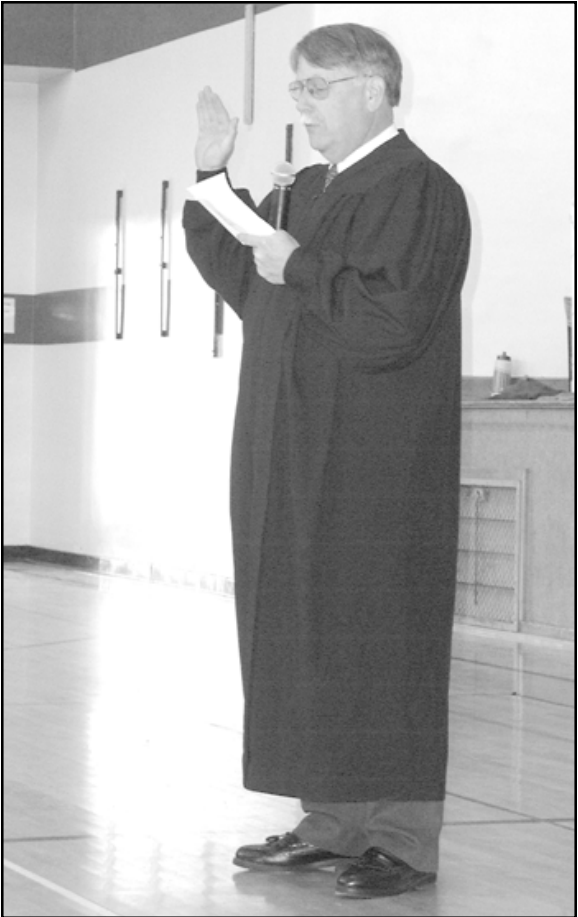


**READING TO HIS MOM**, Vicky, outside the city offices at The Gateway on Friday for Read Across America Day was Kyle Huntley (above). Magistrate Judge John Bremer (right) gave students at Oberlin Elementary School a reading oath early that morning.



## ‘You will like green eggs and reading, Sam’

Story hour stretched out into the city Friday as Oberlin elementary students read to people for National Read Across America Day, which marks the birthday of celebrated children’s writer Dr. Seuss.

Third graders went to the city office, Wheat Ridge Terrace, the veterinary clinics on U.S. 83 and businesses on Main Street to read Dr. Seuss books. Kids waiting outside Stanley Hardware said they each got to pick out their own book, but it had to be in some way tied to Dr. Seuss.

There were books about the word up, one two bears who wanted to go to the moon, turtles and even “Green Eggs and Ham.”

After the students read to the business people, they gave each of them a pin which recognized them for listening to them and a certificate for taking a part in Dr. Seuss’s birthday celebration

Before the third graders were sent out into the town to share the stories they had picked, a reading oath was taken by the student body at the grade school.

Magistrate Judge John Bremer told the students an oath is a promise that only you can make yourself keep. This one is designed to keep kids reading every day of their lives.

The judge had each of them raise their right hand and then read two lines and had the students repeat those lines until the oath was done.

Dressed in a “Cat and the Hat” hat, Principal Duane Dorshorst read the first book to the students for the day. He chose to read

“Oh, the Places You’ll Go,” to the students, the book by Dr. Seuss, which was also the national theme for the day.

The book is about places and challenges kids might face in their life.

It tells about times they may be far from home and scared, and success they will find.

After reading, Mr. Dorshorst presented challenges to the student body. The challenges came on strips of white paper and were different for each student. Mr. Dorshorst told the students it was their choice to take the challenge and do the research.

Each student was to take a piece of paper and research the place in the world written on it. Then the students had to write a sentence about something important in that place and give it to Mr. Dorshorst by the next week.

The sentences would be placed with a tack on a map of the world. For those who succeeded, the prize is a certificate to the A&W for a small root beer float.

Throughout the day, students read books and heard stories.

“Reading is the key to learning,” said Mr. Dorshorst. “If children have a good foundation, it makes learning all subjects easier.”

### Reader’s oath

*“I promise to read each day and each night.*

*I know it’s the key to growing up right.*

*I’ll read to myself, I’ll read to a crowd.*

*It makes no difference if silent or loud.*

*I’ll read at my desk, at home and at school,*

*on my bean bag or bed, by the fire or pool.*

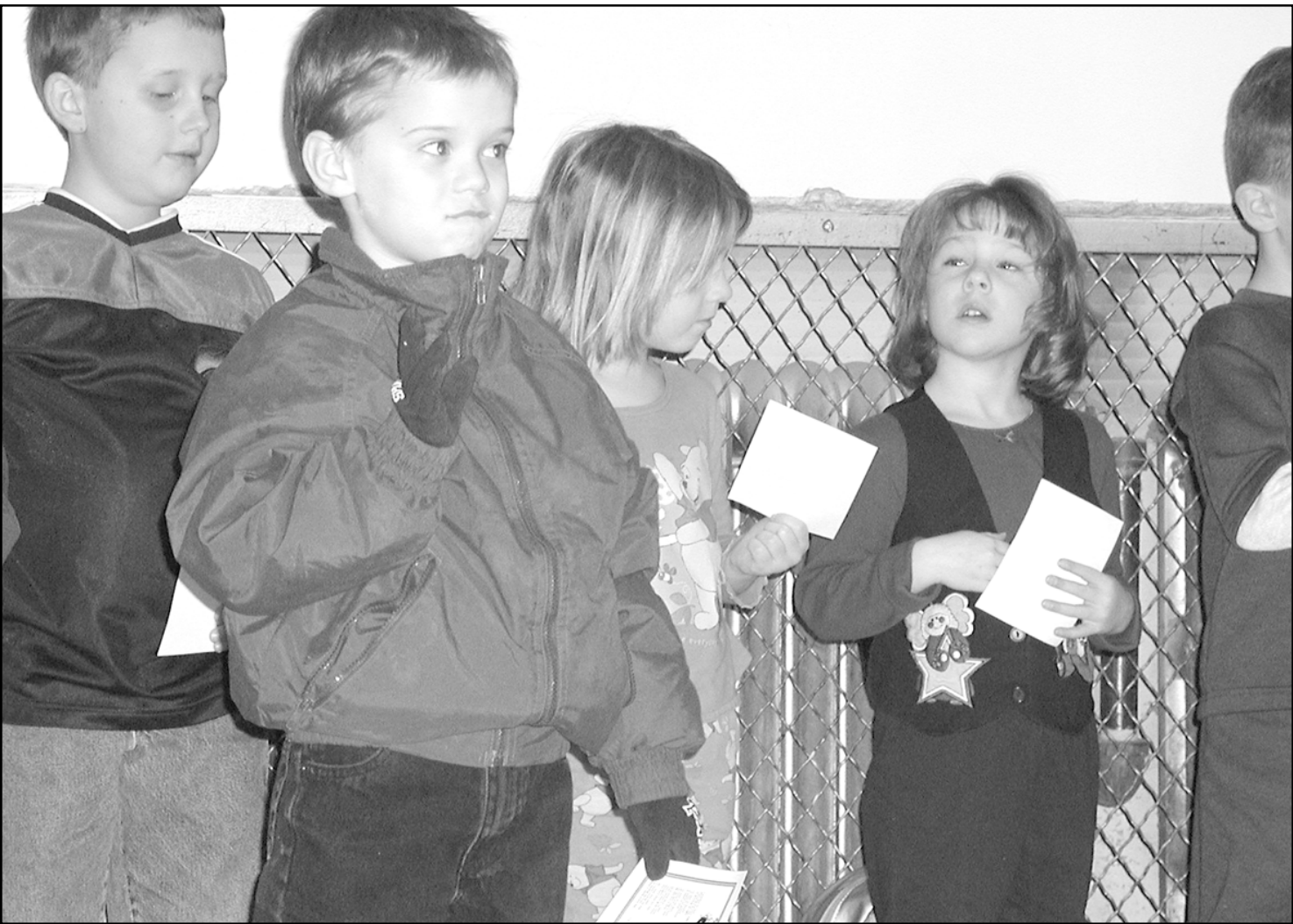
*Each book that I read puts smarts in my head,*

*’cause brains grow more thoughts the more they are fed.*

*So I take this oath to make reading my way*

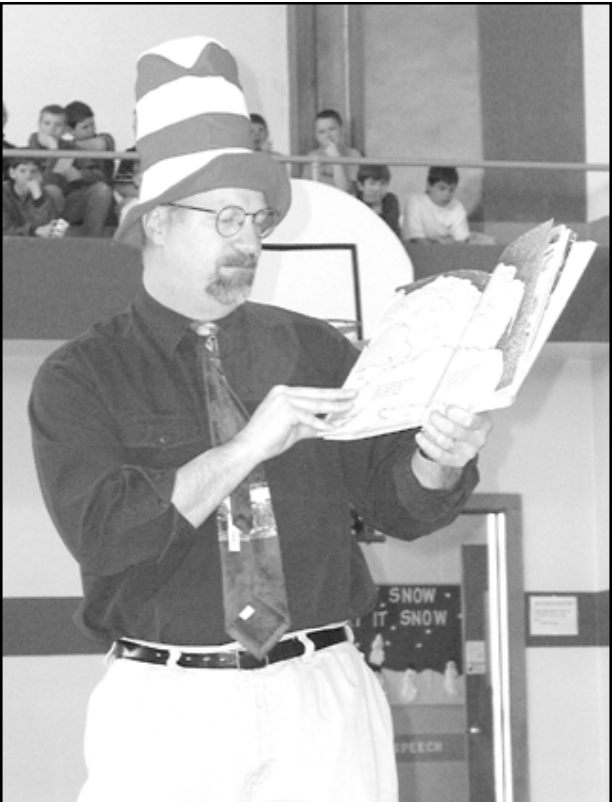
*of feeding my brain what it needs every day.”*

National Education Association



**WITH HIS RIGHT HAND HELD UP**, Konner Fortin promised he would become a lifelong reader during the beginning of Dr. Seuss’s birthday celebration and Read Across America Day on Friday.

### Story and photos by Kimberly Brandt



**THIRD GRADERS LIKE BRITTNEY SWART** (above) read to people all over Oberlin on Friday. Before students started their day of reading, Principal Duane Dorshorst (left) read “Oh, the Places You’ll Go” to them.