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Death Notices

Hall

William Harley Hall III passed away Sunday, January 23, 2022, at 41 years of age.

Funeral services were held at 2 pm, Thursday, January 27, 2022, at McCoy Chapel of Memories with Rev. Jesse

Morton officiating. Interment followed at Fairview Cemetery in Bronte, Texas. A visitation was held from 5 pm to 7 pm on Wednesday, January 26, 2022, at the funeral home.

Harley is survived by his sons, Jackson and Ethan Hall; daughters, Brooklyn, Kaitlyn, and Emma Grace Hall; mother, Kathi Vaughn; sisters, Dede Frazier and Carolyn Hall; aunts, Jackie Vaughn and Vicki Watts; uncle, Jim Bob Watts; and several nieces and nephews.



People and Place

By James M. Decker

A few weeks ago, I wrote about "PLACE" as a meaningful word to guide me in 2022. I wrote about the need to examine the relationship between people and place and how to work on strengthening that relationship locally.

It is no coincidence that my favorite authors all draw immense literary power from the relationship between people and place. Wendell Berry's novels and short stories are set in a fictionalized version of his northern Kentucky home area. He has created an entire universe of characters and places that are inextricably connected. His non-fiction centers on his own relationship to his farm and to nature and to the overall relationship between humanity and nature. Elmer Kelton's fiction was driven by characters who loved or hated (sometimes both) the land they were connected with by heritage or vocation. Wallace Stegner was the son of itinerant "boomers" (and was jealous of his protégé Berry's connection to a singular place), so Stegner focused on the American West at large and man's often ill-conceived relationship therewith. Even Larry McMurtry, hardly a sentimentalist, wrote characters who were deeply influenced, motivated, or flawed by their place and its effects on a person. In my estimation, the single

greatest non-fiction work about Texas is John Graves' "Goodbye to a River," in which Graves wrote an entire travel journal, local history, and philosophical treatise based purely on his personal relationship with a single stretch of the Brazos River.

Clearly, my favorite literature is deeply biased towards the West and rural life, so I am not giving you a representative sample of the entire scope of world literature. But you can step beyond my own reading list and find that so much of the world's greatest literature centers around people and their relationship to a place, whether large or small, from the Mississippi River to New England to Russia to the Middle East and beyond.

There's a reason why so much beautiful literature exists about

the connection between people and the world around them. There is inherent beauty and value in how people shape their place and vice versa. There are also inherent costs and sacrifices in that relationship. The very idea of "culture" largely exists as a by-product of this relationship. Regional differences in culture are no accident or coincidence. Those differences are a function of each unique place and how it shapes the people who inhabit that place. This applies to everything from food to music to religious customs to local slang and more.

There are many ways to start a fight on the Internet, or at least that is what I have been told). If you ever want to toss a flaming torch into a pile of gunpowder, just post something on the Internet about the "best" type of barbecue in America. Partisans of Texas, Kansas City, Memphis, the Carolinas, and a host of other regional variants have feelings that are charitably described as "intense."

Each type of barbecue is very, very different. Those differences do not exist because each region arbitrarily decided to stake out a different position in The Great Barbecue World War. Those differences—from meat selection to the seasonings to the cooking methods and the fuel - all result from local culture and the history of locally available resources. In short, each definition of barbecue results from a people's relationship to that local place.

The Internet and television have transformed our world in many respects. Before you think I am becoming some sort of Luddite crank, I do not think that was *all* bad. However, television and the Internet have had some curious impacts on our society. They have rapidly homogenized and nationalized

our culture. When culture becomes homogeneous, it is no longer tethered to local place. And when the relationship between people and place become frayed and more diluted, how does that impact the value of the local place?

James Decker is the Mayor of Stamford, Texas and the creator of the West of 98 website and podcast. Contact James and subscribe to these essays at westof98.substack.com and subscribe to West of 98 wherever podcasts are found.

Bronte ISD board meetings minutes told

[Editor's Note: We will be playing catchup with Bronte ISD board minutes as space allows each week.]

June 23, 2021

The Bronte ISD Board of Trustees held a regularly scheduled meeting on June 23, 2021. Those in attendance included board members Ashley Braswell, John Seales, Jodie Arrott, David McWright, Terry Queen, and Lynsey Coalson; administration members Tim Siler and Jennifer Englert; and guest Rebecca Siler.

The meeting was opened at 6:03 pm with prayer by Lynsey Coalson.

A quorum was established with six members. Board member Josh Schoenfeld was absent.

There were no audience items. The minutes for the May regular and special meetings were presented and read. A motion to approve as corrected was made by David McWright and seconded by Terry Queen. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Siler gave an update on school finances. Everything seems to be right on track percentage wise, every function should be getting close to 100% expended. Multiple HVAC systems have gone out and possibly four units will need to be replaced. This will cost approximately \$24,583. Mr. Siler went over the funding template. This is different from prior years due to the Hold Harmless Agreement (\$219,731). Our ADA was above the Hold Harmless amount, so BISSD will be able to keep the ESSR federal money. There will need to be a budget amendment due to this overage. Mr. Siler would like to put some of the overage in fund balance and not spend it all. He also advised the CTE's need to be brought back up. CTE funding used to be on a 1-1.35 scale, but a new House Bill was passed that will change the funding. CTE allotment will be increasing from 200 to possibly over 400. The projected 2021-2022 revenue is \$3,114,580.

Area Churches

Invite You to Worship

Bronte

Bronte Church of Christ

PO Box 346
 118 S. Jefferson • Bronte
 Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm

Central Baptist Church

324 S. Franklin • Bronte
 (325) 473-4811
 Dale Patterson, Pastor
 Sun. 10 am Sunday School
 11 am & 5 pm Worship

First Baptist Church

424 S. Washington • Bronte
 (325) 473-2331
 Pastor George Cooper
 Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School,
 10:55 am Worship, 6 pm Bible
 Study & Worship
 Wednesday 6 pm RA's & GA's,
 6:30 pm Youth & Adults

First United Methodist Church

Corner of Washington & Holmes
 Bronte
 (325) 473-3281
 Rev. Stacy Sprinkle, Pastor
 Sun. 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship

St. James Catholic Church

215 N. Washington, Bronte
 (325) 365-2687
 Rev. Yesu Mulakaleti, Jr., Pastor
 Sunday Bilingual Mass 8 am

4C Cowboy Church

Drawer R • Bronte • (325) 895-4080
 Robert Lemmond, Pastor
 Sunday, 10:30 am - Texas Theater
 Wednesday Bible Study 6 pm -
 4C Feedlot Youth Building

Robert Lee

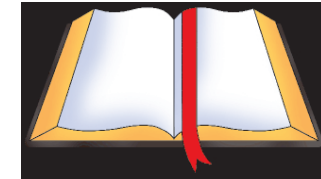
Bible Baptist Church

PO Box 938 • 9th & Austin
 Sunday 10 am Sunday School,
 11 am and 5 pm Worship,
 Wed 5 pm Bible Study

Emmanuel Pentecostal

PO Box 794 • 1004 Hillcrest
 Pastor Brantly Robertson
 (972) 841-2009

Sundays 10 am, Wednesdays 7 pm



First United Methodist Church

PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne
 Robert Lee • (325) 453-2417
 Cyndi Weidner, Pastor
 Sun. 10 am Sunday School
 11 am Worship,
 5 pm Choir Practice

Iglesia Bautista Betel

101 Houston • Robert Lee
 Sun. 9:45 am • Sunday School
 11 am Service • Bible Study Wed. 6 pm

Robert Lee Cowboy Church

James Brunson, Pastor
 (469) 834-3932
 10:30 am Sunday • Robert Lee Rec Hall
Southside Church of Christ
 PO Box 698 • 8th & Houston
 Robert Lee (325) 453-2176
 Recardo Reyes, Preacher
 Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
 11 am & 6 pm, Worship
 Wed. 6 pm, Worship

Northside Church of Christ

PO Box 508
 9th & Chadbourne • Robert Lee
 (325) 453-2685, (325) 763-2118 or
 (325) 473-1053
 Services: Sun. 10 am

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church

601 W. 10th, Robert Lee
 (325) 365-2687
 Rev. Yesu Mulakaleti, Pastor
 Saturday Vigil Mass 5 pm
Robert Lee Baptist Church
 PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th
 (325) 453-2724
 Chris Walls, Pastor
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
 11 am & 7 pm, Worship
 Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

Victory Assembly of God

(325) 453-2208, PO Box 638
 202 E. 6th Street, Robert Lee
 Rev. Rocky Youngblood, Pastor
 Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
 10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship
 Wed. 6 pm, Bible Study

Coke County

Pecan Baptist

PO Box 542 • 12 miles West of
 Robert Lee on Sterling City Hwy
 (325) 453-2065, Bill Hood, Pastor
 www.pecanbaptistchurchrl.com
 Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
 11 am & 7 pm, Worship

Russell Davis

Agent

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