



## *Bruce Gideon Ingram*

*July 31, 1930 -*

*December 25, 2018*

The Heritage Arbor Day Ceremony honors a deceased distinguished citizen who has made outstanding contributions to the enhancement of life in the community. It is fitting that the Riverwalk Park Committee chose Bruce Gideon Ingram to be our 2019 recipient.

After attending A&M for two years, Bruce enlisted in the U.S. Navy and proudly served his country in the Sea Bees from 1951 to 1955. After leaving the Navy, he worked for his father for two years and then decided to start his own business in 1957. With one portable plant, two used trucks and one employee, he started the Ingram Portable Readymix Company.

On August 9, 1958, Bruce married Gloria in San Antonio. They began their married life in Dilley, Texas. Bruce received a contract to supply the concrete for the first phase of IH-35 at Millett, Texas. They moved to Pearsall in 1960 where they started their family. They relocated to San Marcos in 1970. By this time there were four children, Elizabeth, Bruce Jr., Sue and Earl. Everywhere they lived, they were active in the Methodist Church, serving in leadership roles. Not only had the family grown, but the business had grown, too. This growth was made possible by God's blessings, Bruce's leadership abilities, and his dedicated employees. Bruce was a man who cared about his employees.

Bruce was happiest when he was with his family, at his ranch or at work. Bruce and Gloria worked well together and they were dedicated to causes that made life better for their fellow citizens. CTMC needed heart medical equipment, so they helped provide it. Bruce served on the South Texas Methodist Hospital Board of Trustees for eight years. In 2004 he was awarded the Bob Beard Good Neighbor Award.

He was very proud of the new Bruce and Gloria Ingram Hall Engineering Building on the Texas State Campus in San Marcos. This immense building has the latest state-of-the-art technology to improve the education of many students. The dedication for this building was in November 2018. Bruce and Gloria have 15 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren; all but two were present at the dedication.

Bruce Ingram, who we are honoring today, has helped people and institutions succeed, and we are grateful and appreciative of the influence that he had in our community.

## *The Heritage Association of San Marcos*

### *Arbor Day Ceremony*

*March 8, 2019*

### *Program*

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Welcome   | Gary Germer, Jr.<br><i>President, Heritage Association</i>   |
| Invocation  | Rev. Rob Campbell<br><i>Senior Pastor, Cypress Creek Church, Wimberley</i>                                     |
| Presentation of Colors                              | Texas State University Army ROTC<br><i>Color Guard Commander: Cadet Christopher Maggio</i>                     |
| Pledge to the U.S. Flag<br>Pledge to the Texas Flag | <i>Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas,<br/>one state under God, one and indivisible.</i> |
| Arbor Day Remarks                                   | Sue Cobb<br><i>Riverwalk Park Committee Chair</i>  |
| Tribute to Bruce Ingram                             | Dr. Michael Willoughby   |
| Tribute in Song: <i>Down to the River</i>           | Ingram Grandchildren<br>and Great-grandchildren  |
| Presentation of Plaque                              | Jean Mooney<br><i>Riverwalk Park Committee Member</i>  |
| Acceptance of Plaque                                | Ingram Family  |
| Benediction   | Rev. Campbell  |

*Refreshments served at 5 p.m.*

## *Veramendi Plaza*

Beautiful Veramendi Plaza Park and the Riverwalk Memorial Grove are located on three acres of land on the banks of the San Marcos River just a short walk from downtown San Marcos and Texas State University. The Veramendi Plaza gets its name from an early settler to the area, Juan Martin de Veramendi, who received the property as part of a land grant. The little piece of land has become a historic focal point of San Marcos.



Several structures are located in the park. The picturesque Gazebo; the Merriman Cabin, built and occupied by Dr. Eli Merriman, the first physician in the area; the Charles S. Cock House Museum, the oldest remaining residential building in San Marcos, erected in 1867 (home of the Cottage Kitchen Friday lunches); and the Dr. Gwen K. Smith Memorial Fountain. Gardens, paths, and the tranquil Memorial Grove connect to the Riverwalk pathway and the San Marcos River.

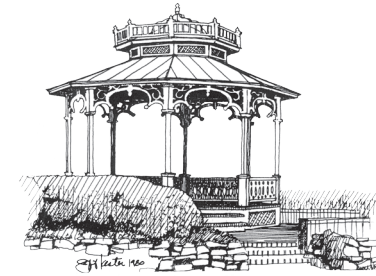
With oversight by the City Parks Department and the Heritage Association Riverwalk Park Committee, the park is continually evolving. Most recently, a landscape design class from Texas State University proposed a new planting design for the large raised bed beside the Gazebo at Veramendi Plaza. The new design has incorporated native plants which support butterflies and pollinators and is designed to provide year-round seasonal interest. The City Parks and Recreation staff; city arborist, Kelly Eby; volunteers; and Texas State Professor Dr. Tina Cade's Landscape Plant class have prepared beds. They removed unsuitable plants, added and amended the soil, and installed new plants. Drip irrigation was installed by Parks Department personnel and local contractors.

The new bed, along with the rest of the park, is ready for spring visitors to come and linger.

### *The Riverwalk Park Committee*

|                 |                              |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Sue Cobb, chair | Betty Nagy                   |
| Robert Cotner   | Beverly Owen                 |
| Carl Deal       | Jerry Sebek                  |
| Bobbie Gilbert  | Bette Taylor                 |
| Carmen Imel     | Kelly Eby (ex-officio)       |
| Jean Mooney     | Bert Stratemann (ex-officio) |

*[www.HeritageSanMarcos.org](http://www.HeritageSanMarcos.org)*



*Preserving the Past for the Present and the Future*

*The Heritage Association of San Marcos  
and Riverwalk Park Committee  
present the dedication  
of the*

*Heritage Arbor Day Tree*

*in honor of*

*Bruce Ingram*

*Friday, March 8, 2019  
Veramendi Memorial Grove  
400 East Hopkins Street  
San Marcos, Texas*