

Local News 11th June 2010

South Africa set for historic event

South Africa is now set for the start of the biggest football tournament on earth, the World Cup, which gets under way today in Johannesburg. It is the 19th staging of the showpiece event and will be the first time it has taken place in the continent of Africa. Johannesburg's 94,000-capacity Soccer City hosts the opening ceremony, with the first game getting under way 7pm when South Africa face Mexico.

Former president Nelson Mandela, 91, is set to attend part of the festivities. The World Cup kicks off with a 40-minute opening ceremony at Soccer City starting at 5pm local time. South Africa president Jacob Zuma and Archbishop Desmond Tutu are also expected to be at Soccer City, the newly refurbished stadium designed to look like a calabash, an African cooking pot. There are 64 games in total, with the final taking place at Soccer City on Sunday, 11 July.

Thousands rock Soweto at World Cup concert

Thousands of people rocked Orlando Stadium in South Africa's biggest township on Thursday, singing in harmony at the official World Cup concert on the eve of the world's most watched sporting event. Concert-goers clapped and cheered amidst almost freezing temperatures as footballers, local musicians and international singing stars took to the stage, the first time such a music concert has been held as part of the World Cup opening events.

Children and the elderly alike waved South African flags and sang "Shosholoza," the popular local tune sung mostly at soccer matches. The scene in the 30,000 capacity stadium was reminiscent of 1995, when South Africa, recently free from decades of apartheid rule, won the rugby World Cup. The tournament was widely seen as uniting a country long divided along racial lines.

Nyamweya Manson the new South Mugirango MP

Residents of South Mugirango constituency have elected in a new member of parliament Manson Nyamweya is the new MP after emerging a winner in the by election that was conducted yesterday Nyamweya of Ford People party got 14,109 votes followed by Omingo Magara of PDP party in the second place with 8,975 votes while Ibrahim Ochoi of ODM party was third with 7,638 votes.

Magara lost the South Mugirango seat following a case that was filed by Nyamweya who was opposing his election. Security was beefed up in the area following cases of insecurity that were witnessed during the campaign period.

Ends...Muhonja kirwaye

Kenya Tourism Federation affiliated to WTO

The Kenya Tourism Federation has been admitted as an affiliate member of the United Nations World Tourism Organization. This is the first Kenyan private sector tourism agency to join the organization. Kenya Tourism Federation-KTF- which is the umbrella body of tourism

organizations will now access information from the UNWTO on best practices to help promote accessible and competitive tourism. The membership which was approved during the just concluded 88th session of the UNWTO Executive Council in Puerto Iguazu, Argentina also provides a platform to explore partnerships for specific projects and new business opportunities. Tourism Minister Najib Balala who is the First Vice Chairman of the UNWTO Executive Council welcomed the affiliation of the KTF as timely.

The day of the African child to be marked tomorrow

The day of the African child will be commemorated tomorrow under the theme Budgeting and planning for the child, a collective responsibility” In Eldoret, the celebrations will be held at the teacher’s advisory center. (TAC center) In an exclusive interview with Fish FM early today, the district children’s officer Philip Nzenge, highlighted the many challenges facing the African child that need to be tackled.

Nzenge also revealed that the department is receiving major support from the government, with increased allocations from the treasury, to help handle matters pertaining to children. On his part, Nelson Mudola who will be the guest of honor at the ceremony explained the importance of the event that is aimed at giving hope to the Kenyan child. The day will begin by the children having a walk from the Eldoret town hall through Oginga Odinga Street and conclude at the venue of the event at TAC center. The ceremony will be attended by among other dignitaries, the deputy Rift Valley provincial commissioner Wanyama Musyambo and the Rift valley children’s officer.

ENDS.....Muhonja Kirwaye

Regional News

Nelson Mandela's great-granddaughter dies in car crash

Nelson Mandela's great-granddaughter has been killed in a car crash after a concert on the eve of the World Cup. Zenani Mandela, 13, died when travelling home after the concert in Soweto, the Nelson Mandela Foundation said. Zenani was one of Mandela's nine great-grandchildren. The incident came just hours before the former South African president was due to attend the opening of the World Cup in Johannesburg.

Early reports quoted police as saying Zenani had been travelling with Nelson Mandela's former wife, Winnie Madikizela, when the accident happened near Johannesburg city centre. But the Foundation clarified that Winnie Madikizela was not in the car, which was the only vehicle involved in the crash Thursday night. Zenani had celebrated her 13th birthday on 9 June.

Global News

US teenage sailor 'found safe' in Indian Ocean

A teenage US sailor who went missing while sailing solo around the world has been found safe and well, her family has said. Abby Sunderland, 16, was more than 3,220km (2,000 miles) from the coasts of both Africa and Australia when she set off distress beacons. Her father said search vessels were on their way to her and her boat had now been spotted with her on board.

The teenager's yacht, the Wild Eyes, was spotted by searchers aboard an Australian Airbus

A330. The Californian sailor lost satellite phone contact with her family at about 1300 GMT on Thursday, manually activating emergency beacons in what has been described as "extremely poor" weather conditions. A spokesman for the family, William Bennett, said a fishing vessel is on its way to pick her up, and is expected to reach her in about 40 hours.

Sports News

Finals for the Mtaani tournament set for this weekend

The finals for the Mtaani tournament will be held this weekend at the Kapsoya grounds in Eldoret. In the fixtures, Fish United will be battling it out with Change FC on Saturday in a match that has been slated for 1:30 pm. Sunday will have two sets of matches, with Munyaka FC meeting Change FC at 12 noon. There after Fish United will play Ilula FC in the final game slated for 2 pm.

The winners will receive cash awards and trophies

Ends.....Muhonja Kirwaye