



Newsletter



ISSUE 155 | 05TH -09TH AUG

VW.NYERI.GO.KE | 0721 019 019



Harnessing Nyeri's Potential as a Global Scouting Metropolis

By Governor's Press Unit

Compiled by Barbara Wambui Wachaga

The ongoing partnership between the County Government of Nyeri under the stewardship of H.E Governor Mutahi Kahiga and the Scouting Movement in Kenya continues to bear significant fruit not only within the county but regionally and internationally as well.

Under his patronage, the effective hosting of scout events has gone a long way in enhancing the image of Nyeri County as a safe and friendly destination for family and youth activities and other organizations, while marketing Nyeri as the scouting capital of the world.

Two organizations spearhead scouting operations in Kenya namely the Kenya Scouts Association (KSA) and the World Scout Parliamentary

Union (WSPU).

According to KSA Communication Manager Risper Omala, the Scouting Movement has signed an MoU with WSPU aimed at supporting growth nationally through legislation, resource mobilization, and networking.

WSPU is an international organization that connects Scout-oriented parliamentarians worldwide with the World Scout Movement.

Its goal is to strengthen national scout organizations and world scouting through the influence of parliamentarians including MPs, Senators, and MCAs who believe in scouting as an effective, non-formal educational method.

WSPU Nyeri is represented by Governor

Mutahi Kahiga as a Board member, Deputy Governor H.E Kinaniri Waroe as Chairman of the Nyeri Chapter, and Chief Officer in charge of the Department of Trade, Cooperatives, Culture and Tourism George Mwangi as Secretary. The Governor is also the Patron of the Kenya Scouts Association, Nyeri County.

Recently, he launched the first ever Kenya WSPU Magazine in Nyeri entitled "Scouting Connect: Exploring the World with Purpose" which is meant to present the remarkable stories, initiatives, and the spirit of camaraderie that defines the WSPU-Kenya.

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Scout tourism continues to both promise and deliver significant returns on investment both for Nyeri County and its stakeholders. A prime example was evident during the 10th World

sure, and volunteer activities.

According to WSPU Executive Director Poppins Misoi, WSPU lawmakers will soon come together to work on a piece of legislation dubbed

tism, self-sacrifice, personal hygiene, self-reliance, and service to fellow man.

With Nyeri County already celebrated as a top-notch tourist destination the proposed addition of entities

such as The Baden Powell Center of Excellence, and the Zaina Falls Eco-Lodge as well as collaborations with the local leather industry to produce and export articles such as woggles the potential for economic,

social and infrastructural growth and branding cannot be contested.

Locally the KSA – WSPU collaboration through its “One Scout One Uniform” initiative provides uniforms and accessories in over 15 counties such as Nyamira, Makueni, Kitui, Nairobi, Machakos, and Kilifi to mention but a few.

Scouts from other areas of Kenya or other international areas also bring in different cultural practices which enhance the cultural diversity of Nyeri County and help in the understanding of the people. Additionally, scouts engage in social activities like environmental conservation, cleaning exercises, and planting of trees which are useful to the community infrastructure and welfare.



Scout Parliamentary Union General Assembly hosted by Nyeri County in 2023, the first ever in Africa, with revenue flowing through the immediate expenditure on accommodation, food, transport and visiting places such as the Aberdare National Park, Mount Kenya, Dedan Kimathi Kahiga-ini, Baden Powell memorial garden, Italian war memorial church, the MauMau caves among others by the scouts and their families. Other cascading effects included job creation, cultural expo-

the Nyeri Scout City of the World Bill, a paper that aims to position not only the county but Kenya too as the World Capital City and major tourist attraction.

Since its inception, the Scouting Movement has had at its core virtues that cultivate sound educational and moral values that can be applied to the rest of society. From the Cub Scouts to Scouts and Guides, all the way to Rangers and Rovers, the youth come together to learn about patrio-





REPUBLIC OF KENYA
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYERI
NYERI MUNICIPAL BOARD



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON MUNICIPALITY OF NYERI INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IDeP) 2024-2029

Pursuant to sections 36,37,38,39,40 and 41 of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011 [Rev.2019], the Nyeri Municipal Board is in the process of preparing the second generation **Municipality of Nyeri Integrated Development Plan (IDeP), 2024-2029.**

In accordance with the Constitution of Kenya 2010, article 10(2) and 220(2), sections 6(6), 87, 106(4) and the County Government Act, 2012 section 115(1) which calls for openness, accountability and public participation in planning and development matters, the Nyeri Municipal Board, through this notice, invites members of the public, interested parties and all stakeholders to a public participation forum to be held on **Tuesday, 20th August, 2024 at Culture Center Hall, Nyeri at 9.00am.**

All the proposals on projects and programmes to be included In the IDeP must be clearly aligned to the County Integrated Development Plan 2023-2027, which can be found in the County Government of Nyeri website.

The proposals may be submitted through oral presentations during the forum or in written memoranda through the Nyeri Municipal Board, County Government of Nyeri, P.O. Box 1112-10100, Nyeri, or vide our email address – municipality@nyeri.go.ke

CS Perister Kigwa
Municipal Manager
NYERI MUNICIPAL BOARD

Official Launch of the First WSPU Kenya Magazine



H.E. Governor Mutahi Kahiga together with Deputy Governor H.E David Kinaniri, launched the first World Parliamentary Union Kenya Magazine at Townhall grounds. The magazine whose ti-

tle is “Scouting Connect: Exploring the World with Purpose” is meant to present the remarkable stories, initiatives, and the spirit of camaraderie that defines the WSPU-Kenya. It is also a summation of

articles bundled up with an abundance of pictures that celebrate the dedicated scouts, leaders and volunteers who embody the ethos of scouting. The publication highlights how the laws are made, the role of public

participation and the role of the youth, as well as provide a path of how to come up with income-generating activities. The magazine is also meant to market Nyeri worldwide as we pride ourselves in be-

ing the second home and final resting place to Scouts Founder Baden Powell and his wife, which has put us on the world map as the ideal destination for scouting delegations. Nyeri County was honored to host WSPU 2023 Africa Assembly in June last year and will host the Executive Global Meeting this year while the 11th General WSPU Assembly in 2025 will also be held in Nyeri. WSPU is an international organization that connects scout-oriented parliamentarians world-wide. WSPU-Kenya is an independent association of parliamentarians, including members of National Assembly, Senate and County Assemblies established in 1990. He called on readers to actively engage with the magazine, share their scouting stories, insights and perspectives.

Combined Effort for Chaka Market Clean-up



The County Government of Nyeri, through the Department of County Public Service & Solid Waste Management in collaboration with Arsen's Cleaning Service, conducted a clean-up exercise in Chaka Market, Kieni

East Sub County. The clean-up exercise themed ‘Live Life Cleaner, Make Earth Greener’ aimed at sensitizing members of the community on the role the environment plays in enhancing the health of the

community. This initiative was born out of the need to sensitize the public on the need for environmental care. The exercise was made possible through sponsorship and support by stakeholders

from, amongst others, the business community, residents, the Scout movement, non-governmental organizations, the Kenya Red Cross Society, pupils and students, tourism players, youth, women groups, and national

and officers from the County Government of Nyeri. The exercise was successful with activities ranging from litter collection, and de-silting of storm drains as well as draining of waste water trapped in open storm drains. The CECM County Public Service & Solid Waste Management, Peter Ngatia who was the Chief Guest, emphasized the responsibilities everyone holds in ensuring a safe and clean environment by adopting an environmentally-conscious culture. He emphasized the benefits of self-regulating on environmental matters. He expressed the commitment of the County Government to improving the living conditions of its citizenry. He was however taken aback by the disregard by which some individuals dispose of their waste water in storm drains and promised to establish a multi-agency team to solve the challenge.

Induction and Orientation of the Newly Employed Officers



“It’s better to be prepared for an opportunity and not get it, than to get an opportunity and not be prepared for it,” said Nyeri Governor H.E Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga, EGH. Induction training is the process of introducing a new employee to their new role within an organization. It is a crucial process that helps such an employee to integrate into a new work environment with ease. In this regard, Nyeri Governor accompanied by Nyeri Deputy Governor H.E.

Mutahi Kahiga, officially opened the Nyeri County induction training of the recently employed officers at the Nyeri Culture Centre, Nyeri town. He congratulated the selected officers who underwent a rigorous, transparent and fair exercise. “These officers will play pivotal roles in enabling my government to attain its vision, mission and vision.” He assured the officers that his government is committed to career progression, fair remuneration and their

well-being. “Nyeri is a unique county coupled with a remarkable organizational culture and, therefore, I expect the officers to uphold our core values, including transparency, innovativeness, integrity, teamwork and accountability.” “This training will help the officers familiarize themselves with our norms, and understand the organizational structure and roles that shape our success. It will also aid in increased productivity, inform on

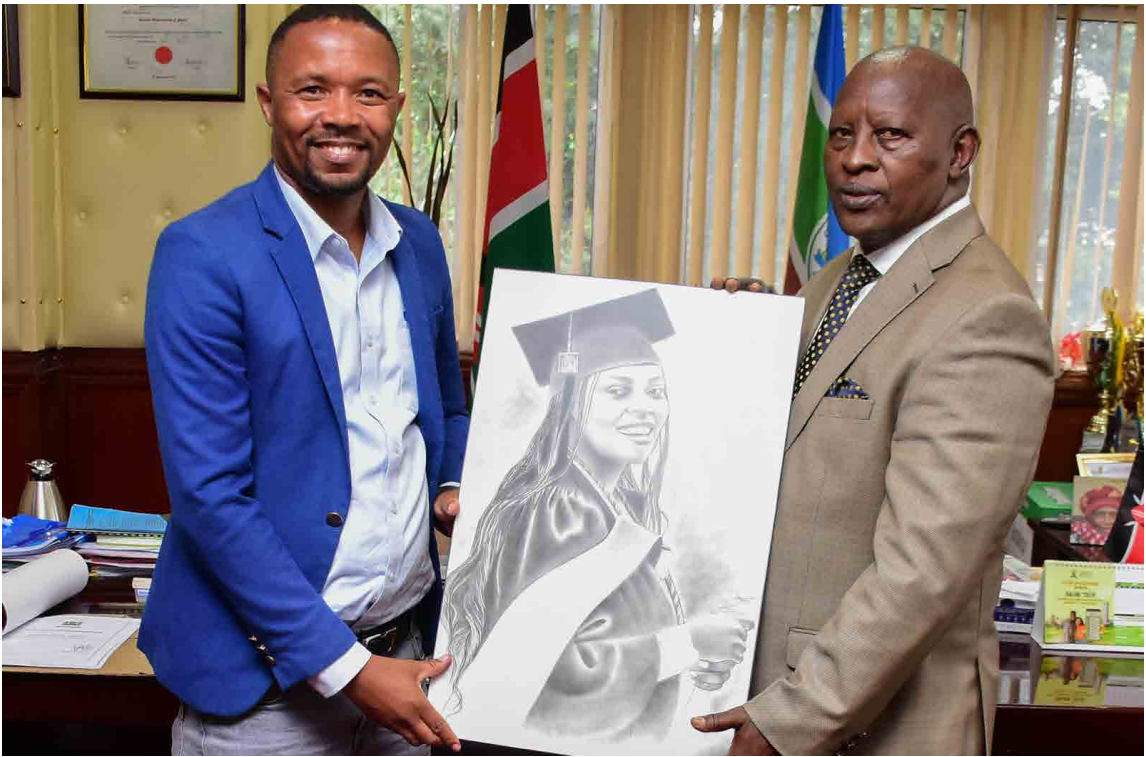
utilizing the available resources, comprehend our policies, learn on safety measures and also inculcate the ability to work as a team.” He wished the officers the very best in their respective duties and encouraged them to embrace a saving culture that guarantees them financial stability, self-reliance and independence in the future. During the training the Department of Public Service Management equipped the officers on:

- Devolved Government structure;
- County Government Act;
- National Values and Principles;
- Public Ethics and Code of Conduct;
- Performance Management;
- Human Resource Policies and Procedures Manual, 2016;
- HR Procedures and Welfare;
- Drug and Substance Abuse at the Workplace;
- Personal Development.

Meet Artist Kapenso from Mathira

Many of us know him as Kapenso. A prolific artist, gospel musician, professional graphic designer and MC in his spare time, Fredrick Kamanga Maina alias "Kapsenso" hails from Mathira and has been immortalizing memories with his pencil art for almost 25 years. Starting his artistic journey at the age of 5, Kapenso has had opportunity to etch the countenances of past and sitting presidents, deputy presidents, governors and various other dignitaries for which he has often been rec-

ognized and awarded. During his recent visit to the office of Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga to showcase more of his work, Governor Kahiga saw it fit to note that the challenge that faces artists to date was the lack of appreciation for their art. Despite a long journey to have his talent recognized and showcased Kapenso has not lost hope; infact he remains a steadfast supporter and encourager of budding youth artists, using his MC-ing avenues to reach out to



the youth through his words, his art and his music. Yes, Kapenso is also a musi-

cian having released that famous song Muhaturi which is readily available on his

YouTube page. (Fred K Official).

Rolling Out of NAVCDP Program in 30 Wards



The County Government of Nyeri under the Department of Water, Environment & Climate Change and Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Aquaculture, is rolling out various

programs under FLoCCA – Financing Locally-Led Climate Action and NAVCDP – National Agricultural Value Chain Development Project in all 30 Wards. The programs are geared at

addressing climate change through community-led resilience measures adoption and improving value chains in the agricultural sector. The Ward Administrators and Sub-County Adminis-

trators play a critical role in enhancing service delivery between the community and the government and are critical in ensuring that coordination of the two programs is in line with the set objec-

tives and also the needs of the community. It is in this light that a consultative and engagement meeting was held to discuss ways of enhancing these programs and projects to benefit the citizens of Nyeri. Nyeri Governor H.E Mutahi Kahiga, EGH reiterated his commitment to supporting these initiatives while urging the Ward Administrators and Sub-County Administrators to cascade these programs and strive to ensure they succeed. Chief Officer Devolution and Governor's Office Lucy Kiogora also affirmed her commitment to the realization and success of these endeavors in coordination with the administrators.

Plans to issue Title Deeds kicks off at Gitunduti & Ndumanu Settlements



CECM Lands, Physical Planning, and Urban Development Ndirangu Gachunia, Nyeri County KISIP II Coordinator Beatrice Koech and other members of the Nyeri County Project Coordination Team (CPCT) hosted the KISIP II National Project Coordinating Team (NPCT). The delegation led by Stella Gitimu visited Gitunduti

and Ndumanu informal settlements in Magutu ward, Mathira East Sub-County to establish necessary community organs, such as the Settlement Executive Committees (SECs) and Grievance Redress Committees (GRCs) which are crucial for the project's success and sustainability. This was after a successful settlement verification ex-

ercise done by the NPCT in conjunction with the CPCT in the ongoing implementation of project activities under Component 1.1 - Tenure Regularization. The team focused on mobilizing and sensitizing the communities, guiding them through the election process for members of the two committees. This initiative follows the procurement of

consultancies to undertake physical planning, cadastral surveys, and detailed topographical surveys of the two informal settlements. The team briefed the newly formed committees on their roles. The main roles of the SEC will be: community mobilization, awareness creation and ensuring community participation in all activities including

stakeholder mapping and socio-economic mapping while the GRC will be a pivotal entity in streamlining grievance redress processes at the community level, and as a result, they will effectively receive, document, resolve, and escalate grievances, fostering a transparent and responsive project environment.

Grand Re-opening of Treetops Lodge



Nyeri Governor H.E. Mutahi Kahiga joined Deputy President H.E. Rigathi Gachagua, H.E. Pastor Dorcas Rigathi, British High Commissioner in Kenya H.E. Neil Wigan, Director of Political Section Embassy Republic of China in Kenya Chen Zhiwen and other leaders during the grand re-opening of Treetops Lodge situated at Aberdare National Park, Nyeri County. In the heart of Aberdare National Park lies a place where his-

tory and nature intertwine: Treetops Lodge, Aberdares. This therefore is a big boost to the Nyeri hotel industry after the hotel was closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. From a two-roomed tree house in the heart of the Aberdare to the current 35-roomed Lodge, the Treetops Hotel carries a rich history intertwined in the branches of the tree around which it was built. The prestigious hotel which has a rich history both locally and

internationally will boost the tourism sector in the county and in Kenya. It was in 1952 that Treetops became the site of a historic royal visit. During a monumental time in her life, Princess Elizabeth stayed here, where she received the news of the passing of her father, King George VI, and her subsequent ascension to the throne as Queen. This visit catapulted Treetops into the international spotlight, marking it as a place

of significant historical and royal importance. The stories of yesteryears blend seamlessly with the breathtaking beauty of Aberdare National Park, offering an unparalleled experience of nature and nostalgia. The park has unique endangered species like rare Bongo animals, magnificent water falls, Karuru falls, the longest in Africa, and over 3,000 elephants.

Nyeri ECDEs & VTCs Embrace Energy-saving Jikos

In a significant stride towards sustainable development goals, particularly SDG 7 on affordable energy and SDG 13 on climate action, the Department of Water, Environment, and Climate Change has been implementing the installation of energy-saving jikos (improved cook stoves) in various Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) centers and Vocational Training Centers across the county. This project is part of the Financing Locally Led Climate Action Program (FLLoCA), which focuses on empowering communities to tackle climate change at a grassroots level. Under the program, the project has benefitted 29 institutions in Nyeri County. The installation of these advanced jikos is expected to bring multiple benefits, including reduced fuel consumption, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and improved air quality within the schools. The project is also likely to create a healthier environment thereby enhancing wellbeing and learning experience. The energy-saving jikos, developed with cutting-edge technology, are designed to use less fuel compared to traditional cooking methods. This results in significant savings for schools, as well as a reduction in deforestation and pollution. Each jiko is built to be durable and efficient, ensuring that the benefits extend over the long term. The Department of Water, Environment, and Climate Change spearheaded the installation process, working closely with the contractors, and various agencies such as NEMA, DOSH, Ministry of Social Services, and Ward Climate Change Planning committees to ensure the project's success. With the support of the Financing Locally Led Climate Action Program and the dedication of the Department of Water, Environment, and Climate Change, Nyeri County is paving the way for a more sustainable and resilient future for its schools and the community.

Signing of Performance Contracts at the Transport Department

Performance contract signing represents the basis for continuous performance, accountability, and actualization of development plans, defining the scope of service delivery to the people. Performance contracts also specify measurable deliverables and performance indicators. The CECM Transport,



Public Works, Infrastructure and Energy, Abdi Hanif Hussein, witnessed the signing of the performance contracts by the Chief Officer, Anne Kihagi, together with

Directors: Energy - Ramadhan Koinange; Roads and Transport - Eng. Solomon Ngatia; and Public Works - Arch. J.F. Kagiri. The CECM emphasized the critical essence of implementing the contents as outlined in the performance contracts. The Chief Officer emphasized their commitment to excellence in transport, public works, infrastructure, and energy. She also promised to drive sustainable growth and innovation, ensuring their goals are met with dedication and integrity.

Governor and DG Attend Wambugu Farm Exhibition



Agriculture is the backbone of our economy as a county, the source of livelihood for many families in Nyeri County, and the key to har-

nessing food security for our communities. It is on this premise that the County Government of Nyeri through the De-

partment of Agriculture, Livestock and Aquaculture Development organized the annual two-day farming exhibition at Wambugu farm

ATC. There was a huge turnout from farmers, with over 250 exhibitors, agricultural experts, and stakeholders

attending the event ready to learn and explore different farming practices and methods. Investment by the County Government in modern farming techniques and incentivizing farmers was seen as essential in promoting agriculture in Nyeri County, through provision of both equipment and the requisite support. By embracing technology and innovation productivity increases while reducing post-harvest losses, thereby bolstering this sector. The exhibition showcased different farming products including fertilizers, seedlings, and pesticides of superior quality to improve food production and improve the quality and quantity of crops. Farmers and stakeholders were also urged to embrace climate-smart agriculture to help combat harmful farming practices.

CGN Donates 15 Acres to KEPHIS



Nyeri Deputy Governor H.E. David Kinaniri hosted Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service – Kephis Board of Directors and senior management team led by their Chairman Hon. Jo-

seph M'eruaki. KEPHIS is a state corporation that is mandated to assure the quality of agricultural inputs and to prevent adverse impacts on the economy, the environment,

and human health. KEPHIS came to thank the County Government of Nyeri for providing them with 15 acres of land at Wambugu Farm ATC. In collaboration with the

National Government, the County Government of Nyeri provided the land to KEPHIS to establish an office and a demonstration farm. This will ensure seamless services to Nyeri

farmers. The main objectives of KEPHIS are; plant health services which ensure exports and imports are free from pesticides and diseases, seed certification and plant variety modification ensuring farmers receive quality seeds and vital sanitary services. CGN and KEPHIS collaboration will contribute towards improved levels of agricultural productivity. “We also mentioned some challenges our farmers face in the agricultural sector like shortage of fertilizers, climate change in horticulture among others. They promised to help for improved production in our County. We are a transformative County, and therefore we welcome any agricultural test for the better change of our farmers,” said the DG.

Strategic Planning: A Blueprint for the Gender Department



CECM Gender, Youth, Sports, and Social Services Esther Ndung'u led the department on a workshop to embark on a journey of strategic plan development aimed at shaping the future of the department service delivery. The CECM noted that strategic planning is a crucial exercise since it helps the department to define its direction, set goals, and allocate resources effectively and efficiently geared towards the provision of exemplary services to the Community.

Ndung'u further acknowledged that the comprehensive and forward-thinking strategies and key action points that have been developed are a testament to the department's commitment and focus in the achievement of its vision, mission, and strategic objectives for the betterment of service delivery to the Nyeri citizenry. This initiative forms a solid foundation for future endeavors that would undoubtedly lead to continued success and growth. She thanked the strategic planning committee led by Patrick Migwi and Monica Thumbi for their unwavering commitment, valuable insights, outstanding efforts, meticulous attention to detail, and exceptional dedication. Chief Officer Joe Gethi pointed out that the exercise marked the beginning of an important process where the department would effectively and seamlessly serve the community. He reiterated the department's commitment to the implementation of the strategic plan once approved by ensuring that it remained proactive and focused in addressing community needs. The CO commended the team for their dedication to developing the blueprint geared towards better service delivery to the community.

Public Participation in the Draft Alcoholic Drinks Control (Licensing) Regulations 2024



The County Government of Nyeri is in the process of considering the Nyeri County Alcoholic Drinks Control (Licensing) Regulations, 2024. The Alcoholic Drink Control seeks to license, control and regulate the production, consumption and distribution of alcoholic drinks within the county, while seeking to bring fairness and strengthen cooperation between the county government and the bar owners. It will also bolster the fight against the sale of illicit brew which has become a great concern across the county. As a part of the process, the Nyeri County Alcoholic Drinks and Management Directorate held a successful public participation exercise to listen to the opinions and proposals of the involved parties at Wambugu Farm ATC. The exercise brought together bar owners and staff, and members of the public. On the same they ascertained the need for Kenya Bureau of Standardization (KEBS) to give out a list of the authorized brews to avoid conflict between the authorities and bar operators. The participants have allied to assist the government in the fight against illicit brews and adhere to the set regulations.

Cascading of Performance Contracts by the Department of Education

Performance Contract signing represents the basis for continuous performance, accountability and actualization of development plans and defining the scope of service delivery to the people. Performance contracts also specify measurable deliverables and performance indicators. The County Secretary and the Head of Public Service Benjamin Gachichio together with Department CECM Margaret Macharia had opportunity witnessed the signing of the Performance Contracts by the Chief Officers in charge of Education and Training and Devolution. The process also cascaded to the Directors in charge of Education and Training and Devolution. The County Secretary emphasized the critical essence of implementing the contents as outlined in the Performance Contracts. He has also requested the Chief Officers and the Directors to embrace cohesive teamwork engagements and accountability in the ECDE Centres and Technical Training Centres as critical development infrastructures.



CGN Offers an Office to WSPU



Nyeri prides itself in being the second home and final resting to Scouts Founder Baden Powell and his wife. This has put Nyeri on the world map as the ideal destination for scouting delegations.

In this regard, the County Government of Nyeri has offered an office to the World Scout Parliamentary Union WSPU.

This will ease WSPU services and strengthen the Nyeri County Scout movement.

The Chief Officer Trade, Tourism and Cooperatives, George Mwangi handed office keys to Poppins Misoi, Executive Director World Scout Parliamentary Union and Walter Buleti in charge of Counties Coordination

WSPU. The office is situated at Block C, 3rd floor behind Nyeri Huduma Center.

The Chief Officer was issued with a letter and certificate of appointment as the secretary WSPU in the Nyeri County Chapter.

WSPU main objectives;

- Recruit and register members who want to support scouts.
- Carry out acts that support scouting e.g. buying scouts uniforms and camping equipment, training support for scouts and scouts' leaders among others
- Organize networking activities to support WSPU
- Carry out activities to promote scout tourism in Nyeri

The County Government of Nyeri will continue to partner with WSPU to strengthen

the Nyeri County Chapter.

Nyeri County was honored to host WSPU 2023 Africa Assembly in June last year, it will host the Executive Global Meeting this year and the 11th General WSPU Assembly in 2025 to follow suit.

Earlier on, WSPU paid a courtesy call to Nyeri Deputy Governor H. E Kinaniri Waroe and they presented him a letter and certificate of appointment as the Chairperson of Nyeri County Chapter WSPU. The Nyeri Governor is also a board member of the WSPU.

Special thanks to H.E. Mutahi Kahiga, he is always at the forefront of making sure Nyeri remains the principal scouting destination.

DG Presides Over Teach-2Give Graduation Ceremony

Nyeri Deputy Governor H.E. David Kinaniri graced the Teach2Give graduation ceremony at their headquarters in Nyeri town.

Teach2Give is a non-profit organization that is on a mission to transform education and employment prospects in Kenya. Their main objective is to provide students with essential attachments, enabling them to earn their degrees, obtain work permits, and become legitimate employees.

Their commitment does not end with attachments, they also offer mentorship programs to sharpen skills in IT, finance, customer service, and more.

It is in this light that the Deputy Governor witnessed the graduation of 135 students and the issuance of certificates.

This is after they completed their twelve-week attachment in computer science, software engineering, software deployment and data quality engineering.

The organization has partnered with different universities in the Mount Kenya region; Laikipia University, DEKUT, Kirinyaga University, Murang'a University and Chuika University. Since the first cohort was launched in 2021, many young people have benefited from this program.

He encouraged the students to embrace new opportunities, seek out challenges, and never stop striving for excellence in whatever they do.

The County Government of Nyeri thanked the universities and other stakeholders who have worked with Teach2Give to bring hope and opportunities to these brilliant minds, while also encouraging other youths to grab these opportunities.

Central Kenya ASK Show to be held next month



H.E. Mutahi Kahiga together with Deputy Governor H.E David Kinaniri hosted the Central Kenya Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK) Branch officials who

paid a courtesy call to his office ahead of the expected ASK Show next month.

ASK CEO Batram Muthoka, Central Kenya ASK Show Chief Steward Job

Kanyi, and Branch Manager Amos Kirui led the team.

Preparations are in high gear for the show which is expected to be held from the 11th to the 14th of Sep-

tember 2024 at the Kabiiru-ini Showgrounds, Nyeri.

The theme for this year is 'Promoting Climate-Smart Agriculture and Trade Initiatives for Sustainable Economic Growth.'

The show has attracted many exhibitors, including financial institutions, institutions of higher learning, health and hospitality institutions, sectors of agriculture, livestock, fisheries, trade, manufacturing, NGOs, CEOs, youth enterprises, and women-based groups, among others.

Funfair activities are also expected to heighten entertainment for the showgoers.

He assured them of the

County Government of Nyeri's support and called upon Nyeri residents to take advantage of this great event to learn as much as possible to improve productivity in their various agricultural enterprises and businesses.

"We shall continue to promote agriculture in Nyeri County, invest in modern farming techniques, and incentivize farmers by equipping them and providing the necessary support. By embracing technology and innovation, we can increase productivity, reduce post-harvest losses, and bolster this sector." He added.

Stakeholders' Brainstorming Workshop on Drugs Abuse



Alcohol and drug abuse in Central Kenya region is a significant public health and social issue, affecting individuals, families, and communities. Several factors contribute to the prevalence of substance abuse in this area: cultural practices, high level of poverty & unemployment leading to stress & hopelessness, availability & accessibility of drugs, mental health issues, peer pressure & social influences, insufficient knowledge about the dangers & consequences of drugs and substance abuse among others.

Effectively addressing alcohol and drug abuse in the application of prevention and treatment strategies in Nyeri County requires a multifaceted and comprehensive approach involving government action, community involvement, education, rehabilitation & integration and a comprehensive support system. Continued efforts and collaboration among various stakeholders are essential to effectively tackle this pressing issue and promote healthier, safer communities. Possible initiatives and in-

terventions that were discussed include:

Education, awareness and timely engagement with the youth through schools, online forums and community sensitization and outreach programs& barazas;

Early intervention through preventive measures, screening and counselling;

Parental & family, Recovery coaches, champions and religious leaders' involvement in therapy, follow-up, continues support and community based after-care;

Provision of sustainable livelihood, social - economic empowerment and

sporting & recreation facilities for the youth;

Role modelling, mentorship and advocacy on behaviour change in the community;

Promotion of mental wellness and encouraging the community to form support systems, groups and networks;

Stopping stigmatization and encouraging the affected persons to join rehab centers such as to the Nyeri- County Government-run Ihururu Rehab in Tetu Sub- County for treatment and rehabilitation on use of drugs and substance

disorders;

NACADA - professionally structured programs, supervision and accreditation of rehabilitation facilities;

Adherence to policies and regulations that have been enacted to control the production, sale, and consumption of alcohol and drugs.

Youth Director Monica Thumbi noted that combining prevention and treatment strategies, community-based initiatives, and Government and stakeholder engagement could effectively combat drug abuse through prevention, rehabilitation and support of individuals on their path to recovery. She reiterated the Government's commitment to addressing the issue and encouraged the citizenry to support the people affected to join the Ihururu County Rehabilitation and treatment facility.

Kenya Red Cross Head of Region Esther Chege appreciated the stakeholders for the interactive engagement and reiterated that partnerships and collaborative efforts was the new norm in providing local solutions for our communities.

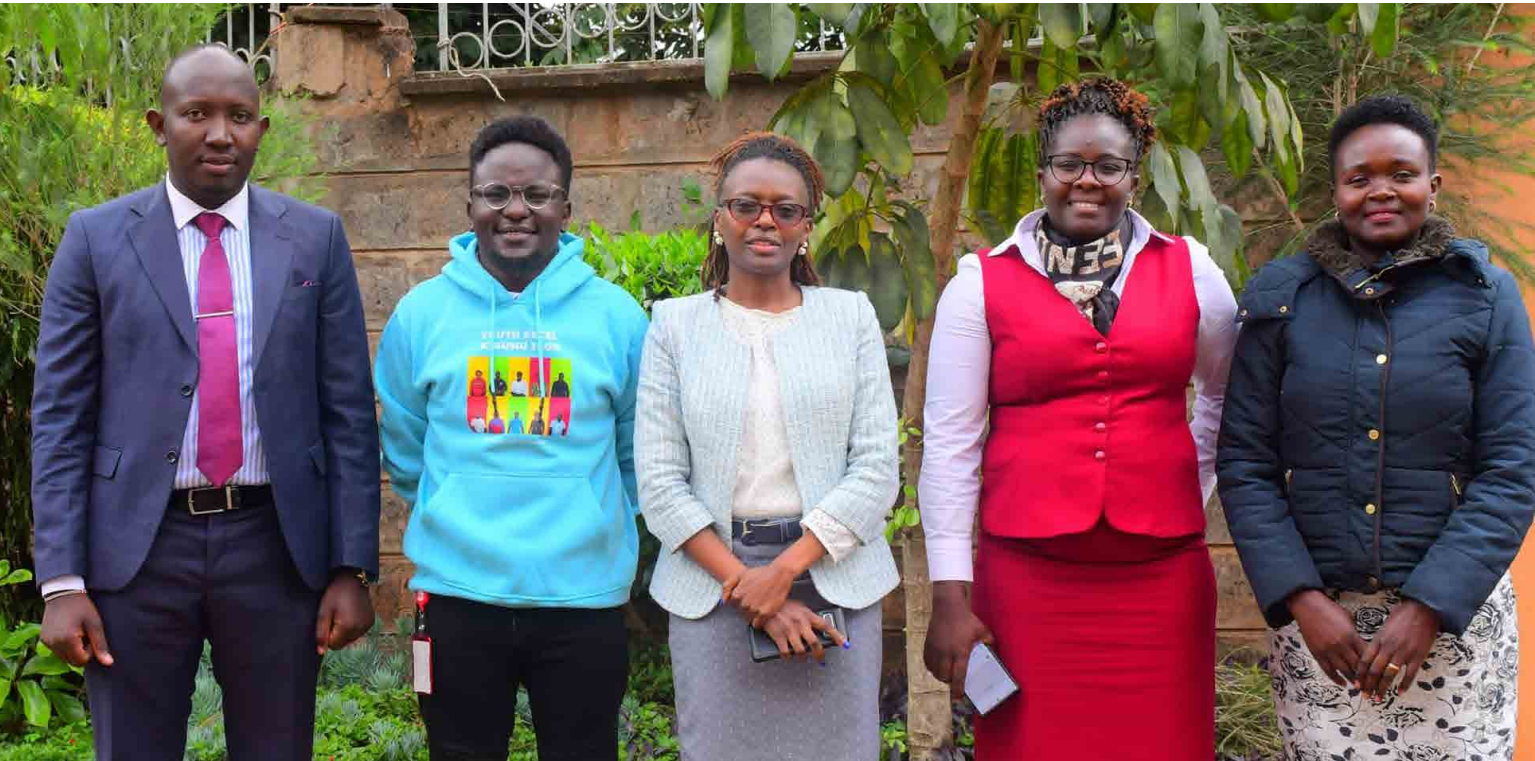
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NYERI COUNTY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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Nyeri County Youth Excel Project Launch



The Red Cross Youth Excel Project Launch in Nyeri County is a USAID project geared towards the promotion of inclusive engagement at the local level on various issues. Its objective is to understand the impact of meaningful youth engagement and participation in Kenya Red Cross Society humanitarian work through Implementation Research.

USAID - Youth Excel in collaboration with Red Cross is a five-year \$30 million global project that commenced in August 2020. It seeks to strengthen youth-led local development by building capacities of youth-led and youth-serving groups to conduct quality research (IR) and strengthening local systems through intergenerational dialogue for collaborative learning, advocacy, and

partnerships with diverse stakeholders. Youth Excel works with local youth-led and youth-serving organizations to enhance their program outcomes, learning cultures, networks, and leadership for positive youth development through "research-to-change" in Kenya. In her opening remarks CECM Gender and Youth Esther Ndung'u emphasized

the importance of youth involvement in governmental processes that directly impact their lives. She highlighted several county initiatives designed to empower the youth including:
Gender Policy: Ensuring gender inclusivity in development programs;
Youth Development Fund: Providing financial support and resources for youth-led businesses and projects;

Employment: Internships and attachments.
The CECM also encouraged the youth to register their businesses and groups to better access and benefit from government initiatives aimed at their empowerment. She reiterated the County government's commitment to fostering an inclusive environment where young people can thrive and actively contribute to community development.
Nyeri nominated MCA Hon. Kareithi Wambui emphasized that the County Assembly remains committed to the youth agenda.
He encouraged the youth to be vibrant in the uptake of the various available opportunities while urging the need to remain committed to securing one's future, through engaging so that they can move forward.
The Kenya Red Cross led by Head of Central Region Ms. Esther Chege appreciated the partnership with the Nyeri County Government and the youth-focused leadership.

Performance Contracts signing at the Governor's Office

Performance contracts are a valuable tool in ensuring that there is an alignment of objectives in broader development plans like Vision 2030 and the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP). It promotes accountability and transparency. Performance is incentivized, bolstering of continuous improvement and enhancing efficiency and effectiveness. As part of a performance orientation in government, performance contracting clarifies the mandate of the department and how it intends to implement and achieve the county's vision and mission.
Deputy Governor H.E David Kinaniri witnessed the signing of the Performance Contracts between the County Secretary Benjamin Gachio and Chief Officer Lucy Kiogora. The Chief Officer then cascaded the PCs to the Directors and Deputy Direc-



tors; Josphat Wamathai, Carol Nderi, Solomon Chengecha, Boniface Mwangi and Naomi Mathenge. The Deputy Governor emphasized the need to execute what is outlined in the PCs and for the officers to execute

their mandate and responsibilities with utmost dedication. Performance contract is a powerful tool for improving efficiency, accountability, and outcomes across various sectors. When designed and implemented effectively,

it can drive significant improvements and foster a culture of continuous enhancement. Head of the Governor's Service Delivery Unit and Special Advisor to the Governor Dr. Nyoike Wamwea

was in attendance and was accompanied by Senior Performance Analyst Patrick Migwi. Administration Officer from the Governor's Service Delivery Service Unit Jane Mercy Wanjiru was also present.