



CCA NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2020

Message from CCA President

Greetings Members and Friends,

We hope that you and your loved ones are in good health, staying home and, are safe. We miss seeing your smiling faces at our monthly gatherings and, trust that you have been doing your part so we can enjoy being out soon. **We are optimistic and believe brighter days are on their way!**

Mother Nature is sending us many signs of rebirth, such as cleaner air and animals roaming again; hope this is a sign of times to come. Speaking of Mother Nature, hurricane season is already upon us and it is only a matter of when a hurricane will sail across the Caribbean. So, in preparation for when such an event happens, we welcome any donations. This month's newsletter highlights tips on hurricane or other catastrophic events that may occur.

With profound saddest, CCA announces the passing of two of its founding members, Bill and Rupertia Channer; both within 6 weeks of each other. Please lift up their families and friends in prayer; see the enclosed article honoring them.

We are lucky to live in a lovely place like Tampa Bay because of its many ways to relax and to enjoy the outdoors, while maintaining social and physical distance in the 'new norm'. Until we are able to meet again, dear friends, please continue to stay safe and well!!!

Respectfully,
Carol Price, *President*

Hurricane ALERT Project



Disaster Care Package project is ongoing and we still need your help! Hurricane season is already here, so if you are able, please collect needed items from the enclosed list. We have already begun collecting those items and will continue through June 30, 2020.

Toothpaste, toothbrush, dental floss
Lotion, shampoo, hand sanitizer, soap
Mouthwash
Wash cloth, toilet paper
Feminine napkins
Shaving kits
Diapers, wet wipes, baby bottles, baby blankets
First Aid kits
Gallon Ziploc bags
Mini flashlights, batteries



Please contact Disaster Relief Committee Chair, [Michael Anderson @ 954-588-6874](mailto:Michael.Anderson@cca91.org) or [Evie Larmond @ 813-416-3946](mailto:Evie.Larmond@cca91.org), for drop-off information of your items.

Thanks to all the members who have already donated.

Hurricane Plan Information

Personal Safety and Protection

- If you must go to a community or group shelter, remember to follow the latest guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



CCA NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2020

- Be prepared to take cleaning items with you, such as soap, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, or general household cleaning supplies to disinfect surfaces you may need to touch regularly.
- Maintain at least 6 feet or more between you and persons not part of your immediate family, while at the shelter [by avoiding crowds or gathering in groups] as much as possible.
- Anyone over 2 years old should use a cloth face covering while at these facilities.
- Make sure everyone in your household knows and understands [your hurricane plan](#), visit <https://www.ready.gov/plan>.

For more information on protecting you and your family, please visit the following websites:

- **American Red Cross** - www.redcross.org/hurricane
- **FEMA** – www.fema.gov/disaster
- **Ready Kids** – www.ready.gov/hurricane (games and activities for kids)

Emergencies and disasters can be scary, but there are ways to help you stay safe before, during, and even after a disaster, so refer to the above-mentioned websites.

Remember to **stay prepared – stay safe – stay calm.**

Michael Anderson
CCA Disaster Relief Committee Chair

International Students Stimulus Project

CCA collaborated with other Caribbean organizations and friends to provide support to the International students attending the University of South Florida (USF), Tampa. These students have been faced with financial challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of them have been volunteers with CCA education programs, while others have volunteered as ushers and dancers at events sponsored by other organizations.

With limited income, social distancing, and miles away from their families, CCA past President, Ms. Evie Larmond, contacted the leadership of student organizations to identify the international students in need of assistance. Approximately, 33 students representing the following countries were identified: Dubai, United Kingdom (UK), Vietnam, British Virgin Islands (BVI), St. Eustatius, Bahamas, Guyana, Dominica, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, and Nigeria.

Local organizations were contacted, and collectively we provided strong financial support towards these students in two Phases. Funds raised totaled over \$3,300.00, and, to-date each student has received \$100 – **WAY TO GO!!!**

Additionally, Jerk Hut restaurant provided dinners to these students on May 10th and May 17th. When the CEO of Jerk Hut, **Andrew Ashmeade** was asked, “Why do you always help students?” he responded, “The satisfaction I receive from giving to

The Caribbean Community Association, Inc. (CCA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization



CCA NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2020

students far exceeds the cost, and I am humbled to be a partner in this worthy project.”

Many thanks to the Belize Association of Central Florida, Caribbean Community Association, Inc., Dominica Association of Tampa Bay, Caribbean American National Development organization, and Jerk Hut for their generous contributions.

A **HUGE** thank you to our members and friends below whose personal donations helped make this happen.

- ✓ Nick & Marlene Nicholson
- ✓ Dr. Everet & Greer Lake
- ✓ Brian & Beverley McEachron
- ✓ Allison Padmore-Haynes
- ✓ Michael Anderson & Carol Price
- ✓ Patrick Johnson
- ✓ Angelique Robateau
- ✓ Rey & Joan Warner

We encourage anyone who would like to support this project to contact: **Carol Price**, CCA President, 813-610-8294.

We are all in this together.

Evie Larmond
CCA Immediate Past President

Spotlighting Seniors - Class of 2020!!



Congratulations to the Class of 2020 graduates in the Tampa Bay area! We wish you great success as you are about to embark on the next phase of your lives.

A **SPECIAL** thank you to Roxanne Thomas, who was a volunteer tutor for the CCA Math Tutorial Program (MTP), for dedicating your time and talent to enable our students to be more proficient in math; we genuinely appreciate your efforts.

We hope you will continue to use your gift to change lives as you enter the world's biggest arena, and as always, we will be following your progress with interest.

Congratulations Roxanne!!!

Roxanne Thomas' BIOGRAPHY



Roxanne Thomas is truly a unique individual and, is now an alumnus of the University of South Florida. Roxanne has

been involved in multiple organizations and, always makes herself available to help whenever she can. Roxanne was introduced to the Caribbean Community Association, Inc. (CCA) in the Fall of 2017; when then President, Evie Larmond spoke about the Math Tutorial program (MTP) at a Jamaican Alliance Movement's general body gathering in an effort to seek more volunteers. The following Saturday Roxanne attended a MTP session and, has been volunteering ever since.

Besides being a dedicated math tutor, Roxanne was the 2019-2020 President of the Jamaican Alliance Movement and the Caribbean Cultural Exchange, the 2018 Miss International scholarship pageant winner, a

The Caribbean Community Association, Inc. (CCA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization



CCA NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2020

member of CCE Island Fusion and the Club Creole's champion dance teams. Roxanne has also been a member of many committees that were dedicated to showcasing Caribbean culture at USF, volunteered on WMNF's Caribbean Cruise, a member of CCA's Disaster Relief Committee and, also performed and hosted at a few of CCA's events.

After 4 years of being studious and hardworking, Roxanne earned her bachelor's in psychology and communication with a minor in entrepreneurship. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors!

Brian McEachron
CCA Public Relations Officer

In 1980, the couple relocated to Tampa Bay where their careers developed and so did community involvement. In 1991, they became founding members of the Caribbean Community Association, Inc. (CCA) and also served on the Executive Board. We are grateful for the Channers' generous and exemplary investment in building the foundation of CCA which shapes the structure of the Organization today.

Rupertia was a "Nurse Extraordinaire" and in 1998, directed CCA's Health Committee and, organized our first medical outreach to the underserved in St. Andrew, Jamaica. She also led the Hospitality Committee. Bill was an honorable man who was extremely loyal to our organization. As a Certified Public Accountant, he was our Treasurer for over 15 years and, was instrumental in getting CCA its non-profit status as a 501(c)(3) organization. R.I.P Channers.

Evie Larmond, Dolores Johnson, Delrose Brown & Joan Warner - CCA Members

CCA Honors Founding Executives



Dedicated, committed and faithful are words often used to describe **Bill and Rupertia Channer**, who are resting in peace together. They were born and

educated in Jamaica with careers in accounting and nursing. They served God and community generously and, were blessed with Joy Elaine, daughter, Michael, son-in-law and 3 grandchildren. They shared love and life during their union of 57 years.

2020 Census - Reminder

It is very important to complete your 2020 Census and it is not too late. To do so, please complete your form online, by phone, or by mail when your invitation to respond arrives, or visit [My2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov) to begin, or for overall timeline and information.

Calendar of Events

Please visit our website, www.cca91.org for the latest calendar updates and information.

Contact Editor, **Valencia Bonner with comments.**
Mailto:bonnerjuliet@gmail.com

The Caribbean Community Association, Inc. (CCA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization