



PG 2



Other counties continues sending delegates to learn from Laikipia LHS

PG 3



These are the dates the road construction leasing programme brigades will be working in your area.

PG 8

List of County officers who have resigned to venture into politics

# Quitting Job to Follow passion, Venture into Leather Products



Samuel Nkuru dropped out of Ikuu Boys High School, later left a well paying job at a local Milling company only to start his leather making products establishment that has now employed many and sells in wholesale and retail across the country.

# Laikipia Health Coverage Fascinating Other Counties

Almost all counties in Kenya, and even the national government, have benchmarked with Laikipia at least once on matters Health. All come to emulate in style of quality service delivery and apply in their respective jurisdictions.

Trans Nzoia County is the latest to show interest to want to learn from the best. The county is set to send a delegation in the coming week to learn from Laikipia's outlets on how to go about equipping its hospitals.

Still in the month of February on the second day, Nyandarua County sent a delegation to Laikipia to bench mark on the maternal units in Nanyuki and Nyahururu. The units in these two outlets have been recording high number of deliveries indicating that our outlets are the first choice for many women in the county seeking maternity services.

There are numerous reasons why other counties are interested in Laikipia- many infrastructural and personnel investments. Laikipia county has collapsed all its health facilities into one huge entity for improved service delivery. Best comparison is a bank. How a bank has many branches but with the same branding and uniform services across all its branches.

For easy Management of this huge establishment called LHS, Laikipia's now 87 outlets have



*Nyandarua County Health team at LHS-Nanyuki on a benchmark exercise of February 2, 2022*

been classified into 11 clusters. There is a referral hospital which other facilities within the cluster shall rely on for complex medical procedures, in terms of imaging, lab and surgery procedures. Each cluster too, will have its own ambulance to enhance referral system, within and outside the clusters, something fascinating even other counties.

Sample referral which enables collection of laboratory specimen at any facility is another key achievement under LHS. The specimen is then taken to an outlet with the capacity to run the test and results relayed to the source outlet for easier access to the customer.

With Laikipia having successfully initiated the leasing process to equip the outlets, we are set to be the best not only for learning partners but even for service delivery to our clients.

Key among the investment are Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and Computed Tomography (CT) machines. These machines are key in offering detailed diagnostic services that previously were being referred to Nakuru and Nyeri counties.

Additionally, LHS Nanyuki is set to be installed with another higher capacity oxygen plant - which will serve as the main referral for complex medical cases.

In Laikipia West, LHS-Nyahururu will get a 10-bed capacity renal unit to serve patients who currently travel to Nanyuki for dialysis, saving Laikipia West clients from hectic long travels. Diagnostic services have also been upscaled with LHS-Nyahururu having a 50 capacity biochemistry machines and now equipped with an oxygen plant with capacity to produce 560 liters of oxygen per minute.

# When to Expect Leasing Brigade in Your Area

The leasing road equipment in the county has been categorized into brigades that are in certain areas for better coverage of road construction. Laikipia has a road network of 7,000km that needs regular maintenance.

The table below shows how the brigades will be working, though there are certain regions already covered.

Brigade 5 - Work Plan for the Dozer and accompanying Grader

Complete Brigades						
WARD	KM ACHIEVED (Currently)		KM remaining	START DATE	COMPLETION DATE	Next Destination
Brigade 1 - Tigithi	(R1&2)210.4 Km Graded	63.3 Km Gravelled	14 Km grading and gravelling	30th August 2021	17th December 2021	Salama
Brigade 2 - Githiga	(R1&2) 197.65 Km Graded	64.5 Km Gravelled	15 Km grading and 40 Km gravelling	23rd August 2021	18 th Dec 2021	Marmamet
Brigade 3 - Olmorani - (Mahiga/ Naibrom)	32.2 Km Graded	9 Km Gravelled	6 Km graveling	9th September 2021	16th Nov 2021	Sossian
Brigade 4 - Olmorani - (Wangwachi)	76.55 Km Graded	20.9 Km Gravelled	13 Km graveling		10th Dec 2021	Rumuruti
Brigade 1 - Salama	(R1) 32 Km Graded	27 Km Gravelled	40 Km grading and 40 Km gravelling	20th Dec 2021	11th March 2022	Mukogodo East
Brigade 2 - Marmamet	(R1) 120.8 Km Graded	16 Km Gravelled	60 Km Road Opening and 40 Km graveling	20th Dec 2021	25th March 2022	Ngobit
Brigade 3 - Sossian	(R1) 156 Km Graded	3.5 Km Gravelled	60 Km graveling	17th Nov 2021	18th February 2022	Umande
Brigade 4 - Rumuruti	93.45 Km Graded	7.1 Km Gravelled	60 Km graveling	13th Dec 2021	22nd April 2022	Segera
Brigade 1 - Mukogodo East	(R1) 36 Km Graded	17 Km Gravelled	60 Km grading and 40 Km gravelling	14th March 2022	10th June 2022	Igwamiti
Brigade 2 - Ngobit	(R1) 66 Km Graded	32 Km Gravelled	60 Km grading and 40 Km gravelling	28th March 2022	24th June 2022	Thingithu
Brigade 3 - Umande	(R1) 31 Km Graded	27 Km Gravelled	60 Km grading and 40 Km gravelling	21st February 2022	6th May 2022	Nanyuki
Brigade 4 - Segera	(R1) 33 Km Graded	26 Km Gravelled	40 Km grading and 40 Km gravelling	25th April 2022	8th July 2022	Marmamet
Brigade 1 - Igwamiti	(R1 and R2) 148.32 Km Graded	84.52 Km Gravelled		13th June 2022	9th August 2022	
Brigade 2 - Thingithu	N/A	N/A		27th June 2022	9th August 2022	
Brigade 3 - Nanyuki	N/A	N/A		9th May 2022	9th August 2022	
Brigade 4 - Marmamet	N/A	N/A		10th July 2022	9th August 2022	

Ward	Target Kilo-meters	Start Date	End Date
Sossian (Olmorani-Muige)	30 Km	17th Nov 2021	20th Jan 2022
Sossian (Kandutura)	15 Km	31st Jan 2022	19th Feb 2022
Mukogodo East	25 Km	21st Feb 2022	17th Mar 2022
Salama	5 Km	19th Mar 2022	28th Mar 2022
Rumuruti	10 Km	30th Mar 2022	13th Apr 2022
Githiga	5 Km	16th Apr 2022	22nd Apr 2022
Marmamet	22 km	26th Apr 2022	19th May 2022
Ngobit	5 km	23rd May 2022	27th May 2022
Tigithi	5 km	30th May 2022	6th June 2022
Igwamiti	17 Km	8th June 2022	25th June 2022
Mukogodo West	75 Km	28th June 2022	9th Aug 2022
N.B			
(R1) - Round 1			
(R2) - Round 2			
Brigade 3 that enters Umande ward on the 21st February is proposed to work in three wards concurrently; ie. Umande - Nanyuki - Thingithu since all the three wards share a borrow pit			

# More Lights for Increased Trading Hours in Laikipia



## Julius Murage

Lighting has become a critical essential for people to carry out their activities for some extended hours because of the economic pressure. The County Government of Laikipia has for the past five years installed thousands of street lights along the roads, especially in all urban centres in the county to facilitate more trading hours.

The structural design and installation technique of the lights has been done suitably to benefit as many people as possible. Each light has 125 watts, protruding 1 metre facing the road and a distance of 30 metres between the light posts. In places that are

highly populated like the market places and bus stages, a higher post stand with 4 dimensional lights is installed at a centred position to give light all round the area. Solar enabled street lights launched on July, 2020 are economizing the usage of electricity power by serving the times when power is lost and places that have scarcity of power.

The security and economic development provide reasons of the government installing the lights and these are bearing fruits as the residents show their appreciation of the immense impact of the lighting projects in their daily lives.

Traders can now work past 7pm

without insecurity issues as used to be the case in the past. Cases of livestock and material theft have significantly gone down.

“Nowadays I run my business until 8.30 and I go home without any worry of being robbed my belongings,” said Reuben Mwangi, a businessman man at Nanyuki market.

The transport business industry is also enjoying these advantages as they are economically promoted through people moving at early hours in the morning and late at night to complete their businesses. They can move people to their desired locations in the centres of laikipia with ease with no cases of being attacked.

“My boda boda business from 7pm into the night is really good. I take customers where they want with the guarantee of safety,” said Alex Mwema, a boda boda rider in Rumuruti.

The Department of Infrastructure, Physical planning, Land and Urban Development has constantly been working to ensure the street lights are added, while maintaining the already installed ones. Though there have been numerous cases of theft of these lights, measures are underway to curb the menace.

## Quitting Office Work to Pursue Making Brand-New Leather Shoes



*Mr. Samuel Nkuru in his workshop in Nanyuki town. He has been interested in making leather products since his high school days*

### By Jackline Mariga

Samuel Nkuru is a Laikipian who uses his skill to make all types of shoes from leather to brand new ones. This is something he started back in 1986.

His motivation came from men from his home area who were making shoes and repairing them, an exercise he greatly admired. His strong passion with leather saw him drop out of Ikuu Boys High School.

However, his parents believe that without education someone will not make it in life, something that Nkuru learnt the hard way when the parents failed to support him for his decision.

"I would skip classes and join the polytechnic during lesson time just to gain skills on how to make shoes," said Nkuru.

The entrepreneur narrates how he

once got a job at Jikaze Millers where he earned good money for 10 years but his passion was in making shoes, thus ended up following his interest and quit the job.

Nkuru makes shoes from leather skin and any other materials. Despite being Laikipia produces the large amount of leather, the cost of buying it is very high since it is not processed in the county. One square metre of leather goes for about Ksh. 120. The production cost of one shoe depends with its time and also its size. Mr. Nkuru sells his shoes both at retail price and wholesale. He receives order from Nairobi and Mombasa mostly by wholesalers. His product is named 'Ikulu shoes a product made in Laikipia'.

"In a day I can produce a minimum of 10 pairs of shoes while working alone, I have taught

more than 10 people and released them to go and start their own business.

"I have two people who I have employed, one for working on repairs and the other one who helps me in making the new shoes. Sometimes the order is big that we have to work till late, he commented.

Mr. Nkuru advises parents allow their kids to follow their passion sating that technical jobs also pay just like any other jobs. He left a white-collar job as we call them for his passion.

The entrepreneur laments that the market is saturated by imported products making it hard for local products to endeavor. Buying the quality local products will help the county become fully industrialized.

# Enhancing Quality Education Through County Revolving Fund

By Muriithi John

Several homesteads in Laikipia County have seen their children go through the education system without much interruptions courtesy of the County Revolving fund. This is a fund availed to saccos and other groups at just 6 per cent and they in turn provide the same to their members.

Most of the saccos which have benefitted from this fund are formed by low-income earners in the society. They enjoy economies of scale by coming together for a common cause- to help their members grow together.

Nanyuki Moi Equator (NaMoe) is a group of the non-teaching staff from Nanyuki and Moi Equator brags of having all their children go to good schools and make great achievement in life. Some of the children who have benefitted through this group are now living large, in Kenya and abroad.

"I have paid all the school fees for more than three children through the society, bought a plot and developed it through the same. Generally, I have benefitted from all the different types of loans from this," said Mary Wanjiru, highlighting other loans available like medical and okoa loans.

Another beneficiary, Henry Machira has managed to educate his two children through high school and university courtesy of

*"There exists a lot of different funds, from the government and otherwise, but only the ones with established registered groups reap huge benefit"*

such funds, and even acquire more assets.

"I can confidently say Namoe has educated my children, has bought me a vehicle, bought me land, and built me rental houses. My son is currently in the US for further studies," said Machira

Currently their membership is not limited to the schools in Nanyuki and Moi Equator, but from any members from other schools, now accommodates 24 schools. Out of the 308 members, five have graduated to become teachers.

The loans given are in form of cheques deposited to the relevant school account as a guarantee that the money is used for educational purposes. However, those intending to use the money in other means also can get their money as well.

In the Cottage Sacco Society Limited, formed by non-medics from the Cottage Hospital in Nanyuki,

the members contribute Ksh. 1,000 monthly and give out school fees and other emergencies payable in one year. The loan interest is at 1 per cent per month. The membership now stands at 84.

Benson Mugwe, the Sacco chairman, describes the revolving fund as the most reliable source of fund that helped them especially when COVID-19 was high in 2020.

"The money (from Revolving Fund) created confidence on the availability of money even when members are retrenched from their working stations," Mugwe said, adding that they have received Ksh. 700,000 twice from the fund.

These cases provides the assurance and confidence on the need to form groups and societies. There exists a lot of different funds, from the government and otherwise, but only the ones with established registered groups reap huge benefit.

However, the County Government of Laikipia has partnered with other local banks to help the businesses in Laikipia to take loans. For each loan the devolved unit is paying five per cent for the loanee. The aim is to cushion the businesses against the harsh effects of COVID-19 that negatively affected the economy.

# Excitement as Public Gets Rare Tour Inside LHS Nanyuki

By David Serem

Excitement literally filled the air when members of the public saw first-hand some of the capacities inside LHS Nanyuki last week, as the high powered, three-week countywide public engagement trail came to a close.

During the exercise held last Tuesday, LHS Nanyuki staff members took residents round the various service points to get a glimpse at the facilities inside the hospital, in a rare gesture that is now shaping public relations with government institutions in Laikipia.

For the public, it was an awe-inspiring experience, given that most of the goings on are out of public limelight, with only a fraction of the public having just limited understanding of what goes on behind the scenes. For the majority, anything beyond the hospital gate remains a mystery, with this reality shaping some of the most uninformed discourses about our health institutions.

The tour was a chance for a curious public to ask questions on what goes on inside some of the facilities, with a significant number on or them being pleasantly surprised at some of the capacities inside the hospital. It was a discovery and learning experience at the same time.

This development marks a critical milestone in the sustained public inclusion in all aspects of social economic undertakings in Laikipia, where the public is now more than ever feeling the sense of inclusion in the journey of socioeco-



*LHS Nanyuki's Renal Unit team leader Mugo Mambo takes area residents through the corridors of hospital as he explains the various activities undertaken in the facility*

nomical transformation.

LHS Nanyuki CEO Dr. Timothy Panga, who led a group of exceptionally curious and inquisitive members of the public, took time to explain the activities inside the drugs store, the oxygen plant, and the new hemophilia clinic that is making steady progress in treatment of the blood disorder condition. Interestingly, the team asked endless questions, promoting the CEO to go into some scientific depths on matters hemophilia, oxygen generation and other areas.

LHS Nanyuki's Renal Unit team leader Mugo Mambo took the opportunity to give the basics of dialysis, and the significance of health insurance in footing the high cost of the service.

Perhaps the hallmark of the event was a tour inside the new Mater-

nity Complex. Joy was all over the place when residents streamed inside the corridors of the big complex, as ladies could not stop admiring the decency to motherhood the new facility has brought. As they waved to mothers nursing their young ones in the various wards, ladies could be heard sharing light conversations about their wish to deliver inside the new facility.

Sustained public inclusivity in development matters has been a key feature in the county government's operations over the recent past. The result of this is remarkable result in civil understanding of government processes, where public can demand for accountability in an informed manner.

## Lorien Integrated Agroforestry Project Brings Back Protected Farming in the Area

**By Mollin Wanjiru**

Lorien Area residents in Rumuruti Ward, Laikipia West Sub-County can now practice farming without the fear of crop destruction by wild animals.

This is after the department of Agriculture in partnership with The Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture project (KSCAP) came up with the Lorien Integrated Agroforestry project, now already complete to help increase productivity and eradicate poverty.

The project beneficiaries are drawn from the four villages covering a total of 250 households. The estimated number of beneficiaries being over 5000 people.

The project involved construction of a 12 km-long Solar Powered Electric Fence protecting the farmers and crops from wildlife, especially elephants. There was also an

installation of 110 Kenya Langstroth beehives-110 Langstroth along the solar electric fence, establishment of 300 acres of 17,200 Mango and avocado fruit trees on individuals' farms, and delivering of 7.2 tonnes of beans (KAT X56 variety) planted on individual farms.

The residents have been successfully practicing agriculture as the area is now secure from the frequent elephant's attacks which caused a lot of crop destruction. Modern climate smart Agriculture practices are being applied by the

farmers as part of the skills they obtained from the trainings.

The farmers also gained greatly from the beans planted as they were highly productive in the area. The farmers have also been taught on various conservation practices on their farms that can greatly improve the environment around the area. The community has been trained and some measures put in place to ensure that the residents acquire the maximum benefits of the project.



*The Electric fence at Lorien Integrated Agroforestry that is preventing wild animals from invading the shambas in the area*

## Resignation Of County Officers to Join Politics

Six county government of Laikipia officers have resigned from their respective posts to join politics as required by the Kenyan Constitution for any public servant to resign six months prior to the date of the General Election.

However, this does not apply to the President, the Deputy President, a Member of Parliament, a county governor and a deputy county governor.

The County Executive Committee

under the chairmanship of H.E. Governor Ndiritu Muriithi wishes the officers success in their endeavors to serve Kenyans at another capacity.

Those who resigned to conform to this directive include:

- 1) Mr Joseph Shuel, County Executive Committee Member (CECM), Roads, Public Works, Lands and Energy
- 2) Mr James Mwangi, Chief

Officer, Education, Sports, Youth and Social Services

- 3) Mr Jesse Mugo, Chief Executive Officer, Laikipia County Development Authority (LCDA)
- 4) Mr Peter Mumbiko, Personal Assistant to Deputy Governor
- 5) Mr Wollace Kariuki, Chief Operating Officer (seconded) Sagak Tech Automobiles
- 6) Mr Moses Merinyo Punyua, Cooperative officer, Laikipia North sub county.