

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Match made in Lowcountry heaven

### Sylvan Dell teams up with Charleston's own Fran Hawk for her newest children's book release

MT. PLEASANT, SC (July 22, 2009) – When Charleston native and *Post and Courier* columnist Fran Hawk discovered Mt. Pleasant publisher Sylvan Dell, it was a match made in Lowcountry heaven. Now, just in time for fall, Sylvan Dell Publishing is set to release Hawk's children's picture book, **Count Down to Fall**, and this southern team is giving names to the natural world.

"I think this book is a must for young children because it introduces the concept that everything in nature—just as every person—has a name," said Hawk. "When we know a person, we know his family name. The same is true for trees and other aspects of nature. This book makes it fun for parents and children to learn the names of leaves together. It provides a beginning knowledge on which to build more knowledge and also introduces counting and autumn."

In Hawk's **Count Down to Fall**, the summer days get a little colder; the leaves turn from green to orange and red. Fall must be on the way, and while you unpack sweaters and scarves, the animals frolic outside in the crisp autumn air beneath a wide blue sky. The vibrant and detailed illustrations by Sherry Neidigh capture the majesty of the maple, the oak, the linden, and more. Critters play in the time of changing seasons, and remind us that the changes of the earth affect us all—animals and humans alike!

**Count Down to Fall** supports Sylvan Dell's mission of bringing science and math to children through literature and brings the company's number of educational picture books to 45. Every Sylvan Dell title includes a 3-5 page "For Creative Minds" educational section in the back of the book. Plus, on their website, children, parents, and teachers will find 40-50 pages of additional cross-curricular teaching activities, three interactive quizzes, and eBooks (auto-read, auto-flip, and selectable English and Spanish text and audio) for each book.

Hawk is no stranger to the literary world. She is the Children's Book Columnist at the *Post and Courier*. **Count Down to Fall** is her third book release, following *The Story of the H.L. Hunley and Queenie's Coin* and *Ten Tips for Raising Readers*, in which Fran shares information about bringing children and books together. "My most favorite things are children, books, and writing," said Hawk. "Writing children's books is my dream come true, because it combines all three!"

In celebration of her new release, Hawk will be featured at an upcoming event September 1 at O'Quinn School in Mt. Pleasant, SC, for a book launch celebration. For event details and a full listing of Hawk's upcoming appearances, visit <http://sylvandellpublishing.com/events.htm#Count>. For more information about her book, visit <http://sylvandellpublishing.com/Count.php>. For all interview requests or media queries, please contact Sylvan Dell's publicist, Sara Dobie, at (877) 958-2600 or [SaraDobie@SylvanDellPublishing.com](mailto:SaraDobie@SylvanDellPublishing.com).

###

Sylvan Dell Publishing in Mt. Pleasant, S.C. is on a mission to excite children's imaginations with artistically spectacular science, math and nature themed stories. Founded in November of 2004, Sylvan Dell's family has grown to include more than 64 authors and illustrators in the U.S. and Canada, and 45 titles – honored as finalists or winners of more than 70 book awards. For more information about Sylvan Dell Publishing, our free online educational resources, and our multi-lingual eBooks, please visit <http://www.SylvanDellPublishing.com>.