- \* KPDA Signs a Partnership Agreement with the Nairobi City County Government Public Health Department: During the month of January, KPDA signed an MoU with the Public Health Department of the Nairobi City County Government. The purpose of this MOU is to foster partnership, collaboration and cooperation between the parties to support the property development industry to grow rapidly, in an organized, efficient, economical and ethical manner. This will be achieved through focused research and analysis and organizing informative networking forums. The agreement will also serve to:
  - Promote regular engagement between KPDA members and the Nairobi City County Government;
  - Stimulate the property sector by examining various NCCG policies and regulations affecting KPDA members and;
  - Promote research and analysis of data in the property and entire real estate sector in Kenya.
- ❖ IDE Global and KPDA Join Forces to promote the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition Hotelier Summit Africa, 21<sup>st</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016, Johannesburg, South Africa: KPDA has signed up as a supporting partner for the real estate event focused on all hospitality projects in the African continent. We believe that this premier event shall form an impressive and powerful networking opportunity for developers and we encourage all our members to attend the event. All KPDA members in good standing are entitled to a discount. Kindly contact the secretariat for more details.
- \* KPDA Signs a Partnership Agreement with Asoko Insight: Asoko is building Africa's largest repository of privately-held company information and market analytics. Its objective is to increase the visibility of Africa's companies to the global investment community by providing detailed insights generated through in-country sources. KPDA is excited about this alliance that has been formed as it will build on the research and development capacity of the Association in providing more information on the real estate industry's growth.
- Advertise Your Company in The Developer's Digest in 2016 for a Discounted Fee: We would like to invite our members to consider advertising their businesses in the KPDA newsletter, The Developer's Digest. With an audience of over 1, 500 contacts from the whole building and construction industry in Kenya, you are sure to attract interest for your business. Kindly click here to access the current issue of the newsletter:

# March 4th

The Standard | Antony Gitonga | 4th March 2016

## NATIONAL LAND COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE KENGEN LAND DEAL

The National Land Commission (NLC) has now summoned senior Kengen officers over the controversial acquisition of 3,000 acres from Ng'ati farmers' co-operative in Naivasha. The commission said that it has started investigations as to how the power generating company acquired the land and if all the due process was followed. The move comes barely a day after the CS for Internal security Joseph Nkaissery revoked the acquisition of the 3,093 acres located around Narasha area. Read More

The Business daily | The Business Daily Reporter | 4th March 2016

# HOME AFRIKA CONTRACTS EGYPTIAN FIRM TO BUILD SH3BN SPORTS COMPLEX AT MIGAA

Property developer Home Afrika has picked Egyptian company Wadi Degla to build and manage a Sh3 billion sports complex at its 775-acre Migaa gated golf community in Kiambu. Managing director Dan Awendo says the Egyptian company's local subsidiary, Wadi Degla Kenya, has been contracted based on their expertise in building sports complexes. Read More

The Business daily | Brian Wasuna | 4th March 2016

### DEL MONTE SCHOOL LAND CASE ESCALATES ROW WITH MUNGA

Pioneer Girls Thika, a school founded by billionaire businessman Peter Munga, has accused fruit processor Del Monte of curtailing mediation talks over a disputed 75-acre piece of land by filing a suit to lock the education facility out of the property. The school says in court filings that there are ongoing negotiations between his Pioneer Girls Thika school, Del Monte and Goshen Gardens Limited — which previously occupied the land — but that the talks may be ruined by the suit filed by the fruit processor in December last year. Read More

The Business daily | Mugambi Mutegi | 4th March 2016

#### CENTUM GETS KENYA DEALERSHIP FOR THE HIGH-END COURVOISIER COGNAC

Centum has signed a distributorship contract with one of the world's premium alcoholic spirits makers in a deal that will see one of the NSE-listed firm's subsidiaries exclusively market brands like Courvoisier and Jim Beam locally. King Beverage, a subsidiary of the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) traded Centum, will solely distribute the portfolio of Beam Suntory, a \$4 billion (Sh408 billion) spirits maker based in Illinois. Read More

#### March 3rd

The Standard | Mwaghesha Mkala | 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016

Machungwani Farm, which the National Land Commission reverted to the county after the end of its 99-year lease in 2004, will be used to settle over 5,000 squatters who claim it is their ancestral land, and have been living on it for decades. "The settlement programme will be open to ensure that genuine squatters benefit from the land," said Governor John Mruttu. Surveyors are currently establishing boundaries, beacons and setting aside utility plots. Read More

The Standard | Peter Muiruri | 3rd March 2016

# IT'S BETTER TO START EARLY THAN WAIT FOR HOUSE PRICES TO DROP

Over the years, we have seen a constant deficit figure of 150,000 houses annually against a production of 50,000 units. I tend to dispute the second figure. I think the annual output is much higher than this. If you look around, you will see a lot of new housing projects that are adding more stock to the market. We are working on a new methodology that will give proper statistics that will guide both the government and developers. Read More

The Standard | Mwaghesha Mkala | 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016

#### LONG LUNCH BREAKS HURTING SERVICES IN LANDS OFFICES

Kenyans seeking services at Lands offices across the country are still getting frustrated, with the ministry and relevant authorities not making an effort to make matters easier. According to a report released last week by the Land Development and Governance Institute (LDGI) in Nairobi, the ministry has also failed to embrace the changing times by adopting modern technology and administrative procedures to improve service delivery. Read More

The Standard | Peter Muiruri | 3rd March 2016

#### FOUR FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN DESIGNING A GREEN BUILDING

Two weeks ago, we looked at the first five points in the UN-Habitat charter for sustainable building design in tropical countries. Today we look at four more guidelines. 1. Window openings: The size of windows should be designed according to prevailing climatic conditions. Preferably, they should also be placed along the North/South facing walls where they will have minimal exposure to direct heat from the sun while at the same time letting in enough light. The window to wall ratio should not be more than 40 per cent. Read More

The Daily Nation | Lukorito W Jones | 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016

# LOOKING TO SELL YOUR PROPERTY? HERE'S HOW TO UP THE ASKING PRICE

Whether it is the house you have lived in for two decades or the parcel of land that is currently a coffee plantation, the road to selling your property can be long and dreary. At times what you initially thought would sell like hot cakes fails to attract buyers, forcing you to sell your property at below-market value. Read More

The Daily Nation | Dn2 Correspondent | 2nd March 2016

## DRESS UP YOUR WALL CREEPING PLANTS

What do you do when you wake up one day to find graffiti or an aspiring politician's name spray painted on your beautiful perimeter wall? in ugly black letters? You can scrub the wall or wait until the elections are over and repaint it, or you can opt for a less conventional but more permanent way to deal with the problem - creeping plants. Read More

The Daily Nation | Lukorito W Jones | 2nd March 2016

#### CHOOSING THE RIGHT LOCATION FOR A RENTAL

In 2010, Mr Paul Ogembo, a senior civil servant, decided use all his life savings to build executive rental apartments in Gwa-Kairu in Ruiru Town. Topping up the money with a loan running into millions shillings from his bank, Mr Ogembo was sure that the rental income from letting the apartments would serve as the perfect retirement plan. Read More

The Star | Constant Munda | 2nd March 2016

## EYES ON RUAKA: SATELLITE WITH THE MOST COSTLY LAND

RENTAL yield in Ruaka, the satellite town with the most expensive land prices, is estimated at 5.1 per cent per year, a survey by upstart fund manager Cytonn Investments suggests. The survey conducted last August indicates the rental yield, which measures earnings for developers without factoring in price movements (capital gains), averages 4.6 and 5.45 per cent a year for one- and two-bedroom apartments, respectively. Read More