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SEINFELD STAR JOHN O'HURLEY, MR. PETERMAN, READS TO SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT ELEMENTARY STUDENTS BEFORE THE START OF THE 2012 NATIONAL DOG SHOW ON NOV. 17

WHAT: John O'Hurley, who played Elaine Benes' quirky boss, J. Peterman, on the hit sitcom Seinfeld, will read to a small group of Spring-Ford Area School District elementary students, who are part of the **Dogs Are Readers Too (DART)** program, before the start of the 2012 National Dog Show. D.A.R.T. students will be there with therapy dogs, as O'Hurley reads a book of his choosing.

Following O'Hurley's reading, the Spring-Ford Area Senior High School Honor Guard will open the day's events at the National Dog Show prior to the national anthem.

WHEN: The reading will take place at 11 to 11:15 a.m. The Spring-Ford Area Senior High School Honor Guard will be featured at 12:50 p.m. Both events will take place on Saturday, Nov. 17.

WHERE: Hall D of the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, located at 100 Station Ave. in Oaks, Pa.

BACKGROUND: D.A.R.T. introduces certified therapy dogs into a classroom setting, where the animals lie down on a blanket with students taking part in the course. From there, students read with the animals for about half an hour. Educators have learned that students struggling with reading avoid the skill because it tends to be difficult, but when they are paired with the therapy animals, reading becomes an enjoyable experience.

O'Hurley will be in the Philadelphia region to host the annual National Dog Show, which is held at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, Pa. The show will be broadcasted nationally on Thanksgiving Day.

Editors' note: To cover this event, contact Phil Ellingsworth Jr. by calling 215-884-6499 or 215-421-7536.

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