

## **Extraordinary Stories, Extraordinary Impact...**

I was born and raised in Philadelphia, but I raised my children right here in Fairview. All four of them are Western North Carolinians. My husband Pat and I have loved making these mountains our home.

Storytelling grew out of the love of reading to my children. One day, while at Pack Memorial Library, a librarian overheard me reading to my children. She asked, "Would you consider volunteering to be a reader for the library story hour." I said, "Yes!"—and my career as a storyteller began.

It's hard to believe I've been telling stories for over 30 years at libraries...schools...festivals...and museums. I love having young ADULTS come up to me and say, "Didn't you tell stories at my school when I was a kid?" Sometimes they can even quote lines from the story!

Along with storytelling I've acted, danced, and sung my way through many local and regional theater productions. My storytelling skills have served me well as I've portrayed Pauli Murray, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, and Maya

Angelou for Chautauquas in Asheville, Greenville, Spartanburg, Colorado, and Ohio.

By far, my favorite activity is sharing stories. I tell a few personal stories, but I enjoy telling traditional tales—the stories that have been told for centuries in all cultures. It's so much fun to connect with people through story. It's like visiting an old friend. So, won't you join us on Saturday, October 13th for the New City Christian School Fundraiser, *Knowledge. Confidence. Hope.—A Story To Remember*. Come, sit a spell, and listen. Who knows—one day you may stop me on the street and quote a line from the story that touched your heart.