**Congratulations to the Hamden Woman’s Club and members Antoinette Antonucci, Ellen Young, and Anna Blanchard for being honored by the Hamden BOE with the month of May’s “Hamden’s Heroes Awards” for their fabulous fabric Reading Bag Project!  
The ﻿HWC talented ladies recently had their sewing machines cranking on high speed as they created a “Reading Bag Project”  for the 1st graders in Hamden!  
We want to especially thank our super seamstresses Antoinette and Ellen, who chaired this huge project that provided reading bags to every first grader in Hamden. They made 360 cute & colorful cloth bags in total— (enough for every first grader in Hamden) —& these young students were totally thrilled!  After these excited children received their individual, reusable reading bags, they were able to choose a book to read at school, put it in their bag to take home, read and then return it for another book.    
The program to promote a love of books was initiated by Antoinette’s daughter, Anna Blanchard, the dedicated Reading Specialist at West Woods School.  She has found this to be very successful in other grade levels, and our HWC was very happy to help in this endeavor by supplying money, material, time and talent.  
  
This is a perfect project to lead into the HWC Fall Fundraiser to be held on November 6th.  Our focus charity will be the Hamden Miller Children’s Library Early Learning Program—and we are thrilled to have as Guest Speaker that day, the talented Tish Rabe, famed presenter of the Dr. Seuss Reading Series.    She is very entertaining, musical, and she encourages fun participation!  The HWC is very excited about this initiative and we are so proud how our club members work together for our community!**

**The Hamden Woman’s Club, Inc., GFWC, is a civic, educational and social organization that was organized in September, 1950.  Our Motto is “A Group that Cares and Shares”—which we demonstrate in our many activities.  It is part of the largest volunteer organization in the world and we are proud that this is our 70th Anniversary year!**