Tree Growing and Forest Conservation Awards Launched

Western Tree Planting Season Launched

21st Pass out Parade takes place
From The Editor

This year has been one of several firsts for Kenya Forest Service (KFS). There was the inaugural forest conservation awards scheme that was launched by the First Lady of the Republic of Kenya Her Excellency Margaret Kenyatta. The aptly titled “Tree Growing and Forest Conservation Awards” will now be an annual fete where tree growing champions will be recognized. This year’s overall winners award went to Timothy Lidjodi of Kakamega County.

Another first was the establishment of the KFS marching band. The Service going forward will utilize its own band for ceremonies such as pass out parades. The Service through the Board decided to institute this band by recruiting interested forest rangers and training them for several months. This resulted in the newest band in the disciplined forces. The band will be instrumental in many KFS events and will also be available for other organizations on request.

Other news to expect in the 22nd issue of the Forester Magazine is the launch of the Western Rainfall Regime National Tree Planting Season. This important national event took place in April at Koibatek Forest Station in Baringo County and was graced by the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Natural Resources Prof. Judi Wakhungu.

New officers in the name of Forest Management Trainees and Forester Trainees also joined the Service. The officers who are undergoing job training for one year will join fellow technical officers in forest management to enhance forest conservation in the country.

The Service has also continued to shine in the regional Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK) shows held in various parts of the country. KFS uses the ASK shows to educate and inform the many Kenyans who participate the importance of forest conservation as well as best practices in tree growing.

These are just a few of what to expect in this issue of the Forester Magazine.

Charles Ngunjiri

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Word from the Chief Conservator of Forests

Her Excellency the First Lady of the Republic of Kenya Margaret Kenyatta graced the inaugural Tree Growing and Forest Conservation Awards that took place at the KFS headquarters. The colorful event saw tree growing champions in several sectors including individuals, institutions in both the public and private sectors recognized. The event will now be an annual one where tree growing champions, heros and heroins will continue to be recognized. This year’s overall winner’s award went to Timothy Lidjodi of Kakamega County.

The Service has now an operational marching band. This is the first ever band for the Service and it will be very instrumental as it will be performing in major functions including national celebrations, trade fairs among others. I thank the KFS Board that so it necessary to institute this band. Apart from performing in KFS functions the band will also be available to perform in other events and celebrations.

Elsewhere the Western Rainfall Regime National Tree Planting Season was launched by Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Prof. Judi Wakhungu. This important national event took place in Koibatek Forest Station in Baringo County.

The Service has recruited new officers in the name of Forest Management Trainees and Forester Trainees. The officers who are undergoing job training for one year will join fellow technical officers in forest management to enhance forest conservation in the country.

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Emilio Mugo

Letter to The Editor

Dear Editor,
Kenyans have now realized that natural resources are important and therefore need to be utilized sustainably. I take this opportunity to thank KFS for being very instrumental in passing this message out there to every Kenyan. I have also planted a lot of trees in my 2 acres farm. I have benefited from the trees and will continue to benefit from them. Mine is to urge KFS to continue with the good work of greening this country for a better future to come.

John Wandai Githaiga
Menegai, Nakuru County

REPLY
Thank you for your letter and continued interest in forest conservation. Maintain that spirit as you even urge others to engage in tree growing.

Editor.

Be The Lucky Winner!

KFS will be awarding one lucky winner of the “star letter”. Write to use with your comments and queries for a chance to win the below branded merchandise.

DISCLAIMER
Views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of Kenya Forest Service Board & Management
Excellence and passion for forestry was awarded during the inaugural ceremony for the Tree Growing and Forest Conservation Awards officiated by Her Excellency Margaret Kenyatta, the First Lady of the Republic of Kenya as the best of Kenya award winners across the country gathered at the Kenya Forest Service Headquarters in Nairobi to receive their awards.

During the ceremony, fifty four awardees were recognized with trophies and certificates for their passion and efforts in tree growing and conservation. They included different categories namely individuals, schools, community groups, private organizations, state agencies, county governments and unsung heroes in the forestry sector. The theme for the award ceremony was “Celebrating Kenyan Heroes in Tree Growing and Forest Conservation”.

Speaking at the ceremony, the First Lady held that the survival of human beings is highly dependent on the sustainability efforts of the entire ecosystem. She however pointed out that human actions, short term and sometimes selfish motivations have negatively impacted, threatened or endangered our fragile forest cover. “This ceremony will remind us that we are all dependant on the environment and that the role our ancestors have played in the past, the role we play today, and the role our children will play in the future is extremely vital to our human survival”, she said. The First Lady congratulated the awardees for their efforts in protecting forests and their optimism for appreciating the true potential of forests and reconciling their economic efforts with sustainability values.

Speaking at the same event, the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Prof. Judi Wakhungu reminded Kenyans of their constitutional obligation to take care of the environment. “The preamble of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 mandates Kenyans to be respectful of the environment, which is our heritage, and is determined to sustain it for the benefit of the future generations”. She further reiterated the state as the duty bearer towards achieving the 10% tree cover. “Chapter five section 69 requires the state to work to achieve and maintain a tree cover of 10% of the land area of Kenya. In this regard Kenya has committed to restore 5.1 million hectares of degraded forest lands as part of her contribution to the nationally determined contribution to the Bonn challenge under the Paris agreement last year. In this respect every citizen has a duty to cooperate with state organs and other persons to protect and conserve the environment and ensure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources.” Prof. Judi wakhungu also appreciated the awardees for their efforts in protecting our forests. “Today’s event of awarding Tree growers and Forest Conservation heroes drawn from the 47 Counties across the country clearly demonstrates an appreciation of the great role individual tree growers, pastoralists, forest adjacent communities, community organizations, faith based organizations, schools,
civil society organizations, the private sector and state agencies play in enhancing County’s forest cover” in thanking the donor community namely World Bank, European Union, Finnish Embassy, American Embassy, Israeli Embassy, Japanese embassy, Korean Embassy among other development partners the cabinet secretary expressed optimism towards increased funding for forestry sector development in Kenya.

In her remarks, the Principal Secretary for State Department of Natural Resources Dr. Margaret Mwakima praised the award scheme and congratulated the awardees for their achievements. Being the first edition of the awards ceremony which is intended to be an annual event, the Principal Secretary hoped that future of this scheme will encourage Kenyans towards tree planting and conservation and eventually increasing the forest cover. “This first edition of the tree growing and forest conservation awards ceremony 2017 sets a pace for future events that will showcase achievements of citizens and stakeholders in forest conservation as the country strives towards the attainment of the 10% tree cover”. Her sentiments were echoed by the Kenya Forest Board Chairman Peter Kinyua who reaffirmed KFS commitment in working with partners in protecting Kenya’s forests. “Once again on behalf of Kenya Forest Service I wish to reaffirm my support and commitment to fostering further partnerships with county governments, private sector, civil society organization, community organizations and other relevant stakeholders that will create meaningful change in the forestry sector in Kenya”.

Hosting the event, the Chief Conservator of Forests Emilio Mugo thanked the First Lady for honoring the invitation to officiate the awards ceremony an idea that was mooted by her Excellency the First Lady almost three years ago. He expressed optimism that the award ceremony will be bigger in the coming years through partnership with the private sector, development partners, the business community and conservationists.

A call for application was made and a total of 500 applications were received from the Eco-System Conservators. Awardees were selected from all the 47 counties countrywide by a panel of independent judges drawn from various institutions affiliated to the Environment and Natural Resources Sector namely NETFUND, KEFRI, Forestry Society of Kenya, Kenya Wildlife Society Ministry of Agriculture, and Kenyatta University. The idea of utilizing independent judges was to make the award process credible and transparent. The main objective of the award is to recognize individuals, organizations and partners who are actively taking part in tree growing and forest conservation across the country. The First Lady awarded the winners in all the categories and unsung heroes, while the Cabinet Secretary and the Principal Secretary awarded the first runners and the second runners up respectively. The overall award went to Timothy Luvongo Lidjodi from Kakamega County who also scooped the best award in the individual category and the unsung heroes’ category. In the same category, Father Herman Borg and Gaetano Francis Wafula were also awarded.

Present at the event were the United States Embassy Environment, Science, Technology and Health Officer Tatum Albertine, UNEP Kenya Country Programme Coordinator Cyrille-Lazare Siewe, Korean Embassy Deputy Representative to United Nations in charge of Environment Park Ryumin, Japanese International Cooperation Agency, Nobukazu Noniwa from the Embassy of Japan, Chair of the National Assembly Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Hon. Amina Abdulla, CEC in charge of Environment in the Council of Governors Dr. Wilson Chumo, representatives from Kitui, Laikipia and Makueni County governments who scooped the second, first and winner respectively in the county government category.

During the ceremony, the individuals and organizations indicated in the list below were awarded for their efforts in tree growing and forest conservation.

A.H.E the First Lady Margaret Kenyatta in a group photo with Environment Cabinet Secretary Prof. Judi Wakhungu, Principal Secretary State Department of Natural Resources Margaret Mwakima, KFS Board Chairman Peter Kinyua, Chief Conservator Forest Emilio Mugo and the awardees.
# LIST OF AWARDEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Name of Awardees</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>County</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Best Individual in TG&amp;FC</td>
<td>High Rainfall Areas</td>
<td>Timothy Lidjodi, Peter Kamau Muturi, Rose Waithera Makimei, Caroline Nandwa Nyakeri</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>Kakamega, Kirinyaga, Kiambu, Trans-Nzoia</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Medium Rainfall Areas</td>
<td>Phyllis Muthoni Ndoro, Abdalla M. Malima, Henry Mwandia Mutuku</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>Laikipia, Mombasa, Makueni</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Low Rainfall Areas</td>
<td>Mathews Odhiambo Asuna, Peter Ndungu Moses, George Kailutha Laibuni</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>Siaya, Kwale, Isiolo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Best School in TG&amp;FC</td>
<td>High Rainfall Areas</td>
<td>Mukoma Secondary School, Njenga Primary School, Moi Girls Kamusinga</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>Kiambu, Kirinyaga, Bungoma</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Medium Rainfall Areas</td>
<td>Kwosau Primary School, Kyatune Boys High School, Ngangani Primary School, Chelombai Primary School, Gitib Primary School</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>Machakos, Kitui, Machakos, Pokot, Nairobi</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Low Rainfall Areas</td>
<td>Furaha Secondary School, Dembwa Primary School, Kanagoni Primary School</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>Wajir, Taita Taveta, Kilifi</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Best Community Group in TG&amp;FC</td>
<td>High Rainfall Areas</td>
<td>MU-ILE-ISHI CFA, Kiangure Spring Environment Initiative, New Njokiri Muungano CFA</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>Kakamega, Nyeri, Embu</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Medium Rainfall Areas</td>
<td>Musekano CFA, West Karateng Green Network Development Group, Lariak CFA</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>Kitui, Kisumu, Laikipia</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Low Rainfall Areas</td>
<td>Rangala Ujamaa Farmers SHG, Mida Creek Conservation &amp; Awareness Group, Garissa Go Green Group</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>Siaya, Kilifi, Garissa</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Award Category</td>
<td>Organization/Individual</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>1st Runners up</td>
<td>2nd Runners up</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Best Disability Group in TG&amp;FC</td>
<td>Neema Advocate Disability Group Kambi ya Juu Visually Integrated Primary</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>1st Runners up</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Best Corporate in TG&amp;FC</td>
<td>Private Thumaita Tea Factory Weru Tea Factory Plant Trees Technology</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>1st Runners up</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>State Agency KENGEN-Mbeere South Kenya Civil Aviation Authority-Wajir Isiolo GK Prison</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>1st Runners up</td>
<td>2nd Runners up</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Best Large Scale Commercial Tree Farmers</td>
<td>George S.N Macharia Asante Kenya Foundation Africa Wood Grow LTD</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>1st Runners up</td>
<td>2nd Runners up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Best Industry Players in TG&amp;FC</td>
<td>Green Port Enterprise Limited Krystalline Salt Limited Eastern Produce Kenya LTD Clean Air Action Corporation</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>1st Runners up</td>
<td>2nd Runners up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Best County Government in TG&amp;FC</td>
<td>Kitui Laikipia Makueni</td>
<td>Winner</td>
<td>1st Runners up</td>
<td>2nd Runners up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Unsung Heroes</td>
<td>Fr. Hermann Borg Gaetano Francis Wafula Timothy Lidjodi Luvongo</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>OVERALL WINNER</td>
<td>TIMOTHY LIDJODI LUVONGO</td>
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Kenya Forest Service launched the long rains tree planting season at Koibatek Forest Station, Baringo County on 26th April, 2017. The colourful event that brought together the environmental sector players was presided over by the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Natural Secretary Prof. Judi Wakhungu. The theme for this year’s tree planting season is ‘Panda Miti, Punguza Makali ya Ukame’. This theme is meant to make Kenyans reflect on the challenges the country has gone through in the recent months, of a severe drought season that left a trail of destruction.

Speaking during the event the Cabinet Secretary urged Kenyans to heed the call for environmental conservation and intensify tree growing in the country to mitigate against the adverse effects of climate change. Prof. Wakhungu also noted that the choice of the site for holding the tree planting launch was to demonstrate the key role played in development and utilization of the industrial forest resources. "Wood-based industries in Kenya rely heavily on tree plantations for supply of raw materials and the area zoned for plantation forests in Kenya currently stands at 135,000 hectares which is approximately eight percent of the total gazetted forests," she added.

Further during the event the Cabinet Secretary said that supply from sustainably managed tree plantations helps in reducing the demand for wood material and in this way indirectly assists in conserving natural forests. Currently, the total wood consumption in Kenya is estimated to be 3.5 million cubic meters whereas Kenya is only able to produce 1.1 million cubic meters per year. This leaves a huge deficit which places immense pressure on forests. However, this deficit points out to the potential of investing in commercial tree growing.

Prof. Wakhungu informed the gathering that the new Forest Conservation and Management Act 2016 had been operationalised with effect from 31st March, 2017 through a Legal Notice No. 28 of Kenya Gazette replacing the defunct Forest Act 2005. The new Act has been aligned to the Constitution and lays emphasis on inclusive engagement and participation of all stakeholders including county governments."The new Act has provided for devolved forestry functions, whereby County governments shall implement national policies on forest conservation and management in consultation with my office." she said.

Speaking at the same event, the Principal Secretary for the State Department of Natural Resources Dr. Margaret Mwakima said that several incentives had been put in place to encourage tree growing such as registration of private forests to enable owners obtain technical advice and also make them eligible to apply for development funding. She also noted that forest adjacent communities played a great role in forest conservation and management.

The launch of tree growing season during the long rains is marked every year as a demonstration of the country’s commitment to increasing the tree cover as well as to support the growth of the forestry sector so that it can continue to contribute to national economic growth.

Also present was the Chairman, Kenya Forest Service, Mr. Peter Kinyua, Chief Conservator of Forests Mr. Emilio Mugo, senior ministry and KFS Officials, Representatives of Government Agencies, forestry stakeholders and members of the local community.
The Kenya Forestry School of Paramilitary Training in this quarter had two lots in their college, the new KFS band and Forester Trainees. The institution saw a total of 147 trainees pass out with 83 Management Trainees and Foresters and 64 bands men and women.

The trainees program was there for a period of 3 months. The training equipped the officers with requisite knowledge, skills and abilities in different fields including field craft and basic tactics, drills and parade, skills at arms, basic forest management, general law, the kenyan constitution, work ethics and anti corruption, disaster and incident management, radio and communication skills just to mention but a few.

During the training program, several instruction techniques and practices were employed to drive the goal home which included lectures, demonstrations, case studies, field exercises, role playing and simulation exercises. The instructors were enthusiastic and committed to enable the trainees to complete their training, improving their performance in forest management and protection.

At the pass out of the 83 management trainees at the Kenya Forest College graduation square, the colorful event was graced by the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Water and Natural Resources, Prof. Judi Wakhungu and the Principle Secretary for Natural Resources, Dr. Margaret Mwakima. The KFS band which was still in training got the pleasure of conducting this pass out parade before they had even graduated from their own training. Interested Kenya Forest Service Rangers from all over the country had been asked to register themselves and they were recruited and underwent three month training at the Kenya Forest Service School of Paramilitary Training. The training was conducted by National Youth Service officers who have one of the best bands in the country and during the training, the rangers were taught on the use and maintenance of assorted musical instruments.

During the training, the trainees exhibited a very high level of discipline and commitment and worked tirelessly with the trainers to see to it that the course took a record time of three months instead of the nine months normally required for the course. After the three month vigorous and intensive training, the 64 bands men and women graduated at the Kenya Forestry College Graduation Square in Londiani.

Disciplined forces in the country have marching bands that conduct National events and other functions and KFS being one of the forces has joined the league with its own fully functional band. The graduation event was graced by the KFS chairman of the board Peter Kinyua, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Emilio Mugo and the Commandant, Alex Lemarkoko who were hosted by the Kenya Forestry College Principal, Peter Waweru. In his remarks, the CCF applauded the band members for their good presentation and for the tremendous progress he had seen from when he had previously visited the college during the pass out of foresters and management trainees when the band had their first performance. He indicated that there was very much notable progress and he was impressed by their sheer determination and urged other rangers who were not in the band to and were interested to also join them.

In his speech, the board chairman thanked the National Youth Service for their support in training the officers and for also lending the band instruments before the service had secured enough for the band. He was very delighted by the parade and highlighted that he looked forward to seeing the band in national events and urged them to shine bright and be a great image for the service. Due to the good work they had done and the months of training away from their families and friends, the chairman granted the band members a two weeks leave to rest upon which after they would resume back to their training and begin this wonderful journey.

By Royan Ndewga & Sylvester Okal

New KFS Band and Management Trainees Passout

The Management Trainees marching during the pass out ceremony

Insert: Kenya Forest Service Band performing at the 21st passout parade
Kenya has banned the production, use and importation of plastic bags with effect from August 2017. A total of 24 million plastic bags currently used each month are a major cause of environmental damage and health problems. Plastic bags are also a major contributor to the 8 million tonnes of plastic dumped in the sea every year.

Plastic bags are commonly used as key packaging material in several sectors of the economy namely manufacturing, trade, transport, agriculture and hospitality. A research conducted by the National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) in conjunction with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), revealed that 100 million plastic bags are used annually in Kenya by supermarkets alone.

Through the gazette notice, The Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Prof. Judi Wakhungu effectively put a stop to the production of plastic bags albeit resistance from industry players. Already some shopping outlets like Nakumatt supermarket have stopped issuing plastic bags to their customers. NEMA is collaborating with the relevant stakeholders such as UN Environment, KIPPRA, County Governments, KRA, KEBS, NECC, KNBS, to ensure that the ban takes effect on the due date.

The inability of plastic bags to decompose and thus affecting soil quality, air pollution when disposed by burning in open air, poisonous gaseous when used as fuel to light charcoal, damage of ecosystem and biodiversity and death of terrestrial animals after consuming plastic material are some of the reason that led to banning of plastic bags in the country.

Pursuant to section 144 of EMCA, any person who contravenes the provision of the gazette notice shall be liable to a fine of not less than two (2) million Kenya Shillings, and not more than four (4) million Kenya Shillings, or imprisonment of a term of not less than one (1) year but not more than two (2) years or to both fine and imprisonment.

Kenya becomes the 11th country in the world to take action in support of the United Nations Environment campaign which has declared war on plastics. In Africa, Rwanda and Morocco have already banned plastic bags and other countries are set to announce measures in the near future.

The World Environment Day is usually celebrated every 5th June of the year. The decision to mark WED was arrived during the 1st World Conference on environment held in 1972 in Stockholm, Sweden. This year’s celebrations were marked on 5th June at Egerton University in Njoro, Nakuru County under the theme “connecting people with nature” and the slogan ‘I am for nature’.

The event was presided over by the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Natural Secretary Prof. Judi Wakhungu. Also present was the Principal Secretary for Environment Charles Sunkuli, Vice Chancellor Egerton University Prof. Rose Mwonya, the Chairman NEMA John Konchella, Director General NEMA Prof. Geoffrey Wahungu, Minister for Environment Nakuru County Richard Kipsang Rop and the county local leaders. Kenya Forest Service participated at the celebrations and exhibition and was represented by Assistant HOC Mau Mr. Abongo, Ecosystem Conservator Nakuru Anthony Kinyanjui, Senior Forester Lawrence Kuria and staff from KFS Nakuru County office.

During the event the speakers emphasized on the recent ban on plastic carrier bags by the Government. While addressing the gathering at the event Prof. Judi Wakhungu said that efforts to protect our environment have scored some successes with the formulation of a number of policies and strategies with one policy direction in the recent gazette notice to ban the use of plastic carrier bags in the country. This she said was a deliberate effort to rid the country of the menace of plastic wastes that have continued to chock the drainage systems, kill livestock, degrade infrastructure amongst other negative impacts. “I call upon all people of goodwill to support this great initiative so that we all live in a clean, safe and healthy environment.” She said.

Regarding climate change and its global challenge Prof. Wakhungu said that her ministry on the same day was launching the first ever training programme on climate change policy, planning and budget at both National and country level. The programme she said was being implemented in collaboration with the Kenya School of Government and the council of Governors and premised on the notion of mainstreaming climate change into national and county decision making processes.
The Vice Chancellor Egerton University Prof Rose Mwonya thanked the organizers for choosing Egerton to host the event saying that World Environment Day resonates well with the University’s mission and core values and the University’s passion for environment. She also encouraged all partners to seek a common font to find a solution to the environment problems facing the country.

By Michael Muratha

A new fundraising record was set during this year’s Rhino Charge motorsport competition held in Marsabit County. The total amount raised reached an incredible Ksh153, 499, 914 crossing the Ksh 100 million mark for the fourth time in the 29 year history of Rhino Charge. This beat last year’s figure of Ksh 139 million. The successful event was won by Gray Cullen (The Smiling Shenzies) in Car 22 being the only team which managed to visit all the 13 guard posts against all odds as required by the event rules.

The highest fundraiser was Peter Kinyua (Car 23) who raised Ksh 15,553,31, who is also the KFS Board Chairman. This is the highest amount ever raised by an individual competitor in a year since the Rhino Charge was established in 1989. He broke last year’s record of Ksh 14.5 million by Stanley Kinyanjui of Car 62 (Magnate Chargers). In second and third positions were Peter Bonde Nielsen (Car 64) with Ksh 8,839,850 and Alan McKittrick (Car 5) with Ksh 6,924,370, respectively.

The event was culminated with a colourful prize giving ceremony attended by the various dignitaries including, KFS Board Chairman Peter Kinyua, Chief Conservator of Forests Emilio Mugo Rhino Ark Chairman Isaac Awuondo, Rhino Ark Executive Director Christian Lambrechts among others.

Speaking during the prize giving ceremony Chief Conservator of Forests Emilio Mugo thanked all the participants for embracing the rough terrains in the name of conserving Kenya’s forests. He also noted that the motorsport event had greatly contributed to increasing the country’s tree cover which currently stands at 7.4%.

Speaking at the same event Christian Lambrechts, Executive Director of Rhino Ark noted that for the past three years, Rhino Ark conservation portfolio had expanded significantly around four key thematic areas including, protection of Kenya mountain forests and their diverse wildlife, support to the livelihoods of forest-adjacent communities and their engagement in conservation and securing the connectivity (wildlife corridor) with, and between mountain forests.
Kenya Forest Service has embarked on rehabilitation of existing housing units as well as construction of new houses at Forest Stations countrywide. The KFS Board in 2015 directed that an inventory of all the Forest Station housing needs be done and, construction and rehabilitation plans for the same be generated to enable improvement of housing at the stations for Station staff including Foresters and Forest Rangers.

Through the support of Green Zones Support Development Programme, that was funded by the Africa Development Bank and the Kenya Government, the Service developed the first modern Ranger’s camp model, and constructed one camp in Logoman Forest Station in Nakuru County. The units proved popular and useful for the Rangers and in 2015 the Chief Conservator of Forests approved construction rollout of the model camps.

The designs were improved and construction commenced based on need basis. At Karura Forest Station a block of flats was opted for owing to it being an urban setting. Two other block of flats are being constructed in Lower Imenti and Menengai Forest Stations. The AFD (French Development bank) is also funding the construction of a camp in Marsabit Forest Station. It is expected that future constructions will be modeled along these units.

In order to improve efficiency and accountability, all renovations of Forest Station houses will be in line with the KFS infrastructure strategic plan. The renovations will be conducted at the field level and be managed by the respective field officers. Field officers will be encouraged to reduce the cost of renovation by utilizing locally available resources.

To scale down construction costs, the Service will undertake improved building designs localized for specific forest stations. The Chief Conservator of Forests has prioritized housing for KFS Staff at the Forest Stations as a key motivational factor for improved work outputs. The plan will see at least 200 units renovated annually.

The kitty has also enabled the construction of 155 kilometres of a 450 kilometre electric fence around Mt Kenya.

“We are focusing on securing the wildlife corridor between Eburu and Lake Naivasha,” said executive director of Rhino Ark, Christian Lambrechts.

By Lydia Ogada

Kenya Forest Service now focuses on improved housing at Forest Stations
A Quarterly Magazine of Kenya Forest Service

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Chief Conservator of Forest Emilio Mugo (left) receives the Gold Certificate from East African Wildlife Society Executive Director Julius Kamau. Looking on is Senior Deputy Chief Conservator, Field Operations Esau Omollo (2nd left) and Senior Manager Finance and Administration Patrick Nyagah (2nd right).

H.E the President Hon. Uhuru Kenyatta receives a briefing from Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Prof. Judi Wakhungu before planting a tree at State House Nairobi during the 2017 Madaraka Day Celebrations. Looking on is H.E the First Lady Margaret Kenyatta (left), KFS Board Chairman Peter Kinyua (2nd right) and Chief Conservator of Forests Emilio Mugo (in uniform).

Israel Ambassador to Kenya His Excellency Yahel Vilan plants a tree with pupils from Hospital Hill school during the Kenya-Israel Tree planting exercise in Uplands Forest Station.

A team from the Mau Conservancy led by the Head of Conservancy Cosmas Ikugu (sitted 2nd right) in a group photo displaying the two awards that they received during the 2017 South Rift ASK Show.
KFS Board members in a group photo with KFS senior officials, officers from Eastern Conservancy during their tour of the Eastern Conservancy.

Environment Cabinet Secretary Prof. Judi Wakhungu with KFS Chief Conservator of Forests Emilio Mugo in Kieni, a section of the Aberdare Forest in a bamboo investment assessment exercise. They were also joined by other KFS and Ministry of Environment officials during the exercise.

Principal Secretary State Department of Environment waters a tree that he planted during the 2017 World Environment Day Celebrations in Njoro. Looking on is Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Prof. Judi Wakhungu (left), Ecosystem Conservator Nakuru Antony Kinyanjui (in uniform) among other government officials.

Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Prof. Judi Wakhungu (centre) in a group photo with Principal Secretary State Department of Natural Resources Dr. Margaret Mwakima KFS Board Chairman Peter Kinyua, KFS Board Members, Chief Conservator of Forests Emilio Mugo among other Senior KFS and Ministry officials and the graduate trainees during the 21st pass out parade in Londiani.
Participatory Forest Management (PFM) was realized with the enactment of the Forest Act 2005. Kenya embraced Participatory Forest Management as an approach towards achieving sustainable forest management. Part four, Section 46 to 49 of the Forest Act 2005 provides for Community participation in forest conservation and management around the country. It further stipulates the functions of Community Forest Associations, assignment of forest user rights, and the procedure of termination or variation of a management agreement. More importantly the Forest Conservation and Management Act of 2016 has also provided for community participation in forest conservation and management.

To date, Participatory Forest Management has further enabled devolution of forestry functions, enhancing implementation of national forest policies and strategies, deepening of community participation in forest management by the strengthening of Community Forest Associations among others. To this end the Service has remained committed to continue working with communities countrywide. This commitment has seen KFS engage more communities through management agreements. The latest agreements to be signed include; Marania, Chuka and Kilifi County.

Speaking while presiding over one of the launches in Marania Meru Governor Peter Munya noted that the County had adopted a tree growing culture. He urged members of Marania Community Association to work together to conserve the Marania forest resources for a cleaner and conducive environment even for generations to come.

Speaking in a separate ceremony in Chuka, Chief Conservator of Forests Emilio Mugo reiterated the need for communities to embrace tree growing, forest conservation and management. He noted that the international community had developed much interest in Community Forest Associations and thus encouraged the CFAs to keep up the good spirit of conserving forests around them. In his closing remarks he reassured the community of KFS’s commitment to working with them.

More importantly, in 2015 the Service formulated guidelines for Participatory Forest Management. The guidelines are addressed to all stakeholders working in the forest sector within the country, be they government officers, nongovernmental organizations, religious groups, community based organizations or private sector investors. They have been produced as a set of guiding principles to assist all the stakeholders to sustainably manage and conserve forests. In the course of implementing the guidelines, different methods of information dissemination are being employed such as passive and active strategies to ensure the effective dissemination of data and information to meet the needs of all partners and stakeholders. Participatory Forest Management is now a reality in Kenya and is expected to contribute to improved livelihoods and economy of the country.
The existence of shows and Trade Fair can be traced back to 1901 when the agricultural and horticultural society was formed with its headquarters in Nairobi. To date National and Regional shows have become very important shop windows for prospective buyers’ local and International. With this year’s running theme ‘Promoting Innovation and Technology in Agriculture and Trade’, exhibitors from various regions flocked Nakuru, Kakamega and Machakos Show grounds to showcase a rich selection of exhibits representing all sectors of the economy.

The Service was also well represented with tremendous performance being witnessed in the various trade fairs. The great performance can be attributed to numerous things including early preparations, team work amongst KFS officers among others. KFS participation in these shows normally entails exhibiting on various forestry issues including tree growing, forest conservation and management, tree nursery establishment among others. These zeal and passion to execute the KFS mandate saw the Service top a number of categories in the various trade fairs.

Key among this include the Kakamega Show where the Service scoped the first position in the category of the most striking stand displaying locally manufactured products; Nakuru Show where the Service scoped first position in the category of the best agricultural stand; Machakos Trade fair where the Service topped in the category of the Best Energy Service and Conservation sector stand. This being just but a fraction of the great work that KFS has continued to display in shows across the country.

Speaking during the Nakuru Trade Fair Head of Conservancy Mau Cosmas Ikugu commended the South Rift officers for a job well done. He further urged the officers to maintain the same spirit even in years to come. Speaking in a separate event Machakos Ecosystem Conservator James Chomba thanked the Chief Conservator of Forests for availing maximum support both monetary and physical during the show. He promised to work harder in the next trade fair so as to clinch more awards.

Elsewhere in Kakamega, KFS officers were quite enthusiastic with the outcome and promised to keep up the spirit of hard work and passion in the coming years. The Service will also participate in other upcoming shows including the Kisumu Regional Show, Mombasa International Trade Fair, Nairobi International Trade Fair and Nyeri Show.

Machakos Governor Alfred Mutua presents the trophy for the Best Energy Service and Conservation sector stand to Ecosystem Conservator Machakos James Chomba (in uniform)

KFS Triumphs in Trade Fairs Across the Country.

By Michael Muratha

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The Ministry Of Environment And Natural Resources and the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) are spearheading a tree planting programme that will see tree planting activities in several parts of the country to take advantage of the sporadic rains. The first of the tree planting activities took place at Mwakishimba Primary School in Taita Taveta County. This initiative was launched by the Principal Secretary for Natural Resources Dr. Margaret Mwakima who was accompanied by The Senior Deputy Chief Conservator of Forests in charge of Field Operations, Mr. Esau Omollo. Also in attendance were representatives for the Principal Secretaries from State Departments of Foreign Affairs, Marine & Fisheries and Gender, County Executive Committee member for Environment, Taita Taveta County and some members of the County Assembly. Over four acres of the school’s compound were planted.

In her address, the Principal Secretary stated that the communities living adjacent to the forest are able to contribute to the protection of forests and at the same time able to derive benefits from the forests. She re-iterated that the benefits derived from the forests are for example harvesting of non-wood forest products guided by the approved participatory forest management plans for each of the forests. She also stated that it was important the community to join the local Community Forest Association (CFA) which is the legally recognised community forest conservation partner so that they can participate fully in forest conservation and its accruing benefits.
“The new Forest Conservation and Management Act of 2016 has opened up opportunities for all stakeholders to take part in forest conservation and also guarantees that they get benefits of sustainable forest management,” she said.

She stated that Kenya Forest Service had been mandated the responsibility of managing and ensuring conservation of the public forests adding that this would only be possible through collaboration with county governments and structured partnership with other stakeholders and the private sector.

Meanwhile the Principal Secretary for Natural Resources led a number of stakeholders including three other principal secretaries in a tree planting exercise at Segor Forest, Kaptagat Ecosystem in Eleyo Marakwet County where over 10 hectares were planted. The principal secretaries included Dr. Dinah Mwinzi of Vocational and Technical Training, Dr. Chris Kiptoo of the State Department of Trade and Dr. Fred Segor, State Department of National Water Services among other senior government and county government officers. The Governor of Elgeyo Marakwet County Eng. Alex Tolgos was also in attendance.

Speaking at the ceremony, Dr. Mwakima thanked her colleagues for taking part in the rehabilitation of the forest which is a major water catchment area saying that tree planting and forest conservation was a responsibility of the whole government. “We as the national government must work together to restore our water catchments because they have an impact on all sectors of our country’s development,” she added.

The County Governor, Eng. Tolgos said that the county government will continue to work with KFS to make sure the Kaptagat Ecosystem is intact because of the important role it plays in providing water for all the neighbouring counties.

KFS Participates in the Tropical Africa Congress

By Betty Kendi

The XX1st AETFAT (Association for Taxonomic Study of the Flora of Tropical Africa) Congress was held at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA), Nairobi, auditorium from 15th to 19th May 2017. The congress was organized by Association for The Taxonomic Study of The Flora of Tropical Africa. The main purpose of the congress was to focus on the importance of forest resources, management & conservation of forest resources, biodiversity and carbon assessment among others.

Since 1950, the AETFAT association usually meets after every three years. The participants are its members who are mostly from Europe, China, Africa and America. Its core objective is to help build capacity in plant taxonomy for use and conservation and also provide information on how to monitor and help reduce illegal plant trafficking. Over the years it has contributed to social and economic development, protection of the environment and preparation of flora example, flora of tropical East Africa.

The congress began gracefully having; various sessions by botanists, symposia and tours to plant sites. Also invited were various organizations to carry out exhibitions, including; National Museums of Kenya (Science Expo), Sino Africa Joint Research Centre, Kenya Forest Service (KFS), Base Titanium, Pictueae, Shanga na Kanga, ITHAKA/JSTOR, Nairobi City County Government, Bomas of Kenya, Go Places and Nature Kenya. During the five day exhibition, KFS showcased their products, networked, advertised and provided information (through the use of banners, short presentations and other visual materials) on the importance of conserving forests, tree growing methods, danger of extinction of sandalwood trees due to increased illegal logging among others. They also responded to some queries from the public, for example; how to get legal permits for transporting logs, who to see if they needed to do research on forests, types of trees and their usages etc.

Participating in the congress also helped, KFS, to interact with other participating exhibitors from which they learnt a few things from. The congress was not only about networking and displaying/promoting products, but also incorporated was a full day excursions during the week where the congress attendees together with the exhibitors had to choose a place to go visit from a list of Brackenhurst, Hell’s Gate National Park or Olorgesailie pre-historic site. It was a stupendous day because they got to site see, hike and appreciate nature.

The congress ended successfully having foreseen the following outcomes; support the nation’s economy through marketing of Kenya’s attractions thus attract tourists and improving the tourism sector, it would provide information that is of relevance to the three pillars (economic-which focus on achieving an average economic growth of 10% p.a, social-focus on a clean and safe environment and political- is people/ result oriented e.tc) on which Kenya’s vision 2030 is anchored on the basis of macroeconomic stability, infrastructural development, Science, Technology and Innovation, land Reforms, Human Resources Development, Security and Public Sector Reforms and also contribute to UN’s 2030 sustainable development agenda that urges member states to embrace a set of goals i.e Sustainable Development Goals.
No training is ever an end in itself. The most important impact of any training always remains to be seen when sleeves are rolled and people swing to action through the seasons. At first, as any paramilitary training plods on, a trainee’s soul is home to many plans and fervent prayers for what to pursue or achieve when the training is done. These plans could range from personal development goals to lofty ideas for improving or changing some undesired aspect outside of themselves. But when the moment of truth finally dawns and the curtain falls, often with pomp and ceremony, the original dreams tend to mutate a little or a lot. They may remain the same albeit crying for actualization. They may also shrink to the size of a pay slip with the end thereby signaling a new beginning. In any case, it is worth reflecting about translating the knowledge, skills and attitudes acquired through training into tangible results further afield.

In the fields, the crop is ripe for harvest and the hour too urgent to wait. Thus, succeeding through the training is only the tip of the iceberg. Sometimes, it is tempting to get stuck staring at that past success and letting it become a hindrance to progress. Thus keeping up with the masses will hardly abate the problem which such training aims to ultimately address. With the glamour of a passing out parade safely behind, due care should be taken to avoid drifting into the deceitfully warm water of indifference that gradually heats up to the point of cooking the victim before attempting to jump out like the proverbial frog in the kettle.

The great end of life, said Thomas Henry Huxley, is not knowledge but action. Above all, the purpose of paramilitary training is to prepare individuals or teams and for job performance through the seasons away from the training.
The “military” virtues so painstakingly instilled through training should of necessity pervade every aspect of work. These virtues emanate from an underlying ethos that reflects the vision, mission and mandate of an organization. Ethos is the fundamental character or values of a people, culture or movement. The law enforcers may say it is the spirit that enables them to fight the good fight which the law requires of them. It is the spirit obtainable only through a training that espouses the said ethos whose objective is to provide a means to practice, develop and validate the practical application of a common path to an organization’s mission.

The late Chief of Staff of the United States army General Douglas MacArthur once said that, “In no other profession are the penalties for employing untrained personnel so appalling or so irrevocable as in the military (whose doctrine the paramilitary institutions borrow heavily)” - emphasis added. There is no telling what General Douglas would have observed of a well trained personnel who shows no evidence of the fact. It will be tragic if the high degree of commitment, self-sacrifice and mutual trust which is the hallmark of a typical training setting is discarded down the drain after the trainees are dismissed to the real life duties. That is comparatively worse than employing untrained personnel, considering the heavy cost of training.

Paramilitary training is therefore a means to an end. Actively putting to practice what has been learnt will brighten the workplace with a litany of values many of which can even be caught by others who associate with the trained personnel. The short list of virtues include; professional competence, initiative and responsiveness, self-reliance and personal responsibility, mental robustness and physical toughness, the ability to withstand shock and resilience to the unknown, moral courage and ethical conduct, mutual trust and team work, a positive approach toward difficulty and a will to win especially under adverse circumstances, leadership by example and through personal and moral authority, commitment and loyalty to ones believes, comrades, the group, the service and the Nation. Otherwise, a well drawn curriculum vitae and a set of uniform sloppily worn with an “eye-wash” attitude of a forced labourer never made a uniformed or disciplined officer.

It has been rightly said that no one ever drifted to the mountain top. The importance of intentionally incorporating every acquired skill, knowledge and appropriate attitude in all strategic, operational or tactical facet of work-life cannot be overemphasized. That is one of the simple secrets to making organizational excellence a habit. Seek to consistently practice what you know and join the top 5% to whom success is a constant companion.

Sgt. Samuel Lekishon is an instructor at the School of Paramilitary Training

New REDD+ Program Launched in Chyulu Hills

By Alfred Gichu

Chyulu Hills, the iconic Kenyan landscape will soon be able to benefit from the sale of 2 million carbon credits generated over a period of three years through an innovative forest and wildlife conservation initiative. Located between Amboseli and Tsavo National Parks, Chyulu Hills is an integral part of Kenya’s largest conservation landscape that has been severely impacted by overgrazing, deforestation, forest degradation, wildlife poaching and drought. It is home to traditional pastoralist Maasai, small scale farmers and many of Africa’s most iconic wildlife species including endangered rhinos and elephants. Chyulu Hills’ springs serve as a critical freshwater source for local communities, wildlife and livestock, as well over 1 million people living in Mombasa and surrounding settlements.

The REDD+ program is managed by the Chyulu Hills Conservation Trust, a unique coalition of government, community and non-profit partners including the Kenya Wildlife Service, Kenya Forest Service, Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust, Big Life Foundation, and the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust. Conservation International serves as a technical advisor and will assist the Trust to market the credits to multi-national and local corporations and individuals.

This initiative builds on the success of REDD+, a climate change mitigation process that incentivizes landowners to protect forests and natural resources. The project has completed its first verification in accordance with the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standards (CCBS).

Revenue from the sale of carbon REDD+ credits will be re-invested into community conservation efforts that help to reduce deforestation and protect forests and natural resources. It will also support employment of forest or game rangers, safeguard the Chyulu Hills water catchment and provide communities with improved social services in health and education, employment and business opportunities.
Ontulili is the biggest Forest Station in the Mount Kenya Reserve covering over 33,227ha. Around 25,627ha are indigenous forest and 2500ha bamboo and grasslands. David Njenga has been the Forest Station Manager since November 2014 and has had a cordial working relationship with other partner institutions including; Mount Kenya Trust, Rhino Ark, Kenya Wildlife Service. He has worked with the institutions in tree planting, rehabilitation of degraded sites, protection and fire fighting. Additionally the Forest Station Manager has brought communities on board and worked closely with them and other stakeholders in forest conservation and management in the station. By doing so he has been able to minimize cases of illegal forest activities.

Njenga is also working very closely with the courts to see to it that forest offenders are prosecuted and face the full force of the law. It is this among other achievements that saw Njenga recognized at the 2017 Rhino Charge motor sport event. He was awarded the Ken Kuhle Memorial Trophy for his commitment and outstanding performance in forest conservation and management. The trophy is named after one of the founders of Rhino Ark Charitable Trust, Ken Kuhle who was passionate on environmental matters.

Additionally Njenga was recognized for effectively containing 18 fire incidences through the support of the communities and stakeholders with whom he has maintained a good working relationship. This was a big win as only about 100 Ha of bush and 22Ha of indigenous forest were burnt. In connection with the fire incidences, various arrests were made. Njenga was delighted to receive this award and reassured his commitment to continue conserving the forest and maintaining a cordial working relationship with all the stakeholders.
Kereita Forest Station

By Royan Ndegwa

Kereita Forest Station is a 4,722.15 hectares forest in Central Kenya in Kiambu County. The station has a good number of plant and animal species. The most cited animal species found in the forest are African elephants, black and white colobus monkeys, syke monkeys, bush baby, porcupines, mongooses, leopards and the Abott’s starling bird. The forest harbors 3768 hectares of indigenous trees, 812 of plantations, 20 of bamboos, 40 of grassland and 81 of bushland. Kereita Forest has a full electric fence donated by the Rhino Ark Foundation which helped reduce human-animal conflict within the forest. Kereita forest has a community group known as Kereita Community Forest Association (KICOFA) with a total of 1500 members and which is made up of three community based organizations. The user groups in these CBOs include grazers, fodder collectors, water catchment, ecotourism. There is also a major CBO in the forest known as KENVO which involves itself in various activities like bee keeping, protection rehabilitation, water bottling, plantation establishment through PELIS, bursaries and youth exchange programmes to the extent of sending their youth to outside countries like Canada which they work closely with.

Eco tourism is the most major activity in this forest with establishment of ‘The Forest’ an ecotourism site for recreational purposes with entertainment activities like zip lining, tree planting, camping, archery, motorbike riding, mountain biking, hiking and paint balling just to name but a few. Zip lining is the major activity there attracting 700 guests per week and its the first of its kind in Kenya. This is an outdoor adventure activity where one is propelled by gravity to travel from the top to bottom of an inclined stainless steel cable which is suspended over a forest plantation.

The Forest has attracted quite a number of tourists both locally and internationally to the extent that they are even building eco friendly cottages in the forest so as to accommodate the many guests they are getting where already four of the...
sixty four planned cottages have already been completed. Corporate institutions also take their staff to this place for team building activities and even learning institutions flock there weekly and students get to learn about forestry as they enjoy the various outdoor activities offered annually done.

Members of the adjacent community say there is still more potential for more ecotourism sites and activities and they are calling out for more investors that might be interested. They are really happy with the current project, The Forest, for the eco-lodge has provided jobs for them, food sold at the restaurant is bought from the local farmers around and there is a percentage that the community gets from the profits reaped from the site. Water bottled by the community forest association is the only water sold at the restaurant and already about 30 members of the community have been employed at the eco-lodge and more are expected to be employed as the business.

| Cross Cutting Issues |

Five Strategies of Achieving Your Goals

Your work life is driven by the need to achieve goals. There is more to reaching your objectives than just desire. You need to develop strategies that allow you to envision your goals and to reach them. Develop comprehensive strategies for achieving your goals, and then learn to apply those strategies to any of your professional situations. Here are five key strategies to achieving your goals;

1. Write It Down
Seeing your goals written on paper begins the process of making them concrete objectives. When you write down your professional goals, you should also write down why you want to achieve each goal, what you hope to gain, what you could lose if it fails and a quick outline for achieving each goal. You can then take your general outline and start developing comprehensive plans for each objective.

2. Find a Mentor
A mentor is someone who has accomplished tasks that are similar to, or exactly like, the ones you are trying to accomplish. For example, an older actor may agree to take on a younger actor in a mentoring relationship to help the younger actor further his career. Another example is a former marketing executive mentoring a young sales executive on the responsibilities of management. They are from two different professions, but the mentor knows what is expected of an executive and can help the student to develop his managerial skills.

3. Develop Milestones
The journey to reaching an objective has a beginning and an end. But you can learn more from the experience if you break down your goals into a series of smaller milestones. For example, if your goal is to increase your sales revenue by 20 percent, then you can break it down into increments of 5 percent and monitor your progress. Using milestones gives you smaller goals to achieve that will maintain your motivation, and it also allows you to stop and examine your process to see if it needs refining.

4. Create a Deadline
Your goals should have concrete deadlines that you use to develop your entire approach. For example, if your goal is to open a second location of your retail business, then set the deadline for that goal at one year and develop the plan to meet that time line. Deadlines force you to find innovative ways to reach your goals and add to your sense of accomplishment when you achieve a goal within your predetermined timetable.

5. Learn from Experience
Any future goals you set will benefit from what you learn when achieving past and current goals. When you set out to achieve a goal, take notes on the processes that work and the ones that do not. As you set new goals for yourself, use what you have learned in the past to create more effective strategies.
The Progress of Kenya Forest Service Sports Teams

By Sylvester Okal

The Kenya Forest Service sports teams have in the recent past taken part in different sporting events across the country. With support from the management and under the leadership of their coaches and team captains, the teams are able to prepare and attend sporting events and functions when duty beckons. The Kenya Forest Service volley ball team (Forest Rangers) who ply their trade in the Kenya Volleyball Federation Mens’ League, currently lie in 6th position. This runs from January to the end of the year in December meaning with the current run of form they are able to inch closer to the top. The Forest Rangers have recently taken part in tournneys related to the league roster in different parts of the country most recently being in Ndakaini, Eldoret, Nanyuki and Nakuru Tournaments. The team is expected to travel to their next weekend fixtures which are to take place, again in Nakuru County, to continue with their good run in finishing among the leagues’ fellow heavy weights.

Between the 19th and 22nd day of June, the volley ball team participated in the Annual Ushirika Sports Day event that was held in Nairobi at the railways sports club. The Forest Rangers as they are known played well and were able to get to the semi final stage where they eventually lost out to the GSU team. The karate team in its quest to conquer the sporting arena within Kenya Forest Service, in the month of June took part in a karate tournament where they ended up in second position.

This as a motivation enabled them to forge ahead and took part in a tournament organized at the Mombasa Judo Center where the team was presented the award due to opponents failure to turn up.
Complete the Crossword below

**Horizontal**
1. Photosynthesis takes place in this part of the tree
2. The reason why forests are in danger or destroyed either by natural or human causes
3. The part of the leaf that carries food and water
4. The exchange of oxygen, carbon dioxide, and water between tree and the environment
5. The part of a tree that helps supply its water
6. Another word for a leaf that has teeth
7. The edges of a leaf
8. A type of deciduous tree
9. One of the world's 10 largest forests that has multiple locations
10. A tree that loses its leaves in the fall
11. A tool used to count the number of rings in a tree
12. Another word for the tree ring
13. A type of coniferous tree
14. A thin layer of cells inside the bark of a tree
15. The center of the tree trunk
16. The largest tropical rainforest in the world
17. The part of a tree that carries food and water
18. A tree that has needles
19. A type of change in the environment which can effect trees

**Vertical**
2. Another word for a leaf that has teeth
3. The largest tree in the world also known as king of the forest
4. The exchange of oxygen, carbon dioxide, and water between tree and the environment
5. The part of the leaf that carries food and water
6. A type of deciduous tree
7. The edges of a leaf
8. A type of deciduous tree
9. One of the world's 10 largest forests that has multiple locations
10. A tree that loses its leaves in the fall
11. A tool used to count the number of rings in a tree
12. Another word for the tree ring
13. A type of coniferous tree
14. A thin layer of cells inside the bark of a tree
15. The center of the tree trunk
16. The largest tropical rainforest in the world
From the Archives

COLONIAL FORESTERS IN FRONT OF A NURSERY 001

MAKING PAPER PULP FROM BALED PULP 001
African wild olive
Indigenous

Description
It is a tree up to 15 m, often with crooked bole with characteristic pockets. The bark is dark brown and rough, branches white dotted. Leaves are silvery beneath and dark green above. Flowers are white purple oval about 1cm long containing one hard coated seed.

Ecology and distribution
The species occurs in uplands dry forest and forest margins often associated with Juniperus, also in woodlands on lava flows 950-2400m. The range of the mean annual rainfall is 600-2000mm with mean annual temperature of between 15 to 26c. The species grows best on well drained soils especially sandy loam very common in samburu and mukogodo forest.

Seed collection
The mature purple black fruits are collected from the ground or crown by spreading a net, canvas etc, under the tree and climbing the tree to hand pick the fruits or shaking the branches to release the fruits alternatively, mature fruits can be collected from the ground from natural fall.

End uses
The wood of this species is used for production of timber, fuelwood, carvings, poles, posts and tool handles.

English Name: Wild Olive, Brown Olive
Local Names: Mutamaiyu (Kikuyu) | Muthata (Meru, Embu, Kamba) | Ol-Oirien (Masaaai) | Mkumbi (Taita) | Ethelei (Turkana)