



## 4th Grade Grand Prize Winner

My Courthouse  
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# My Courthouse

Sources:

- [www.co.caldwell.tx.us](http://www.co.caldwell.tx.us)

The Caldwell County Courthouse is a historic courthouse located on the square in my hometown of Lockhart, Texas. The courthouse is worth saving because it has a lot of history and serves as a gathering place for the community to have fun together.

The Caldwell County Courthouse was built to replace the old courthouse that was too small. Construction began in 1893 and was finished in 1894. The courthouse was a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 1976. A unique feature of the courthouse is the central tower that has a large clock. The clock chimes every hour and can be heard through the downtown streets and town square. The courthouse served as the county clerk's office and legal meetings with a courtroom. The courthouse is three stories and has pretty tile and wood details. A lot of the things that used to take place at the courthouse have moved to a new building but the courthouse is still used for other things. The courthouse is in the center of my town square and is very popular. I often see people walking around the courthouse and taking pictures.

My favorite things about the courthouse are the celebrations that take place around it and on the lawn. The courthouse brings people of different backgrounds and beliefs together to share in fun activities. Courthouse Nights, Dia De Los Muertos, Run for The Bulls, farmers market, and a Christmas parade are all fun things that happen around the courthouse. People from the community come and listen to music, talk, dance, and laugh together. I drive by the courthouse almost every day when I am in the car with my family and I see kids running around and playing in the grass. The courthouse is worth saving because it makes people happy and it makes me happy.

When the courthouse was first built it was used for business for Lockhart, Texas and Caldwell County. It still functions for business but in different ways. I believe it is worth saving because it is at the center of my town square and brings my community together. The more people can come together the better my community will be. The celebrations that take place around the courthouse lets people from different backgrounds mix together, have fun, and learn from each other. Having a pretty courthouse for people to gather together makes me happy because we need a place to meet people and have fun.

