

**MEDIA ALERT 10/2/08****Contact:** Sara Dobie, (877) 958-2600  
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## Sorting It Out!

*Local author hosts events to celebrate her new children's book release*

### WHAT

Connecticut author Barbara Mariconda has something exciting to celebrate—the publication of her new children's book! Told in rhyme, *Sort it Out!* (Sylvan Dell Publishing, 2008) invites kids to help Packy the Packrat get organized as he sorts through his ever-growing collection of trinkets and puts them away. Digital paintings by Sherry Rogers show the packrat family and their crafty uses of Packy's collectibles (e.g. face moisturizer as a nightstand), making the 32-page book as colorful as it is clever.

### EVENT SCHEDULE

- Oct. 11, 11:00 AM, Barnes and Noble, Westport, Signing/Reading
- Oct. 24, 10:30 AM-11:20 AM, CT Reading Association Conference, Cromwell, Presentation
- Nov. 23, 4:00 PM, R.J. Julia Booksellers, Madison, Presentation/Signing

### ABOUT...

- "While teaching second grade, I was constantly looking for entertaining math-related books to use as introductions or for review of skills taught," explains Mariconda. "I wrote this book because it was the book I needed in my classroom and one I knew my students and fellow teachers would enjoy."
- More than math was on Mariconda's mind while teaching second grade in Fairfield. After developing a successful writing program for students there, she and a fellow teacher founded an educational seminar/consulting firm. Empowering Writers, LLC was formed in order to share the two educators' high impact methodologies with colleagues nationwide. They now train thousands of educators each year.
- Aside from her career with Empowering Writers, Barbara has been a certified educator in Connecticut for more than 20 years, teaching in grades K-6 and also serving as an adjunct professor of Children's Literature and Process Writing at Sacred Heart University's Graduate School of Education. She also has written a wide variety of musicals, songs and books, including the middle grade novel *Turn the Cup Around*, which was nominated for an Edgar Allan Poe Award.

For a fun, family-friendly interview with Barb, please contact Sylvan Dell's publicist Sara Dobie at [SaraDobie@SylvanDellPublishing.com](mailto:SaraDobie@SylvanDellPublishing.com) or (877) 958-2600.

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#### About Sylvan Dell Publishing

Sylvan Dell Publishing, based in Mt. Pleasant, S.C., is on a mission to create picture books that excite children's imaginations, are artistically spectacular and have educational value. The company specializes in "Science and Math Through Literature" and provides free supplemental parent/teacher resources for every title. Founded in 2004, Sylvan Dell's family has grown to include more than 55 authors and illustrators in the U.S. and Canada, and 35 titles – honored as nominees, finalists or winners of more than 50 book awards – line their bookshelf. For more information about Sylvan Dell's books, educational resource grant and free parent/teacher resources, visit [www.SylvanDellPublishing.com](http://www.SylvanDellPublishing.com).