

# Aloe



City of Windhoek

City of many faces

Issue 13 • October 2013



*A JOB WELL DONE.....The Minister of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development retired Major General Charles Namoloh (left), and the Mayor of the City of Windhoek, Cllr. Agnes Kafula (right) shake hands at the official commissioning of the Otjomuise Fire Station.*

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## OTJOMUISE FIRE STATION COMMISSIONED

The Otjomuise Fire Station located at the corner of Kronswell and Otjomuise Street in Khomasdal north is one of many efforts by the City of Windhoek to bring the services closer to the people. The station was officially commissioned by the City of Windhoek Mayor, Cllr. Agnes Kafula on the 03rd of October 2013.

The Otjomuise Fire Station has been built in response to the ever increasing fire and emergency risks occurring in the City. In 2004, the City carried out an emergency risk assessment which indicated the City needed three (3) additional fire stations to be built at strategically located sites. The Otjomuise station was prioritised based on the high level of vulnerability, high risk and distance from the existing fire fighting facilities. The station is indeed strategically located at the centre of the

extended landmass on Sam Nujoma - Dan Viljoen Road; Otjomuise Road up to Monte Christo road and the Western Bypass.

The location of the station will provide a quick and easy access to many areas, thus improving emergency response time to accidents that are occurring on these roads. "I am convinced that the Otjomuise Fire Station will bring about better service delivery in terms of emergency response to the residents, especially the western suburban areas. It will improve our emergency response capability that will be reduced from the current approximate ten minutes from the Head Quarter fire station to as low as five minute to an accident scene", said the Mayor.

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# Editor's Desk



**Josua Amukugo**  
Manager: Corporate Communications,  
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The clock is ticking to the hosting of the Adventure World Travel Summit (AWTS) welcome event, the much anticipated Windhoek Jazz Festival, as well as the International Water Re-Use Conference. This hype of activities brings a lot of excitement to us in the City, as this is the platform at which we are going to showcase our warm hospitality to the rest of the world.

Windhoek being the Capital City, we are proud to be the gateway to Namibia and the point of departure and return for many great journeys through our spectacular country. Visitors to Namibia are discovering that Windhoek is a gem worth of exploring. Our capital boasts modern world infrastructure, clean streets, friendly people and water direct from that tap that is safe to drink.

It is a well-known fact that the month of October is dedicated to raise awareness of cancer, while trying to reduce the level of myths associated with it, and support the cancer survivors in our community. The Windhoek Junior Council in partnership with their counterparts Junior Council from Arandis Town Council joined hands in leading this noble gesture in raising funds for the cancer projects. We would like to thank these young minds and all those supported them in raising a helping hand towards the cancer projects.

Once again, we would like to appeal to our residents especially in the informal settlement to refrain from invading land; this illegal act continues to pose direct negative implications which hamper proper planning and development of the City. The City understands the major need for



*The newly commissioned Otjomuise Fire Station.*

### Continued from Page 1

The Otjomuise Fire Station will complement the three (3) existing stations such as Head Quarters, Diaz Fire Station and the Nathanael Maxuillili Fire Stations, thereby increasing the general emergency response capacity in the City. Council however remains mindful of the general need of fire stations in other parts of the City; particularly deeper in the informal settlement where fires are common.

It is on that background that two fire stations in Olympia and Klein Windhoek are being planned as part of the City's 5 year Integrated Business Plan. Another risks assessment will be carried out to include areas that have never

accommodation for its residents, but this is a systematic process that needs to be carried out procedurally. Land grabbing is not a solution to our housing problems, but a start of new demands to services such as water, sanitation, electricity, road infrastructures etc; which will have financial impact and affect the general planning and development of the city.

The Aloe is produced by the Corporate Communications, Marketing, Tourism & Customer Care Division in the Office of the Chief Executive Officer. The public is welcome to make constructive submissions via the Editor's Column, and submissions should be forwarded to the following address.

If you wish to make comments, suggestions, contributions or advertise in the Aloe, send an e-mail to [communication@windhoekcc.org.na](mailto:communication@windhoekcc.org.na) or visit our website for more information at [www.cityofwindhoek.org.na](http://www.cityofwindhoek.org.na).

been covered before, putting into considerations the recent extended boundaries. However due to the lack of adequate financial resources, we are not able to build facilities at all corners of the City, at the same time.

Speaking at the same occasion was the Minister of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development, retired Major General Charles Namoloh who encouraged the fire fighters to carry their duty with passion, discipline and dedications in order to save lives. "I am urging the residents of these suburbs to look after the facility, consider it their own and guard it jealously and to report any act of vandalism to the Police", emphasised the Minister.

Let us continue to safeguard our City, be vigilant and report any suspicious activities in our areas to the police.

I wish you all well; please make it a priority to settle your municipal bills on time, through the bank, NamPost and at all our cash halls. Enjoy reading until we meet again!

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## CITY OF WINDHOEK LAUNCHES A NEW PLAYGROUND FOR THE RESIDENTS OF DORADO PARK

*In the middle standing (holding a baby) is the Mayor of the City of Windhoek, Her Worship, Cllr. Agnes Kafula flanked by City Councillors on her left Alderwoman Elaine Trepper, Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Niilo Taapopi, Alderman Boas Ekandjo, Honourable Shikwetepo Haindongo Constituency Councillor for Windhoek West and City Officials as well as some members of the Dorado Community during the official inauguration of the Scorpio Park.*

Saturday, the 28th September 2013, City of Windhoek Mayor, Cllr. Agnes Kafula inaugurated a new playground in Scorpio Street - Dorado Park. The launch of the Scorpio Park is good news for the residents of Dorado Park, as it complements the only park in the location which is situated in Gemini Street.

During the official opening, City of Windhoek Mayor, Cllr. Kafula explained that the City of Windhoek among other things, recognises the importance of recreational activities which will have a positive impact on the development of the children in the community. The benefits are not only physical, but are also for children to grow intellectually, emotionally and socially. With more play parks in the City, children get to socialize and learn how to interact with others. It is during the early years that children develop and grow most rapidly and

the foundation for their future is laid. "Outdoor playgrounds allow a child to experience nature and the world around them in a safe environment. I therefore urge parents, to allow and bring their children to the parks that the City has constructed around the city for them to play".

The Mayor further urged the Dorado Park community to take full ownership of the Scorpio Park, by safeguarding it against vandalism and other social evils. It is a proven fact that when a park is well used by a community then the negative elements will stay away. The City remains committed to keeping this park well maintained. She however expressed her dissatisfaction in the manner in which playground facilities are being utilised, saying "despite our well-intentions of the development of these facilities, some of the parks around the City have now become preferred

drug abuse zones and safe havens for anti-social behaviours among young people. I have directed the City Police to intensify patrols on all community parks around the City and apprehend any perpetrator of antisocial behaviours and vandals".

Speaking at the same occasion, Cllr. Shikwetepo Haindongo of the Windhoek West Constituency thanked the City of Windhoek for successful positive developmental projects such as the Scorpio playground in his constituency, while promising to try their best in ensuring that the park is used for the intended purpose only.

Windhoek only had seven (7) playgrounds at independence and the number has since increased to 38. Plans are underway to create more playgrounds in the City.



*Thank you!!...in this picture, some of the children are seen enjoying the new Scorpio playground*





## ARBOR DAY 2013 - CITY CONTINUES TO ADD VALUE TO ITS ECOLOGICAL AND SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE

*Honouring Arbor Day.....Mayor of City of Windhoek, Her Worship Agnes Kafula (left) assisted by Alderman Boas Ekanjo in planting trees during the tree planting ceremony on Arbor Day at the School of Visually Impaired in Khomasdal, while teachers, learners and officials from the City of Windhoek are looking on.*

The 11th of October each year is celebrated as Arbor Day in the world, and since 2010 the commemoration of this international day has become an annual event on the City of Windhoek's calendar.

Arbor Day derives from a Latin word arbor which means "tree", and it is an international day on which individuals and groups are encouraged to plant and care for trees.

This year's Arbor Day took place just a few weeks after Namibia has just successfully hosted the United Nations' COP 11 Conference that was held in Windhoek. The conference focused on desertification and land degradation, the subjects which are closely related to the importance of trees.

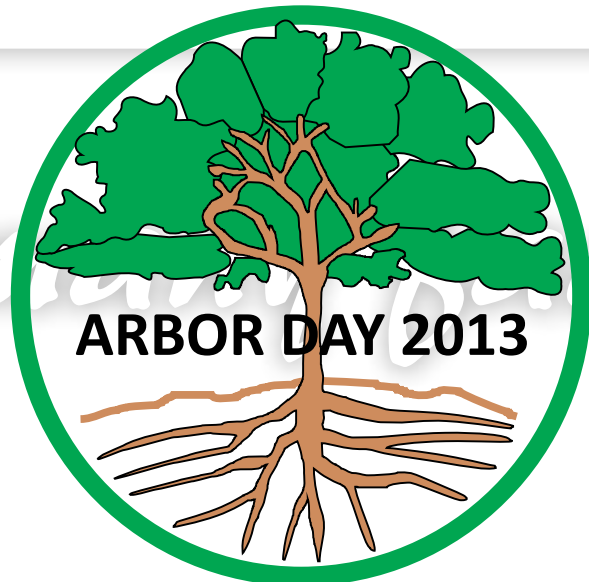
Last year, the City of Windhoek planted 3000 trees throughout Windhoek's urban area in a program driven by schools. This year another 3000 trees have been planted. The City is working towards its goal, to plant more than 10,000 trees

by the year 2015, of which 8500 trees have been planted thus far. Due to the major role they play in our everyday life, trees are regarded as vital community properties just like water, housing and recreational facilities.

Speaking at the tree planting ceremony at the School of Visually Impaired in the capital, Her Worship, Mayor of the City of Windhoek, Cllr. Agnes Kafula said, "this event is intended to capture the imagination of our people for them to recognize the need for raising awareness in our community on the

value of trees to our environment and human life".

The City has also donated 300 fruit trees to the community of Havana and 200 in Okahandja Park, with the main objective of encouraging tree planting by residents, so that they can show more respect towards the trees in their environment. While at the same time, mitigating effects of desertification and land degradation, and ultimately the effects of climate change and global warming which are serious concerns all over the world.





## FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN

*City of Windhoek Fire Fighters demonstrating how to put out the fire*

The City of Windhoek through the Disaster Risk Management Division held public awareness campaigns since the beginning of the year in different locations with the objective to educate the public on how to prevent, prepare and respond to fire emergency. The campaigns were carried out in a form of a play, as the residents witnessed demonstrations of real case scenarios of how what precautions measures to take in case of fire.

### **The key message for the community through the play was:**

1. Never leave cooking appliances unattended;
2. Make sure cooking appliances are on a flat, firm surface.
3. Do not put or leave a cloth under a cooking appliance;
4. Always have a bucket of sand nearby when using a paraffin appliance
5. Keep lighters, matches and all fire sources away from children.

It has also been noted that most of the fire statistics especially in the informal settlements main cause is the use of candle. Below are some of the general safety tips on candle usage.

1. Put the candle on a heat resisted surface;
2. Place them in a proper holder (must be firm and in upright position);
3. Don't place a candle under shelves or near your wall or window curtains;

4. Make sure there is at least three feet's (one meter) between the burning candle and flammable material.
5. Always remember to put candles out before you sleep.

Residents are urged to always provide accurate information (i.e. location and street) when reporting emergencies. It is also very important for all residents to have the emergency numbers at hand, where residents can call directly in case of emergency.

Numbers to contact in case of emergency are: 211 111, 290 2830 / 250084 / 212265

## FAQ: BUILDING EXTENSIONS AND SALE OF PROPERTIES:

### **1. What are the municipal requirements before the sale of property by a private individual?**

The Sale of private properties is an entirely private arrangement, and the City of Windhoek will only get involved with regards to the approvals for transfer of the property. The City of Windhoek needs to issue a Compliance Certificate for transfer to be effected. A Compliance Certificate will not be issued if the building plans do not correspond to the improvements made on such property.

### **2. What are municipal requirements for an individual who wants to alter their property?**

The process of making structural amendments to the property starts with drawing a new building plan, which must be submitted to the City

of Windhoek for approval, and only after the approval has been granted, may the client go ahead and do alternations to his/her property as per the approved building plan.

### **3. What are the rules pertaining to alternations of properties?**

The rules are that, if you have a structure that is not corresponding with the plan approved by the municipality, you will not be issued a Compliance Certificate, until you have rectified the discrepancies.

### **4. How long does the City of Windhoek take to approve/ disapprove the plan submitted?**

The City has the responsibility to ensure that the plans are scrutinised and approved within a period of 28 working days as per the Building Regulations. However, it

should be noted that sometimes there are corrections that need to be made in the plans by the clients and if that is the case, the clients is informed to collect the plan and amend it accordingly before re-submitting for approval. In all such cases, the City always endeavours to approve/ disapprove such building plans submitted, within the above stipulated time period.

### **5. What advice can the City of Windhoek give to someone whose structure is not conforming to the approved building plan by the Municipality, and what does one have to do to avoid such cases?**

To correct the discrepancies, ensure that the building structure conforms to the approved building plan, and ensure that construction/ improvements always comply with the approved building plans.



# KATUTURA READING ROOM



## Background

The Youth Development and Training Section in the Community Development Division is responsible for the coordination of the community library services.

The Greenwell Matongo Community Library is a milestone in this service rendering exercise through the partnership between the City of Vantaa and the City of Windhoek. The need for the expansion of libraries and reading facilities for the less privileged communities has been identified and is pursued. The Katutura Reading room has been selected as a facility to create reading space for the children in

Katutura.

## Purpose of Reading Room

The residents of Katutura, known as a highly densely populated area, experience challenges such as overcrowded households and suspended electricity supply which make reading (facilities) at home impossible.

The schools in the neighbourhood do not have libraries or halls that could have been turned into reading facilities. The classrooms are closed after school and some are used for other activities by community members. The purpose for the creation of the Katutura Reading

room is basically to respond to this dire need of creating a conducive reading environment for the community at large, especially the children, to do their homework and to prepare for exams.

## Objectives of Reading Rooms

- To create a reading room for community to read and thereby enhancing the culture of reading
- To create a conducive environment for the learners/students in doing assignments, homework and preparations for exams
- To respond positively to the developmental needs of the community

## Services provision

The facility aims at providing holistic development programs for the users:

Adult	Children	Youth
Reading space	Learning space	Study space
Reading material (daily news paper, magazines, books limited though etc)	Homework Support	School Project support and examination preparation support
Study space	Developmental & Educational activities (games, story telling, out door play etc.)	Subject learning tutoring/support (holiday program etc.)
Training	Recreational activities (Movies etc.)	Personal development/Life Skills Program
	Reading culture development (Reading & Spelling competition)etc.	Support groups (book clubs etc.)

With the final examination fast approaching especially for grade 10 and 12, you are welcome to come and use the Katutura reading room.

## Contact Details:

M.M. Hayes, Librarian

**Tel:** +264 61 290 2973, **E-mail:** Margaretha.Hayes@windhoekcc.org.na





## /AE//GAMS FESTIVAL BUILD-UP EVENTS



The City of Windhoek successfully hosted the /Ae//Gams Arts and Cultural Festival build-up events which started on Saturday, 21st - 26 September 2013 in the Zoo Park under the theme "Diverse Cultures - One Vision". As

a tradition, the /Ae//Gams created a platform to reflect Namibia's multi-faceted cultural and artistic traditions which encourages the preservation and respect of culture, by providing a forum to showcase the country's

rich and diverse cultural traditions in a manner that both educate and entertain. Residents and visitors should look forwards to a much bigger festival scheduled for the **29th March - 05 April 2014**

# City of Windhoek





## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PAYMENTS AT WINDHOEK MUNICIPAL OFFICES

The City of Windhoek in its continuous effort to improve services to its clients hereby requests all clients doing their payments at the municipal offices to do it only at the recognised cashier points and to ensure that they are issued with a valid receipt.

Kindly take note that the City of Windhoek does not accept liability for payments submitted to any other person than the cashiers.

Should you have enquiries regarding the above, please do not hesitate to

contact us.

The City of Windhoek remains committed to deliver effective and efficient services, thereby enhancing the quality of life of all our people.

### INTRODUCTION OF NEW SIDEWALKS TARIFF

Due to great concern of the uses of the sidewalks against the applicable laws and regulations, the City of Windhoek has introduced the New Sidewalk Rent Permit as approved by Council to address and control the manner in which the sidewalks are being used.

The tariff will be calculated as 1% of the municipal site value to be multiplied with the lease area and divided by the area of the Erf (1% of municipal site value x lease area of Erf = monthly sidewalk rent tariff).

The tariff will not apply in areas where the sidewalk is only 2 metre or less, as in such instance, all building and storing activities are prohibited on the sidewalk.

The public is once again reminded that no mixing of concrete will be allowed on the sidewalks. Further to the above, as per the new sidewalk Rent Permit, the storage of all building material on the sidewalk should be more than 1 metre from the edge of the road, and all building rubble should be contained in 200 litre drums

or skip containers.

The new Sidewalk Rent Permit will be calculated as part of all new building plans to be approved and will be enforced as from the 1st of November 2013, meaning that building work cannot be inspected and approved without the valid Sidewalk Rent Permit.

The City of Windhoek remains committed to deliver effective and efficient services, thereby enhancing the quality of life of all our people.

#### Enquiries:

Department of Infrastructure Water Technical Service  
Mr Dirk Reed

Chief Engineer: Roads & Stormwater

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Fax: +264 61 290 3751

E-mail: [Dirk.Reed@windhoekcc.org.na](mailto:Dirk.Reed@windhoekcc.org.na)

**THE WINDHOEK JAZZ FESTIVAL 2013**

**26<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**  
HAGE GEINGOB STADIUM.  
GATES OPEN AT 16H00

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT COMPUTICKET :  
N\$ 200.00 in advance  
and N\$250.00 at the gate.

HOSTING renowned jazz vocalist, **Hugh Masekela** and **Zahara**  
and featuring Eimotocho, Big Ben, ama-khoe, Maheto, Mig's, Erna Chimu and PU Jazz All Stars

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE CITY OF WINDHOEK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OLD MUTUAL, WINDHOEK LAGER, 99 FM, AIR NAMIBIA, ADFORCE, THE NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL OF NAMIBIA, JAMESON.