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# PRESS RELEASE

## **Read Across America Comes to *A City of Excellence***

**Seat Pleasant, MD, March 2, 2011:** Eugene W. Grant, mayor of Seat Pleasant, Maryland hosted the annual Read Across America celebration at the Seat Pleasant Elementary School.

Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program for all children nationwide to celebrate reading on March 2 and the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary of the beloved children's author Dr. Seuss. This year marks the fourteenth anniversary of the celebration. People from all areas of their community volunteer to read to children.

Mayor Grant was joined at the elementary school by representation from the offices of Maryland U. S. Senator Barbara Mikulski, Congresswoman Donna Edwards, and Cereta Lee Register of Wills; also Marva Jo Camp General Counsel, Prince George's County Democratic Central Committee, radio personality Aladdin WPGC FM, Seat Pleasant City Council President Latasha Gatling, Tracye Funn Washington Gas, Seat Pleasant staff members and other business and community leaders.

Several members of the American University Chapter of the Phi Delta Kappa, International spent the day reading to the children. The group is composed of former teachers, principals and education enthusiast who believe in the importance reading. Ms. Adrienne Herriott, President of the Chapter stated, "Many of us educators were thrilled to be back in the classrooms with the attention of the students, where we read and asked questions of them to enhance their learning experience. It was most enjoyable!"

Mayor Grant stated, "The overwhelming success of Read Across America is as a result of our community partners. Both the readers and students were excited about reading, which this day was about".

Seat Pleasant: A City of Excellence is a small urban community situated east of the District of Columbia with a population of approximately 5,000 residents, 100 businesses, and 13 churches in Prince George's County, Maryland. The government is comprised of an elected mayor and seven councilmember's who serve a four year term. The City Administrator runs the daily operations of the City and oversees a budget of over \$3 million dollars annually.

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