

Children's author to host book-signing and party

When Diana Tuorto was 12 years old, she started writing a story about a horse living in the American Southwest. Now all grown up, the Madison-based author will be sharing the completed novel during a book release and signing party on Saturday, Sept. 9, at the Tapestry Café in Netcong.

Tuorto will read excerpts from her new children's novel, "My Desert Sun," which tells the story of a young, free-spirited mustang named Cayuse who lives in the des-

ert and mountains. While life in the desert is often peaceful and serene, Cayuse spends many days merely fighting for survival. He soon learns, however, that survival among mankind is more difficult.

During the celebration, held from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Tuorto will be signing and selling paperback copies of the novel for \$12. There will also be a variety of musical performances on hand, including acoustic rock/bluegrass music from singer-songwriter Maurice Davis of

Sparta, original R&B music from Queens, N.Y. native Lydia Caesar, and classic hits from the '60s and '90s from jazz/rock musician David Gorsky of Madison.

A variety of arts and crafts materials will be available at the event and free horse toys will be handed out to every child guest, while supplies last. There will also be a raffle, awarding horse-related prizes and a free copy of "My Desert Sun" to winners.

There is no cover charge, food/

drink minimum or any obligation to purchase a book. All ages are welcome.

The Tapestry Café is located at 6A Route 183 South, across from the Growing Stage Theatre. For more information on "My Desert Sun" or the book release party, visit Tuorto's Web site at cayuse.8k.com or e-mail her at lunar_aradia@yahoo.com.

More information on The Tapestry Café is available on its Web site at www.tapestrycafe.8k.com.