

Story Time

by *Delores Campbell*

July 2009

The Balloon Man

I was watching the news on Friday the 29th of May when the picture and story about a man named David Taylor came on. Some of you might have seen him passing out balloons that he was blowing up for the kids. Well, I knew this man. He said that his wife, Mary Frances, had been dead for several years now. He is now in his eighties. After he gave a child a balloon, he told them that God loved them and so did he.



The Taylors used to live at the old Hub Smith house in Dudley Shoals. Mary Frances was a nurse at Hickory when I babysat for their kids. After they left Dudley and moved to Hickory, I did not see any of them until my uncle, Don Taylor, died. David and Mary Frances came to the funeral home. I asked them how their children were doing and Mary Frances told me that the youngest daughter was killed by a prisoner that she used to visit in jail. This came as a big shock to me, because this girl was a Christian that went with a church group to visit prisoners. Her mother said that the man who killed her had been released from prison when it happened. I always considered the Taylor family to be a nice Christian family. They went to the Dudley Shoals Baptist Church when they lived in our community.

Church in the Wildwood

Jo Nell was playing the piano at a revival at Ebenezer, and Eric said that if anyone had a request, just say so, because Jo Nell could play anything.

Jo Nell said, "No, I can't either."

Well, I requested "The Evening Prayer" and Jo Nell started playing "Church in the Wildwood" instead. Bleaka was standing up front looking at me; then looking at Jo Nell.

I told Jo Nell, "I said "Evening Prayer" that is on the page next to "Church in the Wildwood."

"I can't play that," said Jo Nell, and she just kept on playing "Church in the Wildwood."

Eric was in the audience sitting beside Bob Sears and laughing his head off.

Bob said, "I guess if we hear that song, you will have to sing it for us, Delores."

I said, "Well, Bob, you know that song as well as I do." And he started laughing, too.