



SERGIO ORTIZ/MAIN STREET UVALDE

Robert Miguel Rodriguez and daughter Kayden Nicole Rodriguez of UvaldeRadio.net display the Alliance Award, given by the Uvalde Main Street program as part of their 2019 Main Street Honors awards in recognition of the radio station's exemplary partnership with the Main Street program to implement and promote events.



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Rotarian Richard "Dick" Whipple holds the Shining Star award, presented to him by the Uvalde Main Street program. Whipple was recognized for his work as part of the Uvalde Rotary Club in bringing their decade-long project of building an amphitheater at Uvalde Memorial Park to fruition in 2019.



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Dorothy Winston, owner of Julien's of Uvalde, established in 1934, displays the Downtown Cornerstone Award, presented by the Uvalde Main Street program in recognition of the business serving as a social, economic and cultural anchor to the downtown Uvalde community.



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The Green Thumb Garden Club, represented by members (second from left to right) Jill Nordwick, Brenda Carter, Teri Braesicke and Debra Scheide are presented with the Unsung Hero award by Uvalde Main Street manager Susan Rios (right) celebrating the organization for making a difference by volunteering their time and energy to improve and beautify Uvalde.



JULY KEEBLE/LEADER-NEWS

Publisher Craig Garnett (left) and managing editor Meghann Garcia of the Uvalde Leader-News are presented with the Heart of Downtown award by Uvalde Main Street manager Susan Rios. The presentation honored the newspaper for efforts that positively affect how people feel about downtown Uvalde and the work of the Main Street Uvalde program.

Main Street Uvalde recognizes helpers

JULY KEEBLE
STAFF WRITER

The Uvalde Main Street program spent the past weeks presenting the 2019 Main Street Honors awards, which were originally set for distribution

in March during a 'Honors and Hors d'oeuvres' event but postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Richard "Dick" Whipple received the Shining Star award for his work to create the Uvalde Memorial Park amphitheater,

located between the civic center and the Leona River, a reality.

The Shining Star award honors an outstanding individual or organization that through a special (not for personal profit) project or program helps

to make the town, in particular the downtown area of the Uvalde Main Street district, a great place in which to live, work, and play.

Rios said honorees given this award are, "a shining star of great public service, commitment to the community, and by putting quality into what they do."

She said Whipple was selected for his years of work to make the amphitheater project a reality.

"It was a Rotary Club

project, but he was the driving force. Mr. Whipple was the one who met with city council on numerous occasions and spent years trying to get donors and sponsors. He worked with original architect John Graves on the original plans too. Then when it was time to make the project happen, he met with Dirksen Engineering to get them on board with the project," Rios said.

Whipple also contacted numerous companies to get them to bid on the

project, and located and worked with Uvalde Concrete and Summit Landscaping, who built the amphitheater in 2019.

"Uvalde would not have an amphitheater if Mr. Whipple had not believed in the project and then did the leg work to make it happen."

The Unsung Hero award was presented to the Green Thumb Garden Club. Rios said the award is given to recognize those who step up and make a difference.

The Unsung Hero award celebrates an individual or organization who has significantly impacted downtown Uvalde by contributing time and energy to improving the downtown area for businesses, residents, and tourists with their volunteerism and philanthropic spirit.

Julien's of Uvalde, established in 1934 and owned by Dorothy and Jeff Winston, was presented with the Downtown Cornerstone Award, which recognizes a business that serves as an anchor to the downtown community

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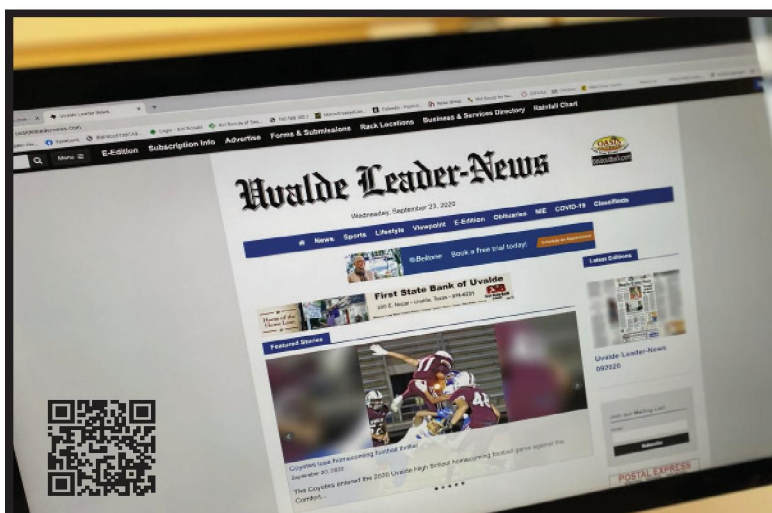
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