BOOKS WORTH READING

Experiencing A Wondrous Halloween Journey

(NAPSA)—While many people look upon Halloween as a celebration of spooks and spirits and things that go bump in the night, the American version of this holiday actually has gentler, earthier origins.

Halloween Day is derived from an ancient Druidic fire festival called "Samhain," celebrated by the Celts in Scotland, Wales and Ireland. This festival was used to signal the close of harvest and the initiation of the winter season.

In the spirit of adventure and wonder that comes with the changing of the seasons comes a new book that looks at Halloween through the innocent eyes of one of nature's own.

"The Bear Who Loves Halloween" (Three Sons Publishing, \$15.95), written by Jennifer Karin Sidford and illustrated by Sam Kimball, follows a young bear's journey as he discovers the sweet and joyful customs of a holiday devoted to children of all ages.

Parents introducing Halloween to their children will love and appreciate the story's unfolding without scary images or words. Children will love Jack's fun-filled adventure as they think about their own upcoming celebration.

Sidford was inspired to write the book by her family's annual



In a delightful new book, a bear experiences Halloween for the first time.

celebration of Halloween. She and her husband, along with their three boys, always turn the holiday into a big event at their house—a 205-year-old sea captain's home in Newburyport, Mass., complete with resident ghosts.

A portion of the profits from this beautifully illustrated children's book directly benefit One Family, an organization devoted to ending family homelessness in Massachusetts. To learn more about how to bring families home, visit www.onefamilyinc.org.

"The Bear Who Loves Halloween" is available through select bookstores, on the Internet at www.threesonspublishing.com or by calling (800) 838-3544.