

CGN sets up first pasteurizer in Othaya

The county government will also set up a milk cooler in the same locality, which will significantly help in reduction of milk wastage collected from the farmers.

This will add to the already existing 26 milk coolers which have been installed and commissioned in the last three years by the County Government of Nyeri.

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Oxygen plant at Karatina Level 4 hospital operational

The oxygen plant set up at the Karatina Level 4 Hospital by the County Government of Nyeri is now fully functional. The facility will boost supply of oxygen, especially now, where a need for medical oxygen has surged due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The oxygen has been piped to all the wards.

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Agriculture

Why aquaculture business thrives in Nyeri

The concept of fish farming has gained momentum over the last three years in Nyeri County which can be largely attributed to the input made by the County Government of Nyeri under the leadership of H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga. The County Government has been aggressive in promoting fish farming with the main aim of enhancing fish production.

Through the Department of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries, the county government has distributed over 945,000 fingerlings to over 1,400 fish farmers

across the county at a cost of about Kshs. 14 million.

The county government has provided both mixed sex and mono sex fingerlings which have been stocked in dams and ponds respectively. In the financial year 2019/2020, the county government undertook stocking of 30 public dams each with 7,000 tilapia mixed sex fingerlings, stocked 45 fish cages each with 1,000 Tilapia monosex fingerlings.

Continued on page 2



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H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga (third left) inspecting some of the fish delivered to Wamagana Fish factory in Tetu sub-county. The plant serves as one of the fish bulking/collection centre in Nyeri County.



Fish market in Nyeri County has been well coordinated right from the fish producers to the fish consumers, the fisheries extension officers who liaise with the Nyeri fish farmer's cooperative committee who ensure that the fish are delivered to fish bulking sites at the sub county level for marketing. So far, fish farmers have harvested over 89 tonnes of fish earning a total of about Kshs. 35 million.

The county government also uses Wamagana Fish Factory in Tetu sub-county as a fish bulking/ collection center. Further, the county is indirectly involved in fish value addition. The extension officers train fish farmers on value addition while the county government supports value addition demonstrations whereby fish farmers are trained on the various ways of adding value to fish and fish products. Another key stakeholder in fish farming is the Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP) which is jointly funded by the Government of Kenya and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and has played a major role in promoting aquaculture value chain within the county. ABDP supports fisheries activities in 15 counties, with Nyeri County being one of them.

Recently, the county government celebrated the Annual Aquaculture Day (AAD), a brainchild of the Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP). The objective of the Annual Aquaculture Day was to create a platform to bring aquaculture stakeholders together for knowledge and skills exchange, showcase aquaculture innovations along the various nodes of aquaculture value

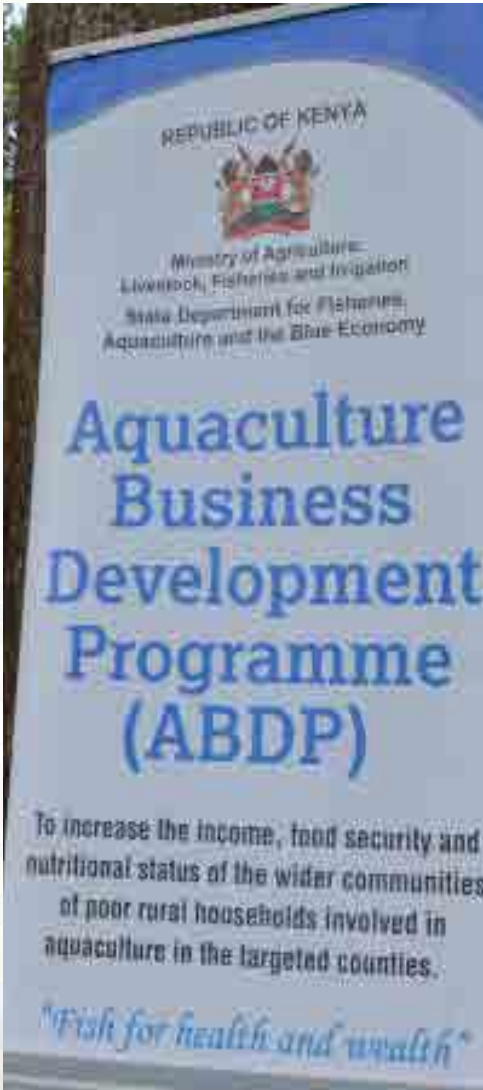
chain, and give aquaculture the national prominence it deserves. A total of 438 small scale fish farmers benefitted with aquaculture inputs such as liners, fencing materials, Aquaculture hand book and fish menu books this financial year through the ABDP. To enhance county fisheries extension officers, the ABDP also supported them with cool boxes, harvesting nets and life saver jackets.

Nyeri County, having been ranked the highest in prevalence of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) such as hypertension, diabetes and cancer needed a high intervention in terms of dietary diversity. In conjunction with ABDP, the county government has been holding Eat More Fish campaigns in all sub-counties to ensure that the community is informed on the health benefits of fish which is packed with protein, vitamins, and nutrients that can lower blood pressure and help reduce the risk of a heart attack or stroke. The campaigns have also increased the number of fish consumers thus creating demand of fish in the county and local market for fish and

fisheries products. As such, there arose a need to improve dietary diversity such as fish eating which is a low-fat high quality protein filled with omega-3 fatty acids and vitamins such as D and B2. It is also rich in calcium and phosphorus and minerals including iron, zinc, iodine, magnesium, and potassium.

The county government has developed strategic future plans for the fish industry in the county including:

- To increase the annual fish production.
- To reduce fish post-harvest losses by promoting fish value addition.
- To increase the value of marketed fish from the County by encouraging fish processing, packaging and branding.
- To privatize Wamagana Fish Processing plant through public- private partnership by promoting private investment in the fisheries sector.
- To ensure that the county has an operational and authenticated hatchery.
- To develop a quality assurance structure for ensuring that fish feed available within the county are of good quality.



CGN sets up first pasteurizer in Iria-ini ward, Othaya

The County Government of Nyeri (CGN) through the Department of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries has set up the first county-owned milk pasteurizer in Nyeri. The modern pasteurizer is in Kairuthi in Iriaini ward, Othaya sub-county.

Pasteurization is a technology applied in milk sterilization. A milk pasteurizer machine is able to eliminate those pathogenic bacteria harmful to people's health, and preserve milk quality as much as possible. This machine will enhance milk value addition for Kairuthi Dairy Farmers, who produce over 5,000 litres of milk daily.

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga while inspecting the project noted that through value addition, farmers will earn more as they will now sell their milk at a premium price.

In addition, the county government will also set up a milk cooler in the same locality, which will significantly help in reduction of milk wastage collected from the farmers. This will add to the already existing 26 milk coolers



which have been installed and commissioned in the last three years by the County Government of Nyeri.

The equipment will be stored in a dairy shed which is currently being constructed as part of the ward specific projects. Area sub-county Administra-

tor Jane Ndirangu reiterated the county government's commitment to improving the farmers' livelihoods.

Governor Kahiga also did a follow up visit to youth farmers to check on the progress of their Avocado and Macadamia trees. The group is part of the

Nyeri farmers supplied with over 120,000 Hass Avocado and 35,000 Macadamia seedlings by the county government two years ago.

Official opening of Mweiga town bus park

CGN is currently constructing an ultra-modern bus termini at Asian Quarters, Nyeri Town



Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga officially opened the upgraded Mweiga

Town bus park and newly constructed Mweiga stage stalls in Mweiga ward,

Kieni West sub-county.

Matatu operators will now conduct their

businesses in a new - cabro park which was initially muddy on rainy days and dusty on sunny days.

Governor Kahiga urged the matatu saccos to create a committee for space allocation further adding that the county government will look into constructing offices for the different saccos.

He noted that the county government has also constructed stalls which will create a conducive environment for residents to conduct their trading activities.

Area MCA Hon. Kwanjiku Kwanjiku thanked the governor for the various projects he's implemented in the ward, noting that they have significantly improved the ward and benefitted the residents.

The county government is currently constructing an ultra-modern bus termini at Asian Quarters, Nyeri Town and has upgraded bus parks in other towns such as Mukurwe-ini.

Governor Kahiga assents to law two new bills



Governor Kahiga and Nyeri County Assembly Speaker Hon. John Kaguchia (seated) shortly after signing the two bills. From left County Secretary Ben Gachichio, Majority Leader Hon. James Kanyugo (Mahiga ward), Finance CEC Robert Thuo, Water CEC Fredrick Kinyua, Hon. Erastus Karanja (Ruguru ward), Education CEC Margaret Macharia, Nahashon Mung'ora (Governor's PA), Hon. Gibson Wahinya (Dedan Kimathi ward), Hon. John Theuri (Iria-ini ward) and Chief of Staff Paul Wambugu.

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga assented into law two bills which will benefit Nyeri residents immensely. The bills which are the Nyeri County Appropriation Bill, 2021 and the Nyeri County Elimu Fund (amendment) Bill, 2021 have been drafted in close collaboration between the County Executive and the County Assembly of Nyeri. The Nyeri County Elimu Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2021 proposes a number of changes to the already established Nyeri County Elimu Fund Act of 2015. The fund has been amended to comply with the provi-

sions of the Public Finance Management (PMF) Act of 2012. In this financial year 2021/2022, the bursary allocation has been increased to Kshs. 160 million. The Nyeri County Appropriation Bill, 2021 authorizes the issue of a sum of money out of the Nyeri County Revenue Fund and its application towards the service of the year ending on the 30th June, 2022. Governor Kahiga noted that the Department of Health has received the largest share at Kshs. 2.5 Billion and the Department of Finance Kshs. 840 Million which will facilitate the payment of pending

bills. Money has also been allocated towards the completion of the Nyeri Bus Termini at the Asian Quarters and the Naromoru Level 4 Hospital, while the roads upgrade programme has also been prioritized with the Department of Transport and Infrastructure receiving over Kshs. 500 Million. While assenting to the bills into law, governor Kahiga lauded the committees involved in the preparation of the same for the dedication showed towards achieving their mandate as an assembly noting that it is the assembly that has passed the highest num-

ber of bills. The governor further called for the authorization of the budget as early as possible as well as appealed to the National Treasury to release the funds in time to ensure smooth running of operations within the counties. The County Assembly of Nyeri Speaker Hon. John Kaguchia lauded the executive for its continued support throughout the process of bill formulation. With the signing of these two bills into law, it now brings to a total of six bills to be assented to by the governor in the recent past.

Youth congress consultative forum-youth leagues in CEREB

Gender, Youth and Social Services CECM Esther Ndung'u joined a consultative forum for the Mt. Kenya and Aberdares Youth Leagues. The platform which brought together youth organizations and youth group leaders drawn from the 11 counties in the bloc, purposed to inform the government on matters involving the youth and subsequent solutions to

the challenges they face. The CEC lauded the initiative seeing that its one that focuses on equipping and empowering the youth. Just like the County Government of Nyeri, the Youth Congress also champions for the youth agenda through the youth policy at the national and county level.



Governor flags off agricultural lime & bio-fertilizer to over 10,000 farmers

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga flagged off agricultural lime and bio-fertilizer (mycorrhiza) set to benefit coffee farmers across Nyeri County.

The event was held at Mutheka Farmers Cooperative Society in Kamakwa/Mukaro ward, Nyeri Central sub-county.

Over 12,000 bags of lime worth Kshs. 8 Million and bio fertilizer worth Kshs. 6 million were flagged off. They were distributed to over 10,000 coffee farmers across six cooperative societies in the six coffee-producing sub-counties.

This will boost coffee production, increase yield from maize, beans, Irish potato and also improve soil PH around PH 5.

Governor Kahiga noted that the county government is committed to supporting coffee farmers adding that several measures have been put in place towards growing this agricultural sub-sector.

In the current financial year, the county government has purchased manure and coffee seedlings for coffee farmers in Kirimukuyu ward.

A total of 10 million was allocated in the last financial year as part of the county contribution towards the coffee revitalization project. In this financial year 2021/2022, a total of Kshs.20M has been allocated towards the same project which is being done in collaboration with the national government.

Department of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries CEC James Wachihi noted that one factory affiliated to Mutheka Cooperative Society will benefit from rehabilitation of infrastructure, and digitization. The farmers will also be enrolled in the e-voucher system to access subsidized inputs for coffee. Additionally, three extension officers will be recruited and placed in the societies to enhance farmer training.

Previously, the county government has also distributed agricultural lime, purchased hand soil scanners and offered subsidized soil analysis services as well as issued manure to coffee farmers in Mahiga ward.



In support of Nyeri musicians

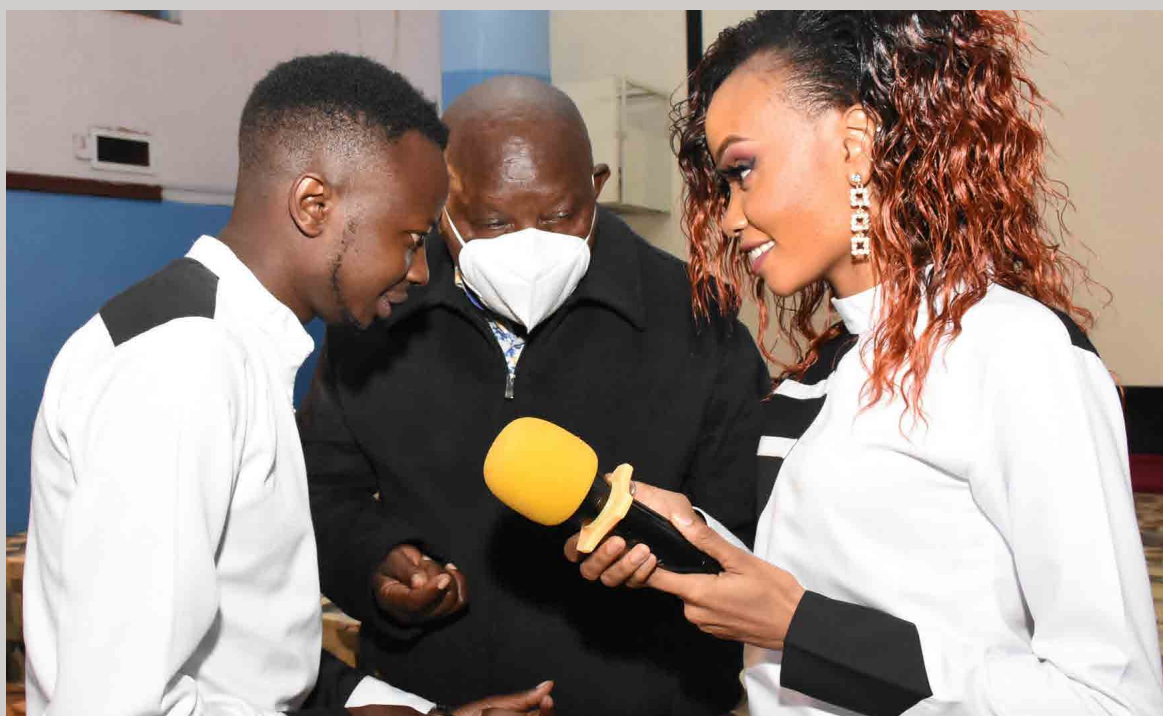
H. E Governor Mutahi Kahiga attended the launch of album dubbed 'Mwalimu' by Samolean held at the Old Municipal Hall, Whispers Park, Nyeri Town.

The governor noted that in this financial year 2021/2022, funds have been set aside for 16 wards to purchase equipment which will empower the youth economically.

The governor also lauded the youth for showing up to support

their own. He further encouraged the youth to join Saccos to help them achieve a saving habit so that their future is secure and better.

The County Government of Nyeri is committed to supporting and enhancing the development of talents of the youth across the county in a bid to empower them.



Governor Kahiga (centre) together with musicians Samolean and Annah during the launch of their album dubbed 'Mwalimu' at the Old Municipal Park at Whispers Park, Nyeri town.

Kirimukuyu ward visit in Mathira West



CLOCKWISE: H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga together with Kirimukuyu MCA Hon. Anthony Ndagita inspecting the newly renovated Gatiko Dispensary during his recent ward visit.

The governor issuing pipes worth Kshs. 1.2 million for the Kahuro/ Komu Water Project in Kiangi.

Two classrooms which were constructed at Gathogorero ECDE centre in Kirimukuyu ward. They will create a conducive environment for the young learners.

One of the recently upgraded roads in the ward which will ease movement of people and transportation of goods.

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga kicked off his visit to all the 30 wards to commission, inspect and take stock of the progress of various projects in all corners of Nyeri County. Together with Kirimukuyu MCA Hon. Anthony Ndagita, the governor commissioned 10 projects in Kirimukuyu ward, Mathira West sub-county.

Renovation of dispensaries

H.E Governor Kahiga inspected and commissioned three dispensaries namely: Gatiko Dispensary, Thaihi Dispensary and Karogoto Dispensary. The county government has since renovated the facilities to ensure that healthcare is easily accessible by the people.

Roads

Governor Kahiga commissioned Gichuthui-ini-Kiamachimbi and Rititi Primary- Rititi PCEA-Kwa Gata Roads which will improve the road network in Nyeri County.

ECDE Centres

The governor opened three modern

classes at Gacuiro ECDE Centre and Gathogorero ECDE Centre. The newly constructed classes by the Department of Education & Sports will create a conducive environment for the pupils learning at the centre.

Ruthagati market shade

The facility which is in the first phase, is a reprieve to traders dealing with retail and agricultural produce aiming for value addition, great economic opportunities and new potentials created.

Water pipes

The governor issued pipes worth Kshs. 1.2 million for the Kahuro Komu Water Project in Kiangi in Ngorano division. He assured his government's commitment to ensuring residents have access to adequate water supply.

Street lights

Governor Kahiga launched street lights at Ngurumo which will boost security in the area and aid traders in prolonging their working hours.



150 Nyeri youth benefit from the Kuza Kazi program

The County Government of Nyeri jointly with Coca Cola Company launched the ‘Kuza Kazi’ project which involves 150 youths in the county. The initiative which seeks to empower youth with business skills training, facilitate access to financial assets and create job opportunities, provided 150 beneficiaries with a starter kit each consisting of an ice box, a parasol and a garden set. The youth will join Coca Cola’s retail chain distribution network to earn an income, generate savings, expand their businesses and enhance their potential to become future employers. The starter kit issued to the youth beneficiaries serves as an initial investment into their business by the partners. They will operate under the direct supervision of Almasi Beverages Ltd who will integrate them into the Coca Cola retail network as vendors and also fulfil their product orders, offer training and sales support. Nyeri Governor H.E. Mutahi Kahiga and Phillip Gikunju, General Manager, Almasi Beverages Limited also signed an MoU which will help in proper working relationship between CGN and Almasi.



The governor during the event said the youth will be given a waiver for their licences for six months as a start -up for their work. “The ‘Kuza Kazi’ initiative fits very well into our youth empowerment strategy which involves creating, supporting and sustaining an environment that unlocks the potential of the people of Nyeri to achieve progressive socio-economic growth. It will be a worthy addition to

our youth empowerment program currently being run by the department of gender youth and social services where youth are being supported with tools, equipment and machinery to support their business start-ups or bolster existing small businesses,” said the governor. He expressed his commitment for the support of the youth adding that his government has started other initiatives for empowering the youth including Enter-

prise Development Fund, AGPO and internship programme among others. The Department of Gender, Youth and Social Services CEC Esther Ndung’u noted that the department has purchased Coca Cola beverage products (soft drinks, water and juices) and provided trading spaces for the youth to enable them start table-top businesses.

Training course for traffic marshals

This will enhance their discipline, understanding of the traffic laws and public relations



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga inspecting the Guard of Honour after the traffic marshalls undertook an induction course at the City Inspectorate Training College, Nairobi which enhanced their discipline, understanding of the traffic laws and public relations.

The programme had two components, theory classes - 14th to 18th June and practical classes - 21st to 25th June at the duty station. The induction course provided the marshals with necessary skills, knowledge and information required in the discharge of their duties. It also enhanced their discipline, understanding of the traffic laws and public relations.

While inspecting the Guard of Honour, Nyeri Governor H. E. Mutahi Kahiga, advised the marshals that he expects smooth flow of both vehicles and non motorized traffic with minimal conflicts with other road users, maintenance of law and order in town and enforcement of traffic rules and regulations.

The Nyeri Municipal Board organized a- two- week training course for Traffic

Marshals. The course commenced on 14th June

2021 at the City Inspectorate Training College, Nairobi.

The officers will serve busy towns in the county.

Projects inspection in Mweiga ward



H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga together with Hon. Kwanjiku Kwanjiku inspected the ongoing construction of Expages Borehole in Mweiga ward, Kieni West sub-county. The solar-powered borehole will be producing about 33,000 litres of water per hour, set to benefit over 1,000 residents from both Expages and the neighbouring villages.

A water kiosk will also be set up at the site. The county government is equipping 10 boreholes with pumps and one borehole with both solar panels and a pump in this financial year.

The governor also paid a visit to Expages ECDE Centre, where he noted that the county government will look into building another classroom as well as levelling the ground so as to create a conducive environment for the young children to learn and play.

The newly constructed Mweiga Social Hall and ablution, which are part of the projects being implemented under the Ward Specific Fund every financial year were also inspected. The hall will provide a platform where area residents can hold their meetings while the ablution block will improve sanitation for Mweiga town residents

He further noted that he'll come back to officially commission the projects.



FROM TOP: The recently installed solar powered Expages Borehole in Mweiga ward, Kieni West sub-county. The newly constructed Mweiga Social Hall which will provide the area residents with a platform where they can hold their meetings and Expages ECDE centre which has been renovated by the County Government of Nyeri in a bid to create a conducive environment for the young children to learn and play.

In brief...

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga (pictured) visited Wamagana Health Centre in Tetu sub-county where he interacted with patients and medical staff.

The governor thanked the medical staff for their efforts towards improving the health sector in line with Nyeri County's vision of a wealthy county with happy, healthy and secure people.





H.E. Governor Mutahi Kahiga (seated centre) with officials from St. John Ambulance and Gender CEC Esther Ndung'u (seated second right) and Chief Officer George Mwangi (seated right) and other firemen. This was during the signing of an MoU between St John's Ambulance and the County Government of Nyeri. BELOW: Inside one of the ambulances.

A new dawn for disaster management in Nyeri

The MoU creates a framework where parties will contribute positively in the management of disaster and emergency services

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga undertook the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the County Government of Nyeri and St John Ambulance, Kenya. President Uhuru Kenyatta is the patron of St. John Ambulance, Kenya which was created in 1923.

The MoU will create a framework where the respective parties will contribute positively in the management of disaster and emergency services within Nyeri County, with the aim of attaining the highest standards of social security. Through this framework the County Government of Nyeri will provide St John with a space for their regional office at Nyeri Fire Station where the state of the art ambulance will be stationed ready to accompany the fire engine whenever it is deemed that medical rescue will be required. St. John ambulance will continuously train Nyeri County firemen on medi-

cal rescue and other life saving skills, because they are among the first responders in major disasters.

It is through this partnership that the Disaster Management Unit under the department of Gender, Youth & Social Services will receive a standard ambulance inclusive of trained medical personnel, who will be accompanying the fire engines during a disaster or fire rescue mission.

With a defined structured framework of collaboration between the two parties, CGN will successfully deliver to Nyeri people in terms of disaster management, emergency services and rescue for persons in distress.

The County Government of Nyeri, under the able leadership of governor Kahiga is committed to forming collaborative relationships to guarantee that its residents continue receiving the highest quality of service to which they are entitled.

County Attorney Kimani Rucuiya and County Secretary Benjamin Gachio oversaw the signing of the MoU. Chair of the Gender committee in the County Assembly MCA Patrick Mu-

tahi affirmed that the Bill on Disaster Management has been gazetted. MCA Mutahi said that he will be tabling it at the assembly next week.



Half year review meeting for the third cohort of interns

The Department of County Public Service & Solid Waste Management conducted a review meeting for the third cohort of interns held at the Old Municipal Hall, Whispers Park.

The review meeting was held to discuss

the progress so far, challenges the interns may be facing and to forge a way forward for the remaining period of the internship.

The interns thanked the County Government of Nyeri under the leadership of

H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga for creating an opportunity for them to gain requisite skills boosting their employability.

The CEC CPSM Beth Karimi hailed the interns for showing up and for their input in the review meeting, noting that

the county's leadership is committed to making the necessary changes for the program to run smoothly.

The internship program was launched in 2018 by governor Kahiga and has so far benefitted over 500 youth.

Magutu ward visit in Mathira East

CLOCKWISE: Governor Mutahi Kahiga laying a foundation stone at the Giakagina boreholr site. The borehole will serve about 150 households. The recently renovated Gathehu ECDE class in Magutu ward. One of the recently murrammed road in Magutu ward which was commissioned by the governor.

Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga together with Magutu MCA Hon. Wanjira Wamabati commissioned, inspected and took stock of the progress of various projects in Mathira East sub-county.

The governor commissioned about 10 projects in the ward as part of the ward visits programme.



Roads

Together with the MCA, Governor Kahiga commissioned the recently upgraded Gikumbo-Gatambi, Kiamigwi-Gitimaini, Gitunduti - Gikore, Ngurwe-ini and Kiangera Gatambi roads.

Giakagina borehole

They also inspected the ongoing construction of Giakagina borehole which will also be fitted with solar panels and serve about 150 households will ensure area residents have access to adequate water supply.



Gaikuyu dispensary inspection

The facility will soon be functional once all renovation works are completed and it is equipped. Medical staff will also be posted in order for the locals to receive the best health services.

Gathehu ECDE class

The classroom will create a conducive learning environment for the young pupils at the centre.



Nyeri County widows engagement forum

The loss of a partner is devastating. The bereaved are left with depression, sadness, frustration and too many responsibilities. They are judged, and friends disappear. They are left struggling for basic needs, human rights and dignity. Already, widows are largely unseen, unsupported and unmeasured in the society. With

on the increased cases of Gender Based Violence during the Covid-19 period and explored coping strategies. The event was also meant to elicit feedback from the widows on some of the challenges they face on a daily basis. The feedback will then inform the County Government of Nyeri in crafting long term specific initiatives

transforming the initiative to a sustainable widows' support programme. The county government is also committed to developing resources and policies which will empower widows and their children and allow them to have access to the various opportunities available in education, work, healthcare, lives free of violence.



ABOVE: Governor Mutahi Kahiga (centre), Gender, Youth & Social Services CEC Esther Ndung'u and Nominated MCA Hon. Patrick Mutahi with some of the partners who are committed towards supporting widows in Nyeri County. **BELOW:** The governor handing over a package of assorted foodstuffs to one of the widows during the widows engagement forum.

lone-mother families and single older women already particularly vulnerable to poverty, this is an area that needs urgent attention. In light of this, H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga joined about 200 vulnerable widows from Nyeri during an engagement forum to sensitize on the prolonged adverse and negative health and socio-economic effects of Covid-19 on widows. Through the Department of Gender, Youth and Social Services, the widows were also sensitized

to cushion the widows from the aforementioned negative effects of Covid-19. Through the Department of Gender in partnership with Centre for Rights, Education and Awareness (CREAW), the county government crafted a Covid-19 coping mechanism initiative for vulnerable widows within the county, to address some of the issues affecting them. The CGN also invited other partners to support the initiative including exploring ways of

The governor also directed the department officers to ensure the Kshs. 3 million in the bank is released in order to help local widows. The funds were raised by the former regime. Governor Kahiga was also honored to receive the Gender Trailblazer Award 2021, which was conferred to the Gender Department by the First Lady H.E Margaret Kenyatta a few months ago.



NHIF biometric registrarion launched

H. E Governor Mutahi Kahiga together with the NHIF ICT Director Washington Okoth launched the NHIF mass biometric registration at Wamagana Education Hall, Tetu sub-county. This will provide a platform for vulnerable households' identification and verification at the time of accessing healthcare services at the accredited NHIF health facilities. As he launched the registration, Governor Kahiga called upon the citizens of Nyeri to embrace and show up for the biometric registration seeing that NHIF comes in

handy and will lessen the medicare burden for them. He also noted that the biometric registration gives a new journey for the healthcare delivery experience, further saying that the County Government of Nyeri is committed to support the scheme to its successful execution. The County Government of Nyeri targets to register 45% of its 850,000 population by the end of the biometric registration.

Nyeri's FY 2021/22 budget in a nutshell

Nyeri residents have a reason to smile after the County Government of Nyeri pronounced the over Kshs. 8.1 billion budget for the financial year 2021/22 without increasing any levy to them.

Kshs. 184 million was allocated towards the completion of the Naromoru Level 4 Hospital, a megaflagship project by the county government funded by the World Bank under the Kenya Devolution Support Programme (KDSP), which will benefit residents from the larger Kieni sub-county who have lacked such a facility.

Some of the other big winning sectors from the budget include: the Elimu Fund bursary program which received Kshs. 160 million while Kshs. 195 million was set aside for medical drugs and supplies. Agricultural programs were boosted with Kshs. 488 million, with Kshs. 132.8 million meant for water and irrigation projects. Improvement and maintenance of county roads was allocated Kshs. 356 million.

While presenting the budget in the Nyeri County Assembly, Finance CEC Robert Thuo (*pictured right*) however, noted that the county government will be focused on including some fees that were not previously captured in the Revenue Administration act 2014.

These include;

- Lease of County Land (for erecting communication masts).
- Inclusion of different business categories on sale of gas.
- Inclusion of various units of measures on the existing fees in

order to reduce subjectivity.

The Finance CEC also proposed reduction in various fees and charges which include:

- Reduction of interest on land rates and rents to simple interest instead of compound interest.
- Removal of Tea and Coffee cess.
- Livestock cess to be equal to what is charged by the neighbouring counties.
- Removal of penalty of 5% compounded interest every month for undeveloped property.

The Finance CEC assured the Honorable House that the county government will continue to broaden the current revenue base and ensure ideal administrative costs as contained in the Finance Bill, 2021.

Nyeri County Budget Highlights

The total County Budget for the FY 2021/22 is Kshs. 8,194,994,227. Out of this, 76.0% will be financed through equitable share, 11.8% as conditional grants from the National Government sources whereas 12.2% will be funded through the County Own Source Revenue collections.

Summary of the County's Development and Recurrent budget estimates: The county development budget is Kshs. 2,500,326,670. Most of these resources have been allocated in line with the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP 2018-2022) and the Annual Development Plan (ADP

2021/2022) which were prepared in line with the National Development Agenda.

The total allocation towards recurrent expenditure is Kshs. 5,694,667,557 comprising Kshs. 3,836,232,534 for salaries and wages while Kshs. 1,858,435,023 has been allocated for operations and maintenance.

Key activities earmarked for the financial year 2021/22:

- Kshs. 160 million for the county bursary programme dubbed 'Elimu Fund'
- Kshs. 15 million for youth polytechnics capitation to enable acquisition of technical skills and artisanship.
- Kshs. 195 million for medical drugs, laboratory materials, dressing and non-pharmaceuticals and other medical supplies.
- Kshs. 184 million for the World Bank supported Kenya Devolution Support Programme towards completion and equipping of Naromoru Level IV Hospital.
- Kshs. 40 million for surveying, registration, and development of colonial villages, market and trading centres.
- Kshs. 294 million for improvement of various health facilities in the county including procurement of ambulances to ease response to emer-

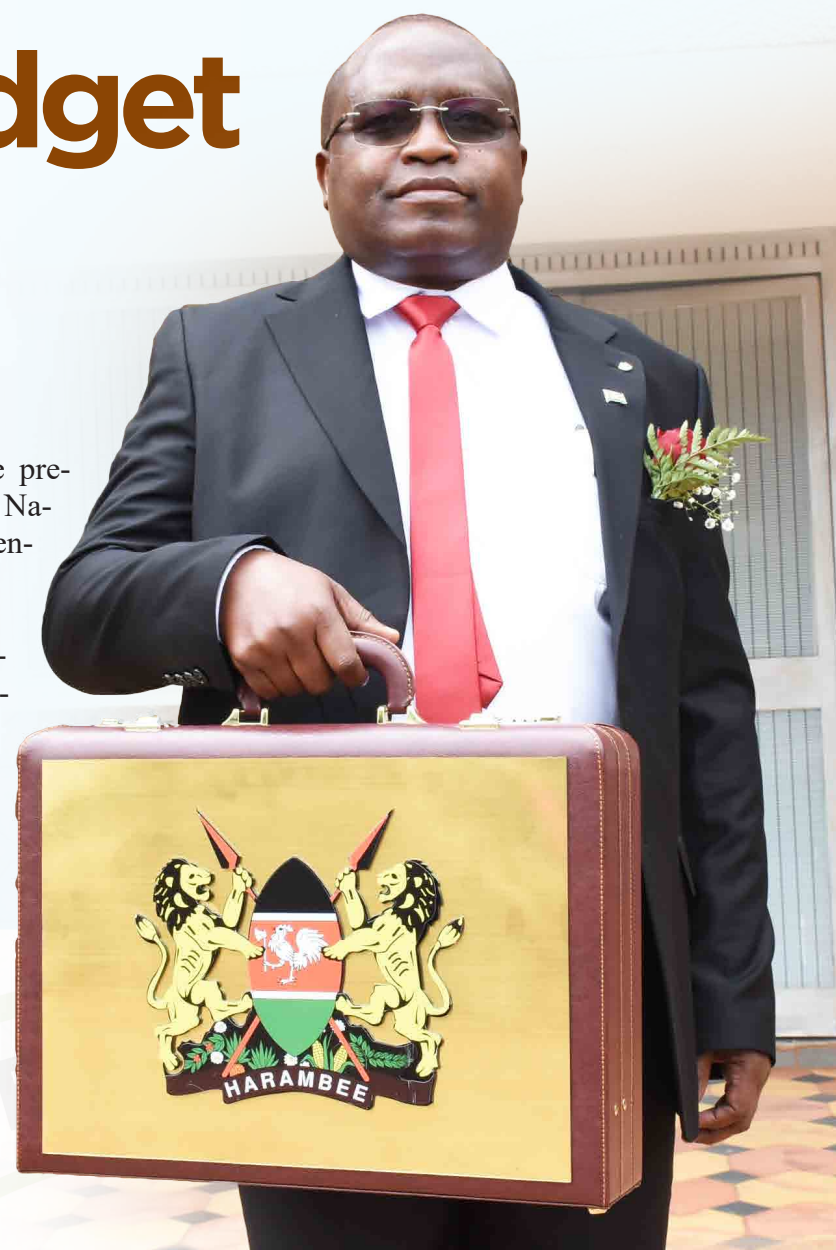
gencies and improve health outreach activities.

- Kshs. 27.2 million for various gender and youth related programmes geared towards economic recovery from the effects of the Covid- 19 pandemic.

- Kshs. 4.5 million for equipping of fire stations and Kshs. 9 million for operationalization of the disaster management unit.

- Kshs. 64.5 million will be directed towards solid waste management including dumpsites.

- Agriculture development activities were apportioned Kshs. 488 million for various activities to guarantee food and nutritional security. This included Kshs. 381 million for the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP) and Kshs. 20 million for the Agricultural Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP).



From left; Economic advisor to the governor Ndirangu Gachunia, Economist Gibson Mwangi, Economic Planning Chief Officer Francis Kirira, Finance & Economic Planning CEC Robert Thuo, H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga, Finance Chief Officer John Ngugi and Director Economic Planning Stephen Mathenge before the pronouncement of the budget outside governor's office.