

## **Local News 15th October 2010**

### **Residents of Kapsoya Estate put authorities concerned with roads maintenance on notice**

Residents of Eldoret continue to lament the poor state of roads with no response from concerned authorities. The dilapidated roads have been worsened by the recent rains which have rendered most of the roads impassable. Speaking on behalf of the Kapsoya and Limo Farm residents, Managing Director Fish Media Reuben Kigame said that the situation should be attended to urgently or the residents will be forced to demonstrate against the Municipal Council and the Kenya Urban Roads Authority (K.U.R.A.).

Kigame who is also the Coordinator of the residents' efforts to have the matter attended to revealed that the road in question is in a terrible condition, a situation that pose health hazard to residents, increased insecurity, and stalling transportation to and from the estates. It was also evident that learners and workers are seriously affected by the plight, a situation that has greatly contributed to lateness for duty. Residents of Kapsoya and Limo have now vowed to employ every mechanism at disposal, which will apply pressure on concerned authorities until a long lasting solution for the plight is arrived at.

### **Constitution poses economic test, says Uhuru**

Implementation of the new Constitution is a major challenge to Kenya's economic development, Finance Minister Uhuru Kenyatta has said. Speaking at a roundtable conference on "Africa Growth Initiative" at the Brookings Institute in Washington, Kenyatta said that the implementation needs will require financial investments from the exchequer. The new Constitution creates a number of commissions that will require considerable financial allocations to support their secretariat. It also increases the number of Members of Parliament to 349 and creates a Senate with 68 senators.

To add to this there will be 47 governors, their deputies and committees to run counties and all these will require more funds. Kenyatta was addressing various stakeholders on challenges facing Kenya in achieving the estimated growth rate of five percent. On the growth expectations, he said Kenya is putting more emphasis on private.

### **Today marks the Global Handwashing Day and WASH**

The world is today marking the Global Handwashing day with this year's day aimed at raising awareness about the health benefits of handwashing with soap. The challenge is to make handwashing with soap an automatic behavior performed in homes, schools, and communities worldwide as this is literally a life and death issue in most developing countries. Improving water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) will help to achieve most the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) like basic sanitation, improved hygiene practices, safe drinking water sources and more water for washing thus reducing infant and child illness and death, and helps to achieve MDGs 4 and 5.

Diarrhoeal diseases are estimated to be the cause of 1.6 million deaths per year, of which around 90 per cent are children. Diarrhoeal diseases are often passed through untreated water or from person to person due to poor hygiene. In Kenya, different handwashing activities were launched with the support of the Minister for Public Health and Sanitation, Beth Mugo, gathering over 6,000 children in Kisumu Town and over 230,000 nationwide. Seven more districts held

activities on Global Handwashing Day including Nairobi, Mombasa, Nyeri, Machakos, Busia, Trans Nzoia and Wajir. End...Chumba Silvanoh

### **Study backs chest compressions in resuscitation**

Concentrating on chest compressions rather than mouth-to-mouth when giving emergency resuscitation can produce better results, says research published in *The Lancet*. A study of 3,000 patients found that chest compressions alone increased chances of survival by more than 22%. But training in how to give both chest compressions and mouth-to-mouth breaths is the best option, experts say. The UK Resuscitation Council is due to produce new CPR guidelines next week. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is a combination of chest compressions and mouth-to-mouth breaths, given in a life-threatening emergency like a cardiac arrest or heart attack.

The study, compiled by doctors from the Medical University of Vienna in Austria, looked at the survival rates of people treated by untrained members of the public taking instructions from the emergency services over the phone.

### **Rinderpest virus has been wiped out, scientists say**

Scientists working for the UN say that they have eradicated a virus which can be deadly to cattle. If confirmed, rinderpest would become only the second viral disease - after smallpox - to have been eliminated by humans. Rinderpest was once prevalent in the Middle East, Africa and Asia. The UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has said that it will now suspend its efforts to track and eliminate the virus. The FAO said it was "confident" the virus has been eradicated from those parts of the world where it is prevalent. When the disease arrived in Africa at the end of the nineteenth century between 80% and 90% of cattle and buffalo on the continent were killed. The eradication of the virus has been described as the biggest achievement in veterinary history and one which will save the lives and livelihoods of millions of the poorest people in the world.

### **Farmers in Uasin Gishu county sensitized on poultry keeping**

Ultravetis East Africa limited company was in Eldoret Thursday to teach farmers and livestock officers in Uasin Gishu County on poultry keeping and farm chemicals available in the market. Speaking to the Media, Ultravetis East Africa Limited Company Representative Bryant Mose said that poultry keeping has improved in the North Rift region compared to the past since poultry keepers started engaging themselves in rearing and selling chicks. Bryant also said that they have observed that lack knowledge by farmers, lack of finance to buy farm chemicals and vitamins and poor housing has lead to the spread of diseases and death of poultry. He also added that the main challenge they are facing is the inability to reach farmers in a bid to deliver the right information on poultry keeping.

The company is also conducting seminars in Nakuru and Nairobi and also carrying out vaccination campaigns for viral diseases such as Newcastle in rural areas.

*End...Mary Gombe*

### **Government told to invest in forestry**

A science and environmental lecturer from Moi University Dr. Balozzi Kirongo is calling on

government to put more resources in planting trees at the implementation of the new law. Addressing journalist Thursday in Eldoret, Balozi said politicians should unite in making policies aimed at increasing forest cover in the country. Balozi added that government should look forward to train citizens on how to utilize trees appropriately in poverty eradication. At the same time he appealed to the government to train officials that will ensure that the country's forests are well utilized and conserved.

*End.....John Chikamai*

### **Youth in Uasin Gishu to hold campaign to help the needy,**

Various Youth groups from Uasin Gishu County will on Saturday hold a massive youth campaign aimed at promoting social economic development and emphasize on a continuous promotion peace and stability in the region. The campaign which will be held at the Teachers Advisory Centre TAC in Eldoret will also provide a platform to help the needy in society with food and clothing among other needs which will be donated by various organizations and well wishers from the region.

In a press statement to media houses, the organizing Youth Groups, Fist Youth Movement, Teen 4 change and Cheptiret Youth Group called upon the youth from the region to attend the event which will also be a learning day on various issues concerning the County government. The youth group will latter be organizing The Uasin Gishu Youth County forum to deliberate upon the role of the youth in county government.

*End James Gitaka*

## **Regional News**

### **'Zimbabwean' kidnapped in Somalia**

Masked gunmen in Somalia have kidnapped a Zimbabwean security consultant and a local aid worker from the town of Adado near the Ethiopian border, witnesses say. Elder Mohamed Abdullahi said: "The gunmen, heavily armed with machine-guns, stormed the building where the men stayed and they took them." After years of violence, few foreigners still work in Somalia. The town is in the hands of a group allied to the hardline Islamist group al-Shabab, our reporter says. But a moderate Islamist group allied to the UN-backed government is trying to wrest control of the town and there is heavy fighting near the airport

### **Rwandan opposition leader Victoire Ingabire arrested**

Rwanda's most prominent opposition leader, Victoire Ingabire, has been arrested. Police say she was implicated in an investigation into the activities of an ex-commander of a Hutu militia group. Ms Ingabire returned from exile in January to challenge President Kagame but she was barred from standing in the August election. She still faces charges from a previous arrest in April. At that time she was accused of collaborating with a terrorist group and denying the genocide in 1994. Ms Ingabire, leader of the FDU-Inkingi party, is a Hutu and most of those killed in the 1994 conflict were ethnic Tutsis

## **Global News**

### **German radar satellites fly tight space waltz**

Two German radar satellites are now flying in tight formation as they prepare to make the most detailed ever 3D map of the Earth's entire surface. TanDEM-X and TerraSAR-X have moved to

within 350m of each other as they sweep around the planet at 7km/s. The pair will soon begin an intense observation campaign that will pin down the variation in height across the globe to an accuracy of better than two metres. This digital elevation model (DEM) will be put to myriad uses - everything from improving the safety of aircraft navigation to understanding better which areas of ground are most at risk during a flood.

TerraSAR-X was launched in 2007. TanDEM-X was put in space in June, since when it has been brought closer and closer to its more established sibling. The very close proximity manoeuvres were conducted step-by-step over the course of the past week. Swiss near breakthrough on world's longest tunnel Swiss engineers are set to smash through the last pieces of rock to complete the digging of the world's longest transport tunnel. The two ends of the 57km (35 mile) Gotthard rail tunnel will meet after 14 years of construction work. The event is to be broadcast live on Swiss TV, and watched by transport ministers across Europe.

The tunnel is expected to open to trains in 2017, when it will slash journey times between Zurich and Milan. The 9.8bn Swiss franc (£6.4bn; \$10.3bn) project will take up to 300 trains each day underneath the Alps at speeds of 250km/h (155mph).

### **China's leaders meet to plan economic future**

China's ruling Communist Party is meeting in Beijing to draw up its next five-year plan for the economy. The agenda is secret but analysts say that instead of seeking a high rate of economic growth, China's leaders want to close the gap between rich and poor and between coastal and inland areas. Analysts will also be watching for signs of who will be China's next leader - due to take office in 2012. The meeting comes amid renewed scrutiny of human rights in China. Earlier this week, a letter signed by 23 Communist Party elders circulated calling for an end to restrictions on the freedom of speech. The letter described China's censorship system as a "scandal" and an "embarrassment".

### **Hero's welcome for first rescued Chilean miners**

The first of the 33 Chilean miners rescued after spending 69 days trapped underground have arrived home. Three miners were given an enthusiastic welcome by neighbours and friends following their release from hospital late on Thursday. Doctors said all the miners had responded well to treatment and many more of them would go home today. Earlier President Sebastian Pinera visited them and promised to stamp out "inhuman" working conditions in Chile.

## **Sport News**

### **Games boss hails Delhi a success**

Commonwealth Games chief Mike Fennell hailed Delhi 2010 a success despite the event getting off to a troubled start. The Games overcame concerns on security and infrastructure to end with a lively closing ceremony, as the hosts' mantle was officially passed to Glasgow 2014. Fennell conceded that the decision to award the Games to Delhi had been questioned in many quarters as preparations fell behind schedule. There were serious problems with the athletes' village and certain venues, while other setbacks included a collapsed pedestrian footbridge, ticketing confusion, poor crowds and big-name withdrawals. But Fennell maintained that Delhi deserved the chance to stage its first multi-sport event since the 1982 Asian Games and insisted it had proved a worthy host.

### **Focus on Villa**

Champions Barcelona welcome unbeaten leaders Valencia to Camp Nou on Saturday in what will be a special match for David Villa who faces his old club for the first time since jumping ship in the summer. Barcelona sit fourth three points behind pacesetters Valencia and need to rediscover the winning formula at home having picked up just four points from nine scoring a meager two goals in front of their home fans. Valencia have won five and drawn one of their opening six matches and the daunting trip to Camp Nou provides them with the chance to prove they are genuine title contenders.

All eyes will be on man of the moment Villa who spent five glorious years at Valencia, scoring over a century of league goals, before joining Barcelona for 40 million euros in the summer. Villa, 28, equalled Raul Gonzalez's national record of 44 goals, scoring in Spain's 3-2 Euro 2012 qualifying win in Scotland on Tuesday and now hopes to shoot down his old employer.

### **Kenya to host UAE in four-match series**

Kenya will host United Arab Emirates (UAE) for a four-match ODI series in the coastal city of Mombasa beginning this Sunday. Kenya are hoping to visit UAE early next year for a series of warm-up one-day fixtures to prepare for the World Cup which begins in February next year in India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. The UAE team arrives in Mombasa on Friday ahead of the first match on Sunday at Mombasa Sports Club and will be led by Mohammed Tauqir during the eight-day tour. The teams last met in the ICC World Twent20 qualifying tournament earlier this year when UAE sprung a surprise to win by 15 runs.