



Submitted photo by STEVE CROUCH/harvestmoonphotography.us

**Carrollton Mayor Ron Branson (left)** presents Fred Ferguson, The Rotary Club of Carrollton-Farmers Branch's Citizen of the Year, with the key to the city at the club's Black and White Gala in late October. At the event, the club honored Ferguson and celebrated its 50 years of community service.

## Rotary club honors chamber president, celebrates 50 years

By **ANNE ACUNA**  
Contributor

The Rotary Club of Carrollton-Farmers Branch celebrated 50 years of community service during its Black and White Gala held in October.

During the event, the club's Citizen of the Year, Fred Ferguson, was honored for his lifetime achievement and contributions to the business world and community service organizations.

Ferguson is one of the original founders of Town North Bank in Dallas and currently serves as president of the Farmers Branch Chamber of Commerce.

Awards and proclamations were presented to Ferguson by leaders including Carrollton Mayor Ron Branson, Farmers Branch Mayor Tim O'Hare, and Rep. Jim Jackson.

Memorable presentations included a

music performance custom-designed by Vic Casad and Harold Elias-Perciful and a video performance by Ebby Halliday.

Live and silent auctions were held to raise funds for community service donations. A donation was made to the Lon Ferguson Memorial Scholarship Fund, in memory of Lon Ferguson, son of Fred Ferguson and his wife, Virginia.

*Anne Acuna contributes to neighborsgo.com on behalf of the Farmers Branch Chamber of Commerce.*

### MORE INFO

- For more information about the Rotary Club of Carrollton-Farmers Branch, call **972-241-4226**.
- For more information about the Farmers Branch Chamber of Commerce, visit **fbchamber.com**.

## SCOUTING



**Mary Immaculate Catholic School**

principal Matthew Krause shows members of Girl Scout Troop 490 service options at a recent troop meeting. Krause was one of several special guests who came to speak to the girls about community service on many levels.

Photo submitted by ROSEMARY MARTINEZ

## Girl Scouts learn ways to serve school, city, more

By **ROSEMARY MARTINEZ**  
Contributor

School, city, country, world — members of Girl Scout Troop 490 learned about service opportunities on these levels and others at a recent meeting.

The 24 fourth graders at Mary Immaculate Catholic School, who are beginning work on their Girl Scout Bronze Award, were introduced to a range of service opportunities by special guests.

First on the agenda was Rodney Jarrell, representing Berkshire Education and Financial Services, a company that aids families in financing higher education. Jarrell spoke to the girls about how high schools and colleges look favorably on students who spend their time and energy helping others.

From there, the group presentation shifted into seven tabletop presentations that the girls rotated through in smaller groups. Each small group guest presenter focused on a different facet of the term "community" and gave the girls several examples of service opportunities available in their particular community.

These guests included Barbara Durkee, a Brownie troop leader; Mary Immaculate principal Matthew Krause; Fr. Michael Forge, pastor at Mary Immaculate Parish;

Farmers Branch Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Michelle Holmes; Judge Sally Montgomery; retired U.S. Army Capt. Mark Baker; and Girl Scout service unit leader Connie Jeska.

By the end of the time, the girls had learned ways to serve fellow Girl Scouts, their school, church, city, state and country. Jeska spoke of altruism that would benefit the world community.

"I was surprised at how many different kinds of service projects we can do," said Marisa Martinez, a 9-year-old Carrollton resident. "I really want to do one that will help animals, like walking dogs at the city shelter."

Griffin said the meeting could have an impact not only on the girls' work toward their Bronze awards, but also toward the higher Silver and Gold awards.

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

## BRIEFS

### Firefighters, reservists to collect toys for children in need

The Addison Fire Department will join forces with the Marine Corps Reserves to collect toys and cash to provide gifts for children in need Nov. 20-21.

From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days, re-

servists and Addison firefighters will operate two collection locations: Village on the Parkway, 5100 Belt Line Road, and the Walmart at 15220 Montfort Drive. New, unwrapped toys for children of all ages are needed as well as cash donations. Toys and cash may also be dropped off at Addison Fire

Station 1, 4798 Airport Parkway, until Dec. 15.

### Recipes, decorating ideas to be shared at club meeting

The Carrollton Women's Club will meet at 10 a.m. Thursday at Saint Andrews Christian

Church, 3945 N. Josey Lane in Carrollton.

Speaker and author Jane Jarrell will share recipes and ideas for decorating for the holidays.

*For club membership information, call Jill Sprankell at 972-416-2241 or visit carrolltonwomensclub.com.*