

# BOOKS WORTH READING



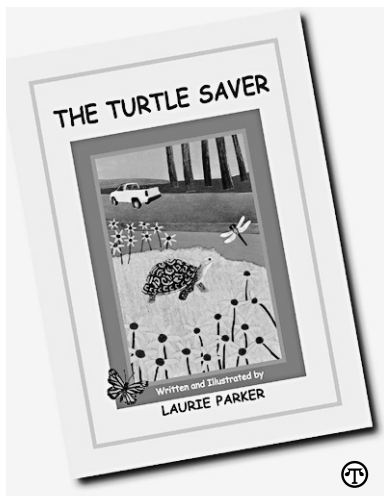
## The Turtle Saver

(NAPSA)—Even the smallest act of kindness can have far-reaching results: That's the premise behind a delightfully illustrated new book, written in rhyme, that shows how sometimes seemingly separate events are actually connected, with life-changing consequences.

Called *The Turtle Saver* (Quail Ridge Press, \$16.95), this heartwarming book by writer and illustrator Laurie Parker chronicles a remarkable chain of events set into motion by a simple act of kindness. Parker cleverly connects each event to the next, weaving a motivating story of goodwill. When a man stops to rescue a turtle from the middle of the road, he sets off a ripple effect. From something as simple as a flower growing in an unusual spot, to a hot air balloon landing in a field of cows, each seemingly unrelated event leads to another and comes full circle in the end.

"I wanted most of the incidents in the story to be things I have actually experienced or have known to have happened to someone, because I wanted the chain of events to be something that really could take place," says Parker, author of *Everywhere in Mississippi* and the popular *State Alphabet Series*. For example, Parker actually rode once in a hot air balloon that landed in a field and caused some startled cows to break down their fence, as recounted in "The Turtle Saver."

Amusing enough to entertain young children, while meaningful enough to captivate a mature



**Can a simple act of kindness save a life? A heartwarming book shows how small acts can make a big difference.**

audience, *The Turtle Saver* is charmingly illustrated with full-color reproductions of collages created by Parker. The recurring appearance of a monarch butterfly symbolizes the connection running among all the events in the story. It was inspired by a quote printed at the beginning of the book: "Thou canst not stir a flower, without troubling of a star," by Francis Thompson, a 19th century English poet.

As the book concludes: "All things are connected somehow, and it's true: The small acts of kindness, the good things you do, will all in their time find their way back to you!" You'll find *The Turtle Saver* at local booksellers; to learn more, call 1-800-343-1583