

## Meet Our New Chen Employee!

**Name:** Shanene Wright  
**Office:** Miami Beach  
**Position:** Administrative Assistant



Ms. Wright recently joined Chen and Associates' Miami Beach office as an Administrative Assistant. In this role, she assists project managers with report preparation, travel arrangements, word-processing, and general office management. In addition, Ms. Wright is responsible for creating and maintaining the office's filing system and organizing meetings, as well as scheduling and registering employees for training sessions and outside seminars. She is currently working on obtaining her Associates Degree in Business Management from Miami Dade College. Her previous experience includes working for an affordable multifamily housing company.

Visit Shanene in our Miami Beach Office:

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## Dr. Chen assists ASCE with Addressing Florida's Infrastructure Needs



In an effort to determine the current state of the stormwater collection and treatment systems, Dr. Ben Chen, P.E., DEE spearheaded the distribution of a survey questionnaire to 91 municipalities in the state of Florida. The American Society of Civil Engineers' (ASCE) Florida Infrastructure Report Card survey allows municipalities to rate their current stormwater collection and treatment system; based on this rating, the overall rating for the State is a "C-." According to the ASCE, the State's infrastructure needs at least \$12 billion to meet today's needs. A special thanks to the members of the Florida Stormwater Association as their responses to our questionnaire were the basis for our grading.



To see Dr. Chen's CBS4 interview about this important issue, visit [chenandassociates.com](http://chenandassociates.com).

## Chen Employee Birthdays

June 15 <sup>th</sup> Peter Moore, P.E.	June 18 <sup>th</sup> Shanene Wright	June 23 <sup>rd</sup> Joel Brownsey	July 4 <sup>th</sup> Jennifer Fought, E.I.	August 3 <sup>rd</sup> Suzanne McCord, E.I.	August 15 <sup>th</sup> Shaun Bamforth, E.I.

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### Save paper!

If this newsletter is addressed to people who no longer work at your office or if you would prefer to receive an electronic version of the Quarterly, please send an email to: [lbarron@chenandassociates.com](mailto:lbarron@chenandassociates.com) to update our mailing list.

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## A Message from the President

To me, summer is about longer days, sunlight lasting till nearly 9, and a chance to enjoy the outdoors after being cooped up during those long, dark South Florida winter months! Our employees are taking full advantage of this extra time by volunteering for various causes that are important to them. Our community service committee has been active organizing various group events such as the Reef Sweep and Beach Cleanup (below); a Habitat for Humanity build (page 2); and an Everglades Cleanup (page 3). Our dog lovers also participated in the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk for the Animals benefiting the Humane Society of Broward County (below) while our Miami Beach staff and friends participated in the Crawl for Cancer in Coconut Grove (page 2). Dr. Ben Chen, P.E., DEE, founder and chairman of Chen and Associates, also donated his time to evaluating Florida's infrastructure for the ASCE Report Card (page 4); James Barton, P.E. volunteered to make rain barrels; and project engineer Shaun Bamforth, E.I. has become involved in assisting Broward County's youth through two different activities – Guardian Ad Litem and coaching lacrosse (pages 2 and 3).

Our employees are diverse - coming from over a dozen difference countries – as are their interests. From building homes to cleaning up our nation's largest subtropical wilderness, I'm proud that our employees have become so involved in improving our community. I hope you enjoy this issue and get inspired to take on a cause of your own!

Sincerely,

Peter Moore, P.E.

*"Our employees are diverse - coming from over a dozen difference countries – as are their interests."  
 Peter Moore, P.E.*

## 20th Annual Reef Sweep and Beach Cleanup

Volunteers from Chen and Associates got their feet wet while cleaning up the reefs and beaches of Broward County for the Ocean Watch Foundation's Reef Sweep and Beach Cleanup. The event, held on June 14 at various beaches around Broward



County, marks the 20th anniversary of the Foundation's founding and clean up efforts. With the help of over 6,800 volunteers, the Foundation has collected and disposed of over 27 tons of garbage in their two decades of service.

The Chen Team collected over 20 pounds of garbage from the beach surrounding the Pompano Fishing Pier. For more information on how you can preserve and protect the coral reef ecosystems in southeast Florida, visit [oceanwatch.org](http://oceanwatch.org).



## Walk for the Animals

With dogs at their side, Chen and Associates employees participated in the 18th Annual Walk for the Animals on March 1, 2008. The event, held in Esplanade Park, raises money for the Humane Society of Broward County (HSBC). With an annual budget of nearly \$5.5 million, the HSBC finds homes for over 10,000 animals every year. More than 4,000 walkers participated in the Walk which raised over \$540,000.



L to R: Cariann and Peter Moore with dog Lucy and Talia Garcia with Martina take a break from the Walk for the Animals.



## Guardian Ad Litem Program Advocates for Florida's Children

Shaun Bamforth, E.I. recently become involved with Guardian Ad Litem (GAL), a program to represent the best interests of an abused or neglected child that has been removed from his or her home. As a volunteer, Shaun serves as a representative for the child before the court, social service agencies and the community. By following the child's progress throughout the duration of the case, he also protects the child during the family crisis and court proceedings. Shaun's involvement includes investigating the situation, including relevant history, environment, relationships, and needs of the child; facilitating a collaborative relationship between all parties involved in the case; advocating the best interests of the child to the court and relevant agencies; and monitoring whether the orders of the court, as well as the plans of the Department of Children and Families, are carried out.



To learn more about Guardian Ad Litem and how you can get involved, visit [www.guardianadlitem.org](http://www.guardianadlitem.org).

## Crawl for Cancer in Coconut Grove Draws a Crowd

A team of Chen and Associates employees participated in the Crawl for Cancer in Coconut Grove on March 1, 2008. The team's \$600 registration fee benefited the Susan G. Koman Foundation, Prostate Cancer Foundation, and Care Resource.



Top L to R: Ivan Marquez and Jesus Avila  
Bottom L to R: Mark Drummond, Jason McClair, Carlos Tijerino, James Barton, and Joel Brownsey raise money for cancer.

## Cleaning Up the Everglades, One Trail at a Time

On March 22, 2008, Chen and Associates employees volunteered in the Florida Everglades west of Homestead. Two park rangers lead employees through the park to explain the environmental issues created by invasive plant species in the park and how they are being addressed. Such species include the Brazilian pepper tree, which is being permanently removed by digging up the tree and surrounding soil and forming 'mounds' of debris that needs to be removed from the park.

Employees traveled the Old Ingraham Highway hiking and biking trail which winds through sawgrass prairie and cypress forest. While walking the trail, employees performed trail maintenance where necessary.

Employees on top of "Mount Schinus," a mound of soil leftover from the removal of the Brazilian pepper-tree (*Schinus terebinthifolius*).



Clockwise Top: Joel Brownsey trims a Poison Oak tree; Derrick Smith and Marlon John trim overgrown bushes along the Old Ingraham Highway; Marlon John removes a tree that was blocking the sign for the Earnest Coe Campsite; Russell Garrett, Joel Brownsey, Jennifer Fought and Derrick Smith clear the campsite.

## Chen Employees Build Homes in Miami

Employees from Chen and Associates' Miami Beach office participated in the 10th Annual Blitz-Build on January 19, 2008. The Blitz-Build was an accelerated construction event for Habitat for Humanity of Miami in which ten homes were completed over the course of two weeks. Volunteers, homeowners, and sponsors worked together to build houses, friendships, and a better future for homeowner families and the Miami-Dade community.

Shanene Wright and Oscar Bello take a break from painting.



## Project Engineer Coaches Lacrosse Team to Victory

The American Indians invented it, the Canadians made it their National Sport, and the youth of America have made it the fastest growing sport in the nation. Nicknamed *The Fastest Sport on Two Feet*, lacrosse has made its way from the northeast to all parts of the United States and many parts of the world. And now the craze has spread to youth in the Davie area! A little over a year ago, project engineer Shaun Bamforth, EI, received an email from a local Davie father and former University of Virginia All American, Pete Dunne. Pete was looking for help starting a youth lacrosse program so Shaun volunteered to help. New players signed up every day which led to the creation of the Davie Youth Lacrosse Foundation (DYLF), which will soon be a 501(c) (3) organization. Shaun and Pete ended up with over 90 boys from Davie, Cooper City, Plantation and Fort Lauderdale signed up for the program and were able to field four teams this year, one at each age group: Bantam (K-2), Lightning (3-4), Juniors (5-6) and Seniors (7-8).



Because almost every player in the program had never even picked up a stick, the DYLF organized free camps every Sunday for about 2 months before the official start to the season. Each team in the program won at least one game during the season; the Bantam team finished with a record over .500! This is a true testament to the great coaches the Foundation had volunteer this season, most of whom do not even have children in the program but have committed to growing lacrosse in the South Florida area. The Town of Davie Council members along with Town Staff members Dennis Andresky (Director of Parks and Recreation) and Manny Diez (Director of Public Works) were also a tremendous help throughout the season.

For the 2009 season, the DYLF hopes to field eight boys' teams this year, two at each age group, as well as two girl's teams! If you know any children that would be interested in playing lacrosse, or are interested in volunteering or donating to the DYLF, please contact Shaun at [sbamforth@chenandassociates.com](mailto:sbamforth@chenandassociates.com) or visit [davielacrosse.com](http://davielacrosse.com) for more information.

## Rain Barrel Volunteer Program Aims to Conserve Water

James Barton P.E. volunteered for a rain barrel seminar on May 27th, 2008 hosted by Keith Patton, Extension Agent for the Florida Yards and Neighborhood Program of the Palm Beach County Cooperative Extension Service. The seminars teach people how to install their own rain barrels for use in their yards to conserve our water supply. They are held at the Institute of Food and Agricultural Services, 531 N Military Trail, next to Mounts Botanical Gardens, in West Palm Beach. At the end of the seminar, each participant receives a barrel with a tap and overflow attached. For more information, Keith can be reached at 561.233.1759.



Top: James Barton assembles his rain barrel.  
Bottom: James and seminar host Keith Patton