

# Celebrating service

## Juniors earn Bronze Awards through commitment to helping community

By ROSEMARY MARTINEZ  
Contributor

The Juniors of Girl Scout Troop 490 were recently honored for their commitment to helping others and for improving their community as they received their Girl Scout Bronze Awards.

Joining in the celebration was Farmers Branch Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Michelle Holmes, who delivered an official proclamation of gratitude from the mayor of Farmers Branch to the 24 fourth-graders for their service efforts.

The Girl Scout Bronze Award — the highest honor a Girl Scout Junior can earn — usually takes two years to complete. This group did it within one.

Each of four separate patrols planned and implemented service projects that the entire Troop participated in. The girls created baby blankets that were donated to expectant mothers through Metrocrest Social Services. They baked fresh bread from scratch and made valentines for senior citizens. They pulled weeds and created coasters for an animal shelter and created and implemented an awareness campaign for the Hunger Site, a web-based charity.

The Girl Scouts earn additional community service hours every year through working in Farmers Branch's National Earthkind Trial Rose Garden and Display Gardens, as well as helping at the Mary Immaculate Parish Fall Festival.

Each of the separate patrols also took responsibility for leading the activities required for one of the four badges that were necessary for the Bronze Award.

*Rosemary Martinez contributes to neighborsgo.com on behalf of Mary Immaculate Catholic School in Farmers Branch.*



Samantha Flores of Carrollton clears weeds at an animal shelter as part of Girl Scout Troop 490's community service.



Girl Scout Troop 490 Junior Emilie Della Maestra of Addison cuts fabric for baby blankets to be distributed by Metrocrest Social Services. The service project was one of several that Troop members participated in while earning Bronze Awards.

Photos submitted by ROSEMARY MARTINEZ



Flores and Devin Lalonde, of Carrollton, help bake bread for senior citizens.



Girl Scouts create signs for the Hunger Site awareness campaign.