

Rotarians pledge to plant trees

WAKISO

By Lawrence Mulondo

In a bid to conserve the environment, Rotarians will plant over 10 million trees over the next 18 months.

The president of the Rotary Club of Buloba, Samuel Mukasa, said many Ugandans have been cutting trees without replanting, which leaves the country's future in danger.

"We depend on rain for farming. If we plant trees, the rains will increase, people will grow food and millions will be fed," he said.

Mukasa made the remarks during the Rotary club's chatter night, where he was installed as the new club president at Jogize Hotel in Wakiso district last week.

Mukasa, who will be serving as the club president for a year, is replacing Solomon Ssebayingga.

The tree planting idea was set as the main goal for District 2911 by the district governor-elect, Ken Mugisha.

Mukasa said they will plant these trees on highways, in schools and homes and they have already started requesting people for land and sensitising them on the importance of tree planting.

"As Buloba, we are planning to plant 20,000 trees in Wakiso district," he explained.

Trees that Rotarians plan to plant include fruit trees such as mangoes, jackfruits, avocado, guavas and others like pine and eucalyptus trees.

At the event, nine new members were welcomed into the club.



Kawalya (centre) introducing Mukasa, the new president of the Rotary Club of Buloba as Ssebayingga looks on. Photo by Lawrence Mulondo

BETWEEN THE LINES:

■ The president of the Rotary club, Samuel Mukasa, said they are to plant the trees on highways, in schools and homes and they have already started requesting people for land.

They include Sr Teddy Atuhaira, Sr Mary Florence Byakagaba, Robert Mazima, Fred Musisi, Annet Miiro, Moses Mbogo, Alice Nanyombi, Andrew Sentumbwe and Sarah Sabano.

The chief guest and speaker of the Buganda Lukiiko, Rotarian Nelson Kawalya, urged Rotarians to always champion good health on top of their environment agenda, as they immensely donate towards health activities when called.

"We should contribute and see to it that specialists are brought here to treat the sick and teach our doctors how to solve problems," he said.

Kawalya said that way, they would be hitting many birds with one stone, unlike when they carry the sick to foreign countries such as India for treatment.

He also urged Rotarians to participate

in activities that improve welfare in their areas, such as ensuring that each child that is born is immunised and has access to clean water.

Kawalya added that they want to see all children going to school and in good health.

The club chatter president, Solomon Ssebayingga, urged the incoming president to attract more people into the club for its smooth running.

"The club relies on donations from members to serve others. The president has to attract new members and keep those around by creating a friendly and free working environment," he said.

NEWS

Ntoroko yo go back to

● A big percentage of mothers from the district of Ntoroko have returned to school to introduce the Action programme. Save the Children says that most of the children dropped out of school years ago, and that most of the cultural practices, including those related to cattle, are still in place.

Reside bridge

● Residents have started construction on the bridge over the River Kaseje. In 2010, the district budget for Kaseje was set at 100 million shillings.