

# CSOSA Pulse

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## AUGUST 2020

### How Prepared Are You?

June 1 to November 30 is the defined period for the Atlantic Hurricane Season which has become scarier, each year, with more severe storms occurring. How prepared are we to handle these threats, and do we have a disaster management plan for our families or school? What are some of the things we need to know and ought to do to ready ourselves during this period.

It has been predicted that there will be 13 to 19 storms for the upcoming season with an estimated six to ten of those storms being classified as hurricanes. Three to six of those hurricanes could be major – ranging from a Category 3 to 5, and we have already seen the devastation and destruction caused by Hurricane Laura, the 12<sup>th</sup> named storm of the season.

Here are a few tips for you to consider and perhaps adopt:

- 1. Make a Plan**  
If evacuation is necessary, turn off all utilities and follow community disaster preparedness plans. Select a common meeting place or single point-of-contact for all family members. If you have pets, have a plan for their evacuation as well.
- 2. Secure the Exterior & Check Wall Hangings and Art**  
Trim large trees and shrubs and bring all outside patio furniture, potted plants, bikes and toys indoors. If necessary, secure outdoor sculptures with burlap or blankets tied with rope. Make sure wall hangings are secure and take notes about your art collection and any existing damage. Make sure that art hung on outside walls are taken inside and elevated off the floor.
- 3. Install Storm Shutters**  
Protect windows, doors and skylights with appropriate shutters or impact-resistant glass. You can nail pieces of plywood to window frames as last-minute protection.
- 4. Check Insurance Policies**  
Make sure that insurance is up to date and provides adequate cover for your home and contents.
- 5. Power Up**  
Fill your car's gas tank, charge your cell phone, test your flashlights, generator and have plenty of fuel ready in case of power outages. **Don't forget batteries!**
- 6. Store Important Documents**  
Keep important documents, such as legal papers, birth certificates, marriage license, financial papers and insurance policy information, as well as valuables such as jewelry, in a safety deposit box or in a bolted safe in an interior closet in your home.
- 7. Prepare an Emergency Kit**  
Gather flashlights, a portable radio, extra batteries, non-perishable food, bottled water, medications, cash, blankets, clothing and toiletries.

These tips can easily be applied not only in Hurricane prone areas but in preparation for any disaster. Make sure to stay in tune to radio or television coverage and remember that we are in a COVID 19 environment and certain protocols will have to be enforced. I encourage us all to be prepared and to look out for each other. **Up and On!**

Mark Ince  
CSOSA President

## HURRICANE TIPS

### Weathering A Hurricane

Tips for Before, During and After a Storm

#### BEFORE

- #1** **Make a home inventory.** Claims are processed **50-100% faster** when customers have a home inventory.
- Sign up for and pay attention to weather alerts.
  - Stock emergency supplies, including a battery-powered radio, flashlights, extra batteries, medicines, first aid handbook and kit, a week's worth of non-perishable food and water.
  - Charge your cell phone and fill your car with gas.
  - Program all emergency phone numbers, including your independent insurance agent's, in your mobile device.
  - Repair loose boards, shingles, shutters, and down spouts—which could become greater problems in high winds or torrential rain.
  - Turn your refrigerator to the coldest setting so food will last longer if the power goes out.
  - Make plans for your pets. Research pet-friendly hotels and shelters in case you need to evacuate.
  - Talk to your independent insurance agent to be sure you have the right insurance protection.
  - If advised to evacuate, go as soon as possible.

#### DURING

- Check on family members and friends.
- Keep windows and doors closed at all times and, if possible, boarded up with wooden or metal shutters.
- Stay away from windows. Stay in the center of the room, or in an inside room.
- If flooding begins, turn off electricity.

#### AFTER

- Check to be sure all family members are safe.
- If there was an evacuation, wait for official notice that it is safe to re-enter your home.
- Notify your insurance agent as soon as possible of any damage.
- Create a list of damaged property. If possible, take photographs and/or video. Do not dispose of damaged items without prior approval from your insurance claims adjuster.
- Keep an accurate record of any temporary repairs or expenses. They may be considered in your claim.

This material is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute an offer of insurance. Please contact your independent agent for more information. See agent or website for restrictions.

The Hanover  
Insurance Group

## What's Happening!

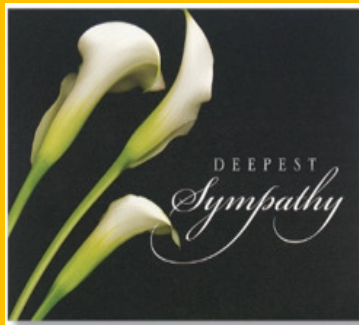


Heartiest congratulations to all Graduates from Combermere and other Tertiary Institutions. We wish you every success in your future endeavours.

Proudly welcoming the newest members of 11 Plus achievers to the family. **Up and On!**



We take this opportunity to extend birthday greetings to all those celebrating birthdays during the months of July and August.



As Combermere Week 2020 draws nearer, we remember our fallen comrades whose physical presence we will certainly miss:

- Anya Nicholls
- Besley Maycock
- Carl Ince
- Harold Morris
- Juliette Cave
- Karl Waithe
- Neil Bradshaw
- Patrick Taiit
- Thania Lynch-Newton
- Theron Vaughn

This is an active call for volunteers to share their time and knowledge as lessons are required for all CAPE subjects. All interested persons are asked to make contact with the President and Executive of the Old Scholars or email [info@csosabarbados.com](mailto:info@csosabarbados.com).

Grand Reunion is an exciting occasion when we meet as one. 2020's reunion was intended to be no different. However, COVID-19 and its protocols are the antithesis of the harmony we enjoy annually. It is against this background, that we invited your comments through a recent survey resulting in approximately 300 respondents. Our analysis of the data generated indicates that 70% of respondents are in favour of a Combermere Week focused on smaller events at which all protocols are observed. Consequently, at our executive meeting of September 07th 2020, it was agreed that we will **not** host a 2020 Grand Reunion. As suggested by our Alumni, we will start the week with our customary church service and host smaller events during the week, while laying the groundwork for a truly memorable 2021 Grand Reunion. **Please stay tuned for more details.**

## On the Frontline!



**Reeshemah Cheltenham-Niles**

Reeshemah Cheltenham-Niles is the Chief Health Planner in the Ministry of Health and Wellness and is fully involved in the fight against the Coronavirus Pandemic. That, however, is not the sum total of her tasks. As a Senior Manager in the Ministry of Health & Wellness, (MHW) she directs the Planning and Research Unit, which is responsible for the preparation of health statistics and their publication in reports for national, regional and international audiences, as well as collaborates and co-ordinates with all departments and units of the Ministry, Government Agencies, the private sector, Trade Unions and other civil society organizations, educational institutions and other national, regional and international stakeholders, and provides feedback and reports on the various activities undertaken.

Reeshemah is a member of the National Health Emergency Operations Centre which champions both strategic and operational direction of our fight with COVID 19 for Barbados, providing oversight to the planning and response to the threat of COVID-19: from the development of protocols, to the facilitation of swabbing and testing; from quarantine to isolation; from resource allocation to humanitarian assistance.

Proudly, she notes that she has the pleasure of working with several esteemed alumni in this fight, many of whom are leaders for the cause. It is a battle they continue to fight, with passion and determination, for the health of our nation.

**The best preparation  
for tomorrow  
is doing your best  
today!**

**H. Jackson Brown Jr.ss**

## A Tribute to Carl Leon Ince 1937 - 2020

Carl Ince's death on July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 marked the end of a life of sustained service to Barbados. Carl was a full Combermerian. In addition to his impressive academic record, he was active in the school's scout troop and a driving force in the school's reputation in hockey.

Carl served as an assistant master at Combermere School before embarking on post-secondary studies in the United Kingdom. He began his public service career as a Foreign Service Officer with the Barbados High Commission. He returned to Barbados in the 1970's and joined the staff of the Government Information Service. After a second assignment with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Carl returned to the Government Information Service as Chief Information Officer. He was subsequently appointed to the post of Permanent Secretary to the Prime Minister. On his retirement Carl Ince was appointed to the post of Ombudsman. It was a function to which Carl was especially suited and which he performed with distinction. It was the perfect function for Carl Ince...a man for the people.

I encountered Carl Ince for the first time as I climbed the Garrison Hill one morning on the way to my second form classroom at Combermere School, then temporarily located at the headquarters of the Barbados Regiment. The new Combermere School was under construction at Waterford, St. Michael. Other boys were walking behind me and one then soon caught up with me. He wore a prefect's badge. To my surprise he greeted me with a cheerful "good morning". He questioned me about my form and about the subjects I liked. He asked about sports and told me about hockey.

At that point he said so long and went on to his form which I assumed was either a fifth or sixth form. He said his name was Ince, Carl Ince. In that brief exchange, I could conclude that Carl Ince was not typical. He was different. His manner and demeanor had changed my attitude to school.

After completing sixth form studies, Carl joined the staff at Combermere for a brief period before leaving Barbados to pursue his studies. While at Combermere he remained active in the School's Scout Troop and on the Hockey field.

Carl left Barbados in the early 1960's for Britain to pursue further study, following which he joined the staff of the Barbados High Commission in London. He returned to Barbados in 1970 and joined the expanded staff of the Barbados Government Information Service, then under the direction of the late Gladstone Holder a former teacher at Combermere School and one of Barbados' most influential newspaper columnists in Barbados.

Carl, like Holder, held firm views about the role of the media in national development. He believed that information was vital in the development of people everywhere and that agencies like the Information Services should function with full but responsible freedom.

Such views were vital in the early 1970's when national independence was still a new experience for Barbadians. Much discussion surrounded the meaning and management of "Government Information". Like Gladstone Holder, Carl was driven by the conviction that people had to be informed and enlightened on all issues which affected them, not courted or comforted. The people were sovereign, and it was their right to be fully informed. Carl would later follow Gladstone Holder as Chief Information Officer. He consulted and canvassed a wide range of views from cabinet members to ordinary persons on the street. He understood that information flowed both ways, from sender to receiver and back. People had thoughts, ideas and concerns and government needed to hear them. G.I.S. would be a bridge. This conviction became his foundation when he was appointed Ombudsman after his retirement from the public service. He embarked on a series of public consultations in which he walked the streets canvassing the views of all categories of people. He took steps to ensure that basic public rights and privileges were not breached or undermined.

Carl Ince was widely read and coaxed everyone around him to do so. He liked nothing better than a healthy argument. For him every issue had a solution. For him no one could be neutral and honest at the same time. If there were no major issues around Carl would find one. If you don't have a view, Carl would nudge you until you found one. Passionate as he was, Carl Ince was never offensive. Whatever the outcome of an argument, Carl left you enlightened. He sought always to find accord with anyone with whom he had a serious difference. He was cheerful, dignified, highly intellectual and resourceful; a deeply religious man who was devoted to his church and Christian convictions.

Carl was always courteous. He embraced and embodied all those decencies upon which our better natures flourish and through which our higher purposes are served. Carl Ince was, above all, a teacher; a man born to enlighten; born to inspire. A man who spent his time "getting to know on all matters which most concern us, the best that has been thought and said in the world.

*Written by Tony Cave, Former Chief Information Officer & Combermerian*