Le Bonté members share books to promote reading



Special to The Clinton Courier

Le Bonté Women's Club encouraged boys and girls to read by sharing books with St. Thomas Head Start Center in Bolton. Pictured (I to r) showing books and bookplates are Carol Pate, Head Start Director Tamiko Richardson and Caroline Hoff.



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The Edwards Head Start Center received books from Le Bonté Women's Club in observance of March as national reading month to encourage reading. Pictured (I to r) displaying some of the books for boys and girls attending the center are Carol Pate, Caroline Hoff, Head Start Director Laura Williams, and Head Start staff member Cadretreich Dotson.

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A total of 110 books were shared by the Le Bonté Women's Club of Clinton with area Head Start centers in observation of National Reading Month. Students at the St. Thomas Head Start Center and the Edwards Head Start Center are recipients of the books.

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"Our annual celebration of encouraging reading underwent a change this year because of COVID-19," said Amy Flournoy, president of the club. "Although virtual learning changed our usual presentation, members are pleased with their project of supporting the importance of reading. In past years, members have visited with the students, read stories, then distributed the books individually to each child, writing his or her name on special bookplates."

This year, Head Start Center staff will distribute and write names on the colorful book plates placed in each book by Le Bonté member Ruth Ann Broome.

Flournoy pointed out that March has traditionally been the date for the national reading promotion started in 1998 by the National Education Association. Called Read Across America, the observation begins with a March 2 kickoff date, chosen in conjunction with the birthdate of Theodor Seuss The well-known Geisel children's author wrote and illustrated more than sixty books under the pen name of Dr. Seuss. National Reading Month focuses on the March date and continues the emphasis on children's reading throughout the year.