how this generation is going to grow up and why they often are angry, thoughtless, and violent even with total strangers.

Having nothing else to put out, I asked a group of parents holding the hands of their kids if they would help me by taking down my various 'decorations' to save their fun for another year. Halloween was over after such a blatant, bad, and awful example for little eyes and ears! When and how will they learn manners, integrity.

Back in my day, almost every adult in town reminded and prompted children to have fun, be nice, and stay safe within the boundaries given. Because if we didn't, they would smack our backsides before they then called our parents to report it…and by the time we got home they were waiting to spank and punish us again. Had the words 'child abusers' been used then, I think none of us would have grown into responsible, polite adults. All those folks are long gone but I am grateful they cared, reminded us they

cared, and subsequently as far as I know we all turned out “okay."

Remember the woman called ‘Miss Manners’ who wrote a column in magazines and newspapers? The parents of my crowd often read the articles to us at dinner tables and everyone would nod in agreement. This sort of set the rules expected at each house which made us feel secure and important growing up.
Now, on to wishing for a colorful fall, cool weather, and hopefully and eventually, some snowman creation time or is that now also archaic???????? Let’s just remember that little eyes and ears are watching ‘big folks’ even if we are not aware of it.

Check out Mayberry!
***http://www.mountairydowntown.org/monthly-calendar.html* for local events and then book your stay at Cousin Emma's. Find me at https://cousinemmas.weebly.com/.**

Tea, Tales, and Ghost Tours

I serve high tea with sweets in the formal dining room. While folks eat, I share the legends of the house, then they can walk through anywhere that does not have a guest napping in a guest room. I collect a donation per person that will go to send a needy local child to a week of summer camp next season. Call or email if you would like to schedule this special event.

Due to a vast amount of heirloom antiques which little hands can't resist, Cousin Emma's BnB events cannot allow small children. Almost all the furnishings here are family heirlooms, inherited and long cherished items with interesting and sometimes amusing stories.



Reserve your special afternoon event soon.

Visit Mayberry!
For Mt. Airy happenings,
check us out and plan a visit!
http://www.visitmayberry.com/ calendar/

Trick or Treat Boris!



The stuffed boar's head was a gift from an out of town “friend”. It has a gaze that follows you around the room so I hide the eyes with glasses and whatever else will attract attention.

Opie's Corner



You know how Opie bolts….I was out on the porch during one of those oppressively hot days that have been too common this summer. Well, when I opened the door, Opie ran out as I was coming in, darted down the granite front-porch steps which were, I am sure, hot. Opie yelped, turned around and ran back up to the door and flew in. He is now hiding under my bed on the AC vent. I guess that will be a waking memory he may not try again…last year he was fast out and hit snow and much the same effect.

Visits to Cousin Emma's are by appointment only. There are two pets on the premises: a well-behaved dog (she has never even barked!) and the aforementioned, spoiled-rotten cat! None of the animals are allowed in the guest rooms- and Opie is locked away from guests to protect the innocent. Also, there is no smoking or vaping, or tobacco or drug use of any kind, nor alcohol use at Cousin Emma's Bed and Breakfast. If you are interested in a visit, please request ahead of your visit to town. And bring your best manners... We aim to set a good example!

Thanks for reading Cousin Emma's Newsletter. See you soon in Mayberry!
https://cousinemmas.weebly.com