



# 2020 Save Texas History Essay Contest

## *4th Grade Winner*

Texas General Land Office  
George P. Bush, Commissioner



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### **Keltn Arnold**

All Saints Episcopal School  
Tyler, Texas

## **Chandler's Historical Landmark**

I would like to tell you about an historical landmark in my hometown of Chandler, Texas. The childhood home of former U.S. Senator Ralph Yarborough, born in 1903 and elected to the United States Senate in 1957, now serves as the Chandler museum and visitor center.

Although a tornado destroyed most of our historical structures years ago this home remains and greets visitors as they enter "The City with a Heart." When you step into this grand home, it is heartwarming to feel the presence of the past. The parlor features antique furniture and displays of fashion from years past. The military room recognizes those in our community who have served in all branches, including my great grandfather. The school room shows what school would have been like in years past. My favorite room is the children's room because it features books, toys, dolls, and games from a long time ago. My special friend Ms. Nancy Bertholf manages the museum and she gave me the opportunity to help arrange and decorate this room.

Recently the train depot was moved from the tracks to this location. It displays interesting items from our town bank, grocery store, train station, and drug store. Our historical museum also has a heritage garden which is where my sixth birthday party was held. Our museum is beautifully decorated for different seasons and hosts events such as the murder mystery dinner and Christmas home tour. My brother and I always look forward to greeting guests every year.

I think preserving this piece of history is important because you can see what living was like a long time ago. It helps you see the struggles people faced, the hardships they overcame and the happiness they celebrated. Overall I think this piece of Texas history should be saved. It is special to me and many others. It is a good source of pride for my hometown.





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**Bibliography**

Clark, Joy, ed. Chandler, Its History and People. Jacksonville, TX. Jayroe Graphic Arts, 1981. Print.

