

APRIL 7, 2017

Remembering Commissioner Ken Vigus

The Tug Hill Commission lost a long-time commissioner and supporter when Ken Vigus passed away on March 25, 2017 after a long illness.

Ken served his community and the Tug Hill region for many years. He was appointed to the commission in 2002, served terms as both vice chairman and chairman, and was a member at the time of his death, marking over 14 years of service to the Tug Hill region. He enjoyed hunting on Tug Hill, where he was a member and currently president of Horse Shoe Hunting Club. He was also currently a member of the Boonville Zoning Board of Appeals and had previously served on the Boonville Town Planning Board.



Ken had a great sense of humor and was always willing to participate in commission events. He is pictured here (right), along with Commissioner Arnie Talgo and Woodsy the Owl (played by Katie Malinowski), at the naming of the new Punkeyville State Forest in Forestport in 2013.

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Visitation hours will be at Trainor Funeral Home, Inc. 143 Schuyler St. Boonville, on Saturday, May 6, 2017, from 11:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M., where a Memorial Service will be held immediately after. Interment will follow in Boonville Cemetery, with military honors.

Ken's complete obituary can be found at <http://trainorfuneralhome.com/tribute/details/1088/Kenneth-Vigus/obituary.html#tribute-start>.

Job Announcement: River Area Council of Governments Circuit Rider

The River Area Council of Governments (RACOG) in cooperation with the Tug Hill Commission (commission) seeks applicants for the position of RACOG Circuit Rider/Municipal Management Consultant. RACOG is a cooperative of 5 member local governments in the Tug Hill region providing day-to-day technical assistance to advance projects beneficial to its member communities. Working cooperatively with the RACOG board and as a state employee of the commission, the person filling this post is expected to facilitate cooperative and shared services arrangements, when possible, with member communities and to serve the commission's circuit rider program.

The ability to work independently and show initiative on projects is critical to this position. For further information on salary, job description and minimum qualifications, see www.tughill.org. Submit letter of interest and resume to Philip Street, Tug Hill Commission, 317 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601 by April 28, 2017.

Commission Holds Local Government Conference

The 28th Annual Local Government Conference was held on Thursday, March 30th with almost 700 in attendance. The day was kicked off with a presentation by keynote speaker Colonel Bryan J. Laske, Fort Drum Garrison Commander, followed by thirty unique sessions that were held throughout the day.

Based on draft results of the conference evaluations, this year's conference was well worth the time for attendees and they look forward to implementing the valuable knowledge they received. We will be finalizing the survey results shortly and it will be very helpful in planning for the 2018 event!

Commission staff is working to make as many of the conference presentations available as pdf files on the commission website at <http://www.tughill.org/services/training/>.

This year golf cart transportation between classes was a welcome addition. We've included some photos of sessions, exhibitors and sponsors of the day's event.

Thank you all to everyone who helped make the day a success!



Colonel Laske, keynote speaker.



**Getting
to
sessions!**



Catching up, Commissioner Mike Yerdon and former executive director Bob Quinn.

Platinum Sponsors



Lunch



Sessions



Asphalt Paving Principles Workshop

This workshop will help highway superintendents select paving alternatives, evaluate options and analyze costs. Topics include the fundamentals of a good road, materials selection, asphalt pavement failure types and causes, rehabilitation of asphalt pavements and inspection.

When and Where: April 13 , 8:30am - 3:00pm at Oneida County Cornell Cooperative Extension office, Oriskany.

Cost is \$50 per attendee. Sign-in starts at 8am.

For more information or to register go to : www.clrp.cornell.edu/workshops/workshops.htm.

Upcoming workshops:

Local Roads Done Right - May 18, Jefferson County

Road Safety 365 - May 23, St Lawrence County

A Highway Department's Legal Liabilities - May 24, Oswego County

Contact Us

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If you would like to receive our newsletter electronically please email your request to gwen@tughill.org or call 1-888-785-2380.

Electronic versions appear in full color!

Be Prepared for Flooding and Flood Potential

With spring comes the potential for flooding. Heavy rain, thunderstorms, flooding, and gusting winds can all contribute to damage to records stored in facilities that are not weather proof.

Here are some tips to help you protect your collections:

- Know what's coming your way. Track the impact of adverse weather on New York here: <http://alerts.weather.gov/cap/ny.php?x=1>
- Keep contact information for key staff, services, and institutional and public officials with you at all times. Keep handy your insurance, financial, and inventory data.
- Review your emergency response plan and take it home with you.
- Back up your electronic records and store the backup in a safe place off-site.
- Move priority collections out of basements and off floors.
- Gather plastic sheeting and cover records, file cabinets, and computer equipment stored in vulnerable locations.
- Check in now with service providers for generators, freezers, drying and freeze-drying services, and refrigerated trucking.
- Hold a planning meeting with staff today!

New York State Archives is available to help local governments deal with this issue. Archives main number is (518) 474-6926 in the event your municipality needs assistance immediately.

Information and additional resources about disaster preparedness and response are available on the NYS Archives website www.archives.nysed.gov/records/mr_disaster.shtml