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MICHIGAN AUTHOR WRITES AND ILLUSTRATES CHILDREN'S NOVELLA

Mount Clemens, Mich., July 6, 2007 — Once upon a time, a dog, a cat and a mouse were friends...

A fairy tale? No, an exciting children's story that teaches the values of friendship, acceptance, teamwork and family.

Moose Run Productions announces the release of "Introducing Russell," a children's novella and an award-winning Finalist in the Children's Fiction category of the National Indie Excellence 2007 Book Awards.

This 68-page story follows Jake the dog, Belle the cat and Russell the mouse as they set out for a camping trip with their human at Bay City State Park. There, the animals meet many new friends, including a brave chipmunk, a pet rat and a cantankerous squirrel. But, when Russell is injured, Jake and Belle must use their ingenuity to "introduce" the mouse to their human — and to convince her to accept their unconventional friend as a member of the family.

First-time author Debbie Walter, who is also the book's illustrator, uses a love of animals, a fondness for education and years of working in a library to craft a fictional story that is positive, nurturing and fun to read.

The novella, which is seen through the eyes of the animals, is divided into very short sections, acquainting children with a chaptered book and enabling them to complete a longer story at their own pace. Although geared toward readers aged 9–11, "Introducing Russell" has also been enjoyed by younger children who listen to the story read aloud and by the adults doing the reading!

"Introducing Russell" was published by Michigan-based Moose Run Productions, which produces books of various genres that are wholesome and uplifting. High-resolution photos of the book cover and the author can be downloaded from the publisher's Web site at www.moose-run.com. The novella (ISBN-13: 978-0-9766315-2-1, ISBN-10: 0-9766315-2-0, \$6.95 U.S., 7" x 9" trade paperback) is available through any bookseller. (Bookstores can order the title from Baker & Taylor or the publisher.)

For more information on Moose Run Productions or its other Michigan-based books, visit www.moose-run.com.

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Editor's Note: Walter resides in Clinton Township, Mich., and is available for book signings and readings.