

## Condra's video tales glow with peace, hope

By Mary Hance  
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If you are looking for a family-oriented Christmas video that gets at the real message of Christmas and peace, try Estelle Condra's *Video Stories for Christmas Eve*.

Condra, a well-known, Nashville-based storyteller and speaker, "performs" two warm and interesting stories on the \$13.99 video.

*The Peace Angel* is the story of a girl and her grandmother who are hiding out in a mountain cabin during a war. As Christmas becomes closer and closer, the little girl dreams of lovely presents while the grandmother

struggles to put food in their mouths. Just when it seems hopeless to believe anymore, they find a present that no money could buy.

Condra, who wrote the story two years ago, says it is about the peace and hope that are so much of the Christmas message.

"To me, Christmas is not about material things," she says.

The other story Condra tells on the tape is *Hey You*. It is the story of a young boy in Bethlehem who could not speak. He was taunted by the people around him — all of whom called him "Hey You" since he had no voice. When the Christ child was born, the boy found his own special gift.

"*Hey You* is an old story that I heard but I have never seen in print," says Condra, who grew up in South Africa. "I heard it once and it stuck with me, and I recreated it here. Its message is that special grace that we get here at Christmastime."

Condra says the idea for a video came from Kitty Moon at Scene III, which produced the tape last year.

She says surveys that were taken last year found that the tape was "very successful with families with children ages 5-8. They also found that adults liked it a lot," Condra says.

The tape is available at Imagination Crossroads in the Green Hills area.