One thing about failure is that — it’s not for everyone. Yes, as offensive as it may sound, the reality is there are actually people that never find discomfort in failure. No matter how many times they fail, they are just not bothered. Or in actual words, they lack ambition. Then you find those that cannot handle it, and I happen to be one of those. Since my childhood years, failure was never an option, until very recently. The details I’m not going to go into, although it’s something that has proved a challenge to most of us.

We all know Thomas Edison, the inventor renowned for his invention of the electric light bulb. Before he finally got it right, Edison made a thousand (1000) attempts to create the light bulb, and he says that he did not fail, but he instead found a 1000 ways how to not create a light bulb.

Renowned author Chris Bradford says: “There is no failure except in no longer trying.” The moment you want to give up could be your moment to succeed. Imagine that you’re given a challenge. You’re driving on a seemingly never ending road with a destination only known to the challenger. Every time you approach a bend your heart sinks with hope it is the end, only to discover another long stretch ahead. Your patience is running out. After a hundreds of these, you decide to give in and turn back. Back at your starting point, you are informed the destination was a mere ten minutes away from where you gave up. Regrets, remorse, and all sorts of mixed emotions kick in. If only you had persevered, you think to yourself.

Now and then we hear the words: never give up! Even if you have already failed a countless times, don’t give up, keep on trying. Although one shouldn’t provide too much room for failure, always be prepared for it, and when it is inevitable, use it as a building block for success. Like the cliché goes, when life gives you lemons, make juice from it, or better yet, make life take the lemons back!

From experience, failure was a bitter pill to swallow but I’ve learned that it is ok to fail, as long as we learn from it.

Napoleon Hill once said: “Every adversity, every failure, every heartache carries with it the seed of an equal or greater benefit.”

Happy reading dear friends, and until next time, it’s adios!

the Editor

Editor’s Note

Up Close with ‘1st Citizen’

Highlights of the 2015 Lüderitz Crayfish Festival

Mayor encourages Women Empowerment

Ankama laments processing of Lüderitz Quotas in Walvis Bay

The road to Miss Crayfish Festival 2015

Council committed to curbing Stray Dogs

Joke Corner

Creating Compost

Notices

Easy methods of paying your Account

Accounts can be paid during office hours Monday - Friday between 07:30 - 12:30 and 13:30 - 16:30 at the Council offices. You can also pay your municipal accounts via electronic bank transfer and direct bank deposit by using the following bank account:

FNB Cheque account: 553 7000 6965
Lüderitz Branch 280371

Ensure that you quote your municipal account number as a reference, and fax the proof of payment to 063-203 253.

REMEMBER: Pay your municipal account on time, it’s the right thing to do!
In the last edition, Agate introduced the energetic and influential CEO of Lüderitz Town Council, Aunie Gideon. This time round, Agate brings you its ‘gem’, the most respected and powerful individual, who has been at the helm of Council since 2010, Her Worship the Mayor of Lüderitz, Suzan Ndjaleka.

1 Tell us, who is Suzan Ndjaleka?

I was born and raised in Lüderitz, attended my primary education at Nautilus Primary School, before I proceeded to junior education at Martin Luther High in Okombahe but I had to relocate back home where I completed my senior education at Lüderitz High School. I am married, a bookkeeper by profession, currently serving as Centre Manager at the Lüderitz COSDEC. I am an energetic person with a keen interest in sharpening my skills in areas of community development.

2 You have come to be known as the ever serious and formal first citizen, but what makes you smile?

My principle is not to mix work with pleasure in order to be bold when it comes to decision-making and my smile is by nature and humanity, hence I have my moods.

3 What do you do in your spare time?

Keep family time. I like reading and a bit of research, just to broaden my knowledge and understanding in the areas of my occupation.

4 This is the last year of your term, what would you say are your greatest achievements since your Council took over?

As a Council, we have priorities set in different areas to address the housing needs, ensure institutional policies are in place, and to work in line with the strategic plan to function in the best interest of good governance and thereby creating a conducive environment for developers. In ensuring that, surely the puzzle will be overcome.

5 Apart from your Council duties, you have a full-time job, as well as a home to take care of, how do you manage?

It costs to maintain a high standard of ethics and integrity, while keeping a healthy balance of time management and priorities in both work and personal responsibilities. However, community work has been a passion in all aspects.

6 Is it easy to be a Mayor? Elaborate.

Although politics has given me a tough time since 2010, there is absolutely nothing I regret. Instead, I have been strengthened and grown in my faith. But the price is to be bold and fearless; I thank my family and friends for the support.

7 What is the one thing you would like to do BUT cannot because of your mayoral title?

There are times I wish I could have more time for myself and my family. To just be me. But carrying the title of Mayoress, my brain seldom switches off. I keep thinking and constantly concerned about the people that I’m serving, but I am not complaining.

8 If you could serve as Mayor for another term, would you accept? Why?

LOL, at times I had mixed feelings but be it as it may. A Leader is chosen by the people you serve; I will be available for whichever position that I will be entrusted to serve. And if I do not have the credentials I am 100% willing to share my experience with all future leaders that will serve this lovely prospering town. Leadership is all about making space and moving on. I am grateful to the councillors for the grace, peace and teamwork.

9 Where do you see Lüderitz 10 years from now?

Prosperity, I am very much hopeful for the future. I see Industrialisation in terms of rail and port developments: to be the export hub for logistics, Waterfront development, tourists and academics, historical reconstructions, prospects for oil and gas, ship building and repairs and it’s important that we need a skilled community to take ownership of these developments going forward. If all current plans can be implemented and materialise within a reasonable time-frame, Lüderitz will be a fully industrialised town.
Lüderitz hosted the 8th annual crayfish festival over the Easter weekend at the Lüderitz Waterfront Harbour Square under the theme, “We Love The Sea.” As usual the event was filled with mouth-watering seafood, entertainment, a mini-expo and fun-filled activities.

Visitors were treated to some superb cultural and music performances by well-known Namibian artists, while old and young were in awe of the mini-circus troupe’s antics and gymnastics. The event also featured a business women’s dinner where prominent business speakers delivered motivational talks and shared their experience in climbing the success ladder. These included well-known personalities such as Cynthia Martin-Haihambo and Twapewa Kadhimba. The mayor also hosted special mayoral luncheon at the German Hostel for a number of invited guests.

During the official opening of the festival, the Deputy Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Chief Samuel Ankama, commended the rank and file that “worked tirelessly to organise a colourful festival that has become very popular.

“Its standard has improved significantly and the fiesta has shaped itself into the symbol of hope and economic aspiration for residents, participants and visitors, thus portraying visible business results in a short period of time,” stated Ankama.

Ankama thanked all corporate entities and local SMEs who supported the festival, particularly the Ministry of Trade and Industry, which remains a key role player in SME development and the promotion of trade.

“The spectrum of companies exhibiting here represents a wide range of industries. In the same vein, other companies are also welcome to join this amazing and precious festival,” said Ankama.

The festival was founded in 2008 by a joint team consisting of the Lüderitz Town Council and the local business community, with the aim to attract more tourists to Lüderitz, promote local economic development and provide a platform for SMEs and industries to showcase their products and services.

The Mayor of Lüderitz and chairperson of
the Board of Trustees for the Crayfish Festival, Suzan Ndjaleka, welcomed and thanked all those who attended the event in “getting a whole sea experience”.

“Your presence at our festival just affirms that we are not competitors but partners, with the fundamental motivation of promoting the consumption of fish amongst the Namibian nation,” Ndjaleka stated. She explained that Lüderitz is blossoming with great investment opportunities, and the festival is part of the annual strategies to display to the world the investment advantages the town has.

“The council is hard at work and in cooperation with other government institutions and parastatals, as well as private partners, to upgrade the town in terms of infrastructural development,” she said. “Consultations with partners like the Waterfront Development Company look promising, with the second phase of the development well on course,” she noted.

Ndjaleka was also pleased to inform the gathering that the railway project is nearing completion, which will give the town a facelift as far as logistics is concerned. She urged the newly restructured ministry of Industrialization, Trade and SME Development to vigorously tackle the planned development of the second deep water port, to complement the existing port and enhance the transport industry.

Ndjaleka invited local residents to invest in property development as accommodation continues to be a challenge, especially this time of the year when hundreds flock to the town for the festival.

The opening of a Polytechnic of Namibia, soon to be the University of Science and Technology, campus in the next year or so will further increase the demand for housing by students and others, she said.

A big thank you to our sponsors, the community, council, performers and visitors who contributed the festival’s success. We look forward to next year’s festival!
As part of its Social Responsibility Programmes towards its community, the Lüderitz Town Council has adopted an indigence policy, which allows pensioners as well as people living with disabilities to qualify for municipal support tariffs.

The Policy, which will apply strictly to home owners of the said groups, entails exemption:

- from interest charges on arrears;
- from water basic charges;
- of 40% of normal household basic refuse and sewerage charges.

In addition to being a home owner, beneficiaries must be registered with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and must be receiving the monthly social grants. Thereafter, beneficiaries must register with the Lüderitz Town Council and will be expected to renew their affiliations annually, between the months of January and May.

Said to be the coldest winter Lüderitz has ever had, or at least not in the last 10 years, this winter is feared to affect many lives, especially the destitute.

It is for this reason that a group of Namdeb employees collected money to purchase blankets for distribution to the needy community members.

Continuous Business Improvement Coordinator at the Elizabeth Bay Mine, Paulina Nehoya said “the initiative dates back from 2013 when a group of Elizabeth Bay ladies came up with a list of activities on how to actively take part in sustaining their community. One of the activities was to “Warm up the lives of those in need.”

“We then invited the E-Bay community to participate, asking our fellow employees to donate blankets. The response was appreciated, making it an employee’s initiative, which we would like to continue and maybe extend to nearby towns in future. It also speaks to our Team Slogan of UBUNTU, an African philosophy of human kindness, compassion and humanity to others,” expressed Nehoya.

Having laid the foundation, Nehoya and urged the rest of the Lüderitz community to share with the needy in various ways, may it be the donation of goods and or services.
The Management and entire Council take pleasure in announcing the appointment of Johanna Ileka as the new Public Relations Officer of the Lüderitz Town Council.

Ms. Ileka is not new in the Council, as she has served 2 years as Office Administrator and Personal Assistant to the Mayor.

We wish her the best in her new task.
For any queries, the public is therefore advised to contact Ms. Ileka on Tel: 063-207 800/09, e-mail: ilekaj@ltc.com.na

“We would like to see that quotas allocated along the Lüderitz waters no longer be processed in Walvis Bay, but instead in Lüderitz.” These were the words of Deputy Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Chief Samuel Ankama, during his keynote address at the official opening of the 2015 Lüderitz Crayfish Festival. Ankama said that this practice poses a negative impact on the town’s job and wealth creation.

The Deputy, locally acclaimed as the coolest Minister as he was donned in All Stars sneakers at the event, urged the fishing industries and individuals “to enhance their skills into economic diversification and productivity. You must venture into such challenging enterprises to make a breakthrough,” said the deputy minister. He further noted there are a number of external factors that impact on the cost of doing business in Lüderitz, namely, fuel prices and electricity costs, among others. Ankama emphasized that Lüderitz is blessed with marine resources that bring wealth and job creation to the entire Namibian nation and to locals in particular. The fisheries ministry’s support through the fisheries quota has made significant economic contributions towards the Lüderitz crayfish festival since its inception in 2008, he added.

Speaking at the same occasion, the Mayor of Lüderitz, Her Worship Suzan Ndjaileka said that Lüderitz is endowed with natural resources and has great potential for investment, therefore “the Council is hard at work and in cooperation with other government institutions and parastatals, as well as private partners to upgrade the town in terms of infrastructural development.”

“Your presence at our festival just affirms that we are not competitors but partners, with the fundamental motivation of promoting the consumption of fish amongst the Namibian nation,” Ndjaileka stated.

She explained that Lüderitz is blossoming with great investment opportunities, and the festival is part of the annual strategies to display to the world the investment advantages the town has. Ndjaileka also took time to walk her guests through the exhibitions to interact and satisfy their taste buds with delicious seafood samples.
On the eve of the Festival’s Official Programme, a Mayoral Businesswomen Dinner was held under the theme: “Emerging Women in Business,” which featured two prominent businesswomen speakers – Twapewa Kadhikwa, who is the owner of beauty products line – Pewa, as well as co-owner of renowned traditional restaurant and conference facilities, Xwama, and Cynthea Martin-Haihambo, an established business mogul with several interests in renewable energy, hospitality, as well as in the wellness sector.

Taking to the podium, the vibrant and energetic Kadhikwa recounted her life story from her years of studies to the reputable business woman standing today. Throughout her presentation, Kadhikwa kept the audience mesmerised with her inspiring story and encouraged women to go after their dreams and not wait for opportunities to come to them. She further encouraged the audience to be cautious when choosing business ventures. “Don’t decide to do hospitality just because Twapewa is doing well in hospitality, get into what you are passionate about,” said Kadhikwa.

Sharing Kadhikwa’s sentiments, Martin-Haihambo encouraged women to get motivated and become emancipated. Her sermon-like presentation sent waves of awe across the audience as she confessed the wonders money can do. “Twapewa will agree with me that money is nice because she knows what money can do,” professed Martin-Haihambo.

The host, Her Worship, Suzan Ndjaleka also encouraged women to “strive for economic emancipation by exploring their environments and identify opportunities in everything.” She however acknowledged that although we live in a widely male-dominated society, the government of the Republic of Namibia has set the trend for women empowerment and her Council will thus commit itself towards the furtherance of government goals and urged the private sector to follow suit.

At the event, the Mayor gave out three awards to local business women, in recognition of their business roles in the community. The women that attended the event were also opportuned to voluntary blood pressure checking.
A stray animal is defined as any household pet that is without a home and roams the streets most of the time. These animals feed from refuse dumps or good Samaritans with dogs being the most popular. While not all stray dogs are dangerous, it is advisable to keep as far away as possible, to avoid bites that could carry infections such as rabies.

The Lüderitz Town Council, in close cooperation with the SPCA is determined to bring the number of stray dogs in town to zero. The Health Department has recorded fewer cases of stray dogs this year, compared to last year this time. However, emphasis was made that this is only achievable with the assistance of the community. The presence of stray dogs on pavements is not only a health risk, but an eye sore too. Hence, the community is encouraged to keep their dogs within their yards and report stray dogs to achieve a stray-dogs-free town.

Agate breaks down the process of curbing stray dogs, to acquaint its readers with the process.

**Stray dog identified** - once a stray dog is identified in town or anywhere else in public, it is traced and taken by the SPCA with the assistance of the Council cleansing team.

**Owner traced** – the Council cleansing team goes out of its way to track down the dog owner.

**Healthy dogs neutered and returned to owner** - once the owner of the dog is identified, the dog is taken to the SPCA, where healthy dogs that are free from diseases are neutered/spayed - surgical procedures, performed by a veterinarian which renders the animal’s capability of reproducing. This minimises the uncontrolled breeding of dogs.

**Sick dogs put down** - in cases were an animal is sick, it is put down (killed) by the vet, while dogs without owners are kept in dog kennels at the SPCA premises.
From the day the applications started streaming in, it was clear. Competition was tough. The competition has raised its bar. One could mistake it for a Miss Namibia competition.

With several years of experience in the beauty pageant world, the contest organiser Kenneth Machava has never been this challenged. "Who do you think will become Miss," he asks. With zilch experience, I too shrug my shoulders as every girl showed remarkable potential. Not only was beauty evident, but the girls had talent too. From dancing to singing to debating skills, you can mention it all. And oh, we had chefs in the team too!

What we expected to be a challenging weekend turned out to be quite the opposite. The girls were treated to a weekend excursion trip and quite surprising, they all got along so well, the maturity level of the girls was extraordinary.

D-day came and the girls couldn’t be more excited. Glitz and glamour was the talk of the night. The judges didn’t have it easy either, but a decision had to be made, which saw 17 year-old Latifah Makaula walk away with the Miss Crayfish Crown, flanked by her princesses Elise Shiimi (2nd) and Nastasha Wilson as her first princess.
The Registration of Businesses

The Lüderitz Town Council Health Department is calling on all businesses to renew or register their business.

- Registration certificates shall be valid, issued before the 31 December in any year, until the 31st day of March of the following year and if issued after the 31st of December in any year then to the following 31st March.

- Any registration certificate may be renewed by application at any time not more than three (3) months and not less than six (6) weeks before expiry of the validity thereof.

- A late penalty fee of 10 % per month shall be charged in addition to the registration fee from 1st January of the relevant year for renewals after 31st March of that year.

For further enquiries, please contact the Health Division at telephone number 063 – 207800

Regulations relating to Waste Management

In order to control and regulate waste in our town the Council had promulgated Waste Management Regulations. The following regulations are highlighted for your information and action:

Garden, Special Domestic and Bulky Waste.

- Regulation 11(1): The owner or the occupier of a premise on which garden, special domestic or bulky waste is generated must ensure that the waste is disposed of within 72 hours after its generation.

Littering and Dumping

- Regulation 22(a): A person may not throw, let fall deposit, spill or in any other way discard, any waste in or on any public area or vacant other than in a waste container provided for the purpose.

Dumping

- Regulation 23(1): A person may not abandon anything or allow anything under his or her control to be abandoned or dumped at any place of which he or she is not the owner or the occupier, and which is not designated for such purpose.

Please take note that any person who fails to comply with these regulations commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding N$2 000 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months.

Dog Licenses

- Regulation 11(1): The owner or the occupier of a premise on which garden, special domestic or bulky waste is generated must ensure that the waste is disposed of within 72 hours after its generation.

Please take note for every dog older than six months, which a person keeps, a license must be taken out. The license must be taken out by the 1st of March of each year.

The license will be valid until the end of February the next year. After the 1st of March all owners of dogs without a license will be guilty of an offence and could be liable to a fine of N$200 on conviction.

Numbering of Houses

In order to render effective services to the community we would like to request all residents with no erf or house numbers to put their erf and house numbers on their property. Please make sure that these numbers are visible from the street.
T

here’s something about gardening that keeps me hooked. The double therapy it has for the mind and environment is tempting. But sometimes you find yourself in a place where earth is not in favour of it, until common sense is injected.

Global warming is an alarming reality and everyone has a role to play in it. Agate believes in promoting sustainable food production, subsequently minimizing food waste and further encouraging recycling. Therefore, below are tips on making compost to get your garden fertile and productive without costing you a cent for manure.

Food scrap items such as vegetable and fruit waste, meal leftovers, coffee grounds, tea bags, stale bread, grains, and general refrigerator spoilage are an everyday occurrence in most households. Ensure that you have mixture of carbon and nitrogen material to create nutrient-rich compost. Not all food waste is suitable for composting, as shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DO COMPOST</th>
<th>DON’T COMPOST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nitrogen</strong></td>
<td><strong>Meat or meat waste, such as bones, fat, gristle, skin, etc.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All your vegetable and fruit wastes, (including rinds and cores) even if</td>
<td>Fish or fish waste.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>they are moldy and ugly</td>
<td>Dairy products, such as cheese, butter, cottage cheese, yogurt, cream cheese,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old bread, donuts, cookies, crackers, pizza crust, noodles: anything made</td>
<td>sour cream, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>out of flour!</td>
<td>Grease and oils of any kind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grains (cooked or uncooked): rice, barley, you name it</td>
<td>Animal faeces (dogs / cats).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old spices</td>
<td>** Why can't you compost these food wastes?**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Carbon</strong></td>
<td>They imbalance the otherwise nutrient-rich structure of other food and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry Leaves, Branches, Stems, Bits of Wood.</td>
<td>vegetation waste and breakdown slowly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee grounds, tea bags, filters.</td>
<td>They attract rodents and other scavenging animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg shells (crush well).</td>
<td>Meat attracts maggots.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn cobs and husks (cobs breakdown very slowly).</td>
<td>Causes bad odour in the compost bin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shreds of newspapers (not gloss paper).</td>
<td>** Make your own compost bin**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdated boxed foods from the pantry.</td>
<td>Use any sturdy plastic bin with a lid.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Microbes require moisture to live. If there is no water then they dehydrate and die. The compost should be moist, but not soaked. Below are a few guidelines to remember from a health and safety perspective, to ensure that you are composting correctly:

- Place the composting bin raised slightly off the ground (i.e., by 1-2cm.) on grass or earth in the sun. This allows worms to enter the bin from underneath. Worms will help keep air circulating through the material. Plenty of air is required to speed up the composting process and to avoid odours. As the material decomposes, moisture seeps out and you will need to allow this liquid to soak into your grass or earth.
- Place the bin not too far from the kitchen door. This allows you easy access to the bin but ensures the container is far enough away to avoid contamination.
- Containers made of dark colours will absorb light from the sun, without drying out the material in the container. Plastic grocery bags work as great liners for kitchen compost bins.
- Protect the container from heavy rain. Heavy rain can water-log the container, preventing composting.
- Flying insects attracted to your compost? They can be discouraged by simply covering any exposed kitchen waste with a layer of grass clippings or straw.
- The size of the organic material in your compost pile affects the speed of decomposition (the smaller the pieces, the faster the process). Cut large pieces of compost material (such as watermelon rind) into smaller pieces so that they will break down faster.
- Stir the compost pile occasionally because oxygen is a key ingredient for the process to work.
- Remember – compost should be used as a soil additive, and not exclusively as the growing medium!
- You can also add garden soil to your compost. A layer of soil (not shovels full) will help to mask any odours, and microorganisms in the soil will accelerate the composting process.

Now that you know what and how you can compost out of your kitchen, create a household plan. Use this plan from food preparation and storage to kitchen storage, and ultimately to the compost bin. Happy gardening!

Sourced from: [http://www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie)
[http://www.homecompostingmadeeasy.com](http://www.homecompostingmadeeasy.com)
[http://eartheasy.com/grow_compost.html](http://eartheasy.com/grow_compost.html)
Thank You!

To all our sponsors, exhibitors, the residents and businesses of Lüderitz, the Council and visitors of the 8th annual Lüderitz Crayfish Festival for making this festival a resounding success and a memorable event!

Office of the Governor (//Karas Region)
Marco Fishing
Lüderitz Maintenance & Repairs