

Beacon

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Colubiale said. "I could talk about him all afternoon."

He said he remembered Sole running with the players down the Cape May promenade in military fashion, doing cadence the entire way. "The kids were doing it right along with him," he said. "They all loved him. Gene was a Marine, that's for sure."

As a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the Marine Corps, Sole was a veteran of the Gulf War, Somalia and Iraq.

Chris Kobik, who was the former principal of the Teitelman school and now the director of curriculum and instruction, led Sole's administrative internship before he took over the position. He said the district was extremely lucky to have someone like Sole, who always received a great deal of support before and after being deployed overseas.

"Whatever support people gave Gene, he gave it back tenfold," Kobik said. "He was a very fine leader and we're all going to miss him."

Kobik said Sole's character could only be described with words like "integrity, intelligence, loyalty, commitment

and dedication." He said Sole was a great role model for anyone and as both a principal and teacher, handled any tough situation that came his way.

"He always stayed focused and made positive changes, no matter what position he was in," Kobik said. "I was very fortunate to be a witness to his example."

Sole was not only an educator, coach and Marine, but was also involved with the Boy Scouts of America, along with his sons Tyler and Jackson. At one time, he even volunteered in the Cape May Fire Department. Rob Elwell Jr. served with Sole as both a scout leader and a fireman.

"No matter what he was doing, he always gave 110 percent," Elwell said. I trained with him in the department - he always did what he needed to do."

Elwell said he went to school with Sole's wife, Sarah "Betsy" Sole, and watched both of his sons grow up over the years.

"I knew his whole family - it's devastating we lost him so young," he said.

He said he remembers one of the trips they took together in 2008 was to the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico,

where they took eight troop members for a long hike on the huge piece of property around the southern tip of the Rocky Mountains. He said Sole made sure he had the kids ready for the long hike, taking them on training hikes around the Cape May area.

"I remember Tyler was the group leader of the trip and Gene was really proud of his son for that," Elwell said.

He said on that particular trip, the food the scouts had wasn't the greatest, and Sole was always into doctoring up the meals. Elwell said Sole referred to as the "spice drawer" in his pack, so whenever lunch or dinner time came, they would run up to him and ask for the spices and sauces he had so the meals would taste better.

David Von Savage was another one of the troop leaders on that trip, and led the group for over 10 years alongside Sole. Von Savage said his sons are the same age as Sole's, and both named one of their sons Jackson. He said Tyler has already become an Eagle Scout and younger brother Jackson is right behind him.

"Gene positively influenced a lot of young men, which is a

legacy a lot of people don't retain," he said.

He said the troop started out in September 2000 and Sole and his two sons stuck with it the entire time. Von Savage said because of the parents involved, the scout leaders like Sole, and the dedication of the kids, it was always a successful group. He commended Sole's leadership skills, which he attributed to his military experience, teaching and mostly his overall character.

"He understood through his Marine training and leadership qualities, how to train the scouts," he said. "Gene had the heart and the grit for that."

Von Savage said the scouts in the troop said a few words on behalf of Sole on Monday at the viewing and the entire group will miss him dearly. The community lost a loved and respected individual last week and those who were close to him were not hesitant at all in speaking in his memory.

Colubiale offered these final words regarding his longtime friend.

"It's important that Gene's memory live on," Colubiale said. "It's just so sad. He should still be with us."



Marriott and Mannherz Engagement

Mr. and Mrs. Brett Marriott, of Bucks County, Pa., and long time summer residents of Cape May, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Anne to Craig Mannherz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Mannherz of Newtown, Pa. The couple was engaged at Love Park in Philadelphia. A June 2012 wedding is planned.

Point

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nances very seriously," Van Heeswyck said. "This is why Cape May Point is clean."

Van Heeswyck referred to a recent article written by a travel writer from Los Angeles, who described Cape May Point, as viewed from the lighthouse, as a "patchwork of tidy streets."

Van Heeswyck said the \$50 fine would be paid from the Public Works budget, but it would go into borough coffers, meaning there was no cost to the taxpayers. She said she would be paying the \$24

court costs out of her own pocket.

In other business, Commissioner John Henderson said the summer season has been safe on Point beaches. He said there were some rescues and minor incidents, but nothing the lifeguards couldn't handle.

He said beach tag revenue was approximately matching the borough's expectations.

Henderson also explained Resolution 77-11, which would authorize a request for bids for disaster recovery and clean-up after a natural event. Henderson said the

successful bidder would remove debris from public property and right-of-ways.

"This does not remove debris from private property unless it is deemed to be a public hazard," Henderson said.

According to Henderson, the two-year contract (with the option to extend for a third year) would cost the borough nothing if there was no work accomplished.

"The magnitude of the work is unknowable," Henderson said.

He said it was desirable for the borough to have the contract in place rather than trying to find a contract after a natural disaster.

Henderson also said the Point would have a Beach Clean Up on Sept. 17, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Volunteers are asked to meet behind Borough Hall, 215 Lighthouse Ave., Cape May Point.

Mayor Carl Schupp said recent tax bills included the notice that South Jersey Gas would begin carrying gas to the Point in the fall. Schupp

said those who wished to become natural gas subscribers should do so now, because if they wait, they would have to pay for a street opening permit.

"The cost now is less expensive to residents," Schupp said.

Schupp also said the borough paid \$39,000 for workers compensation insurance in 2011.

"In 2012 we will pledge that same amount. Without question, the Joint Insurance Fund has saved the Borough of Cape May Point thousands of dollars," Schupp said.

Borough Clerk/Administrator Connie Mahon announced the authorization of a subcontract with Cape May County for the Municipal Alliance program, which combats drug and alcohol abuse. The borough's participation, she said, would cost \$84.

During public comment, questions were raised about the paving and drainage improvements on Lincoln Avenue. Schupp said the issue has been discussed numerous times, and the pub-

lic has disagreed over what it wants. He said, for example, some people have put flowerbeds in the right-of-way, which would have to be moved if the road were improved.

Residents attending last week's meeting indicated that sand continued to encroach on the roadway, and the road's condition continued to deteriorate. A reference was made to Crystal Avenue, which was taken over by encroaching sand.

Resident Tom May raised the idea of taxpayers getting a discount for paying their taxes in advance. The commissioners said the borough cannot legally reduce a person's taxes.

EDITOR'S NOTE: For clarification purposes, a comment attributed to Commissioner Anita Van Heeswyck in last week's Star and Wave, stating Mr. Greame's ticket could be handled in a different way was not an offer to fix the ticket and should not be construed as such.

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Art

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them as the subject for his

paintings. In the last five years, he said, he has completed about 70 paintings.

Throughout all his education, Collins never had an art lesson. He said the Sisters of St. Joseph once encouraged him to take art lessons at the art museum, but he found they didn't teach anything.

"They just gave you your supplies and told you to go outside and paint," he said.

Collins said he experimented with most art media, but he settled on pastels, choosing drier, soft pastels rather than oil pastels, which he said were like crayons.

Besides the scenes from Italy, Collins said he was also inspired by the mosaics, some of which have become inspiration for his paintings, such as one of Jesus entering Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.

"I've always been fascinated by mosaics," Collins said.

Collins said he has a number of books on mosaics, and he has recreated some of those he saw in Italy and Sicily, which he said is one of the most beautiful islands he's ever seen.

"And most people don't bother to go to Sicily," he said.

Collins said he was encouraged to have an exhibit of his work by people in the church. Carol King Hood, who lives across the street from St. Agnes Church in Cape May Point, is an accomplished artist, and she encouraged Father Collins to display his work. A church member spoke to Bill Causey, who ushers at St. Agnes, and told him about Collins' work. Causey, owner of the Antique Doorknob in West Cape May, has been displaying original artwork for years and agreed to host a show. Causey has been hanging work from the past 60 years, including the painting that won Collins a first place in the Archdiocesan CYO Art Contest when he was 13.

Father "Jim" Collins' 60 years of artwork will be shown at The Antique Doorknob in West Cape May, on Sunday Aug. 21. There will be a reception with a light repast from 4 to 7 p.m.

Father Collins has been a