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## In Celebration of Black History Month...

*"Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed."*  
*Booker T. Washington, 1856 – 1915*

In celebration of Black History Month, Belstar would like to honor all of the great men and women who paved the way for the opportunities that we have today. From men and women like Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the man to whom we owe the celebration of Black History Month, to Civil Rights Leaders like Rosa Parks, named the "Mother" of the Civil Rights Movement, Martin Luther King, Jr., Thurgood Marshall and the Little Rock Nine, many have sacrificed to make a lasting change in the world. Through their heroic efforts, we have gained access to vast opportunities that were once closed. We honor the past, live the present and hope for what the future has to offer us - a future that was given to us by the brave leaders of the Civil Rights Movement.

## In Celebration of Women's History Month...

In celebration of Women's History Month, Belstar would like to honor women of every race, class and ethnic background that have made historic contributions to the strength and growth of our nation. From women like Sacajawea, the Shoshone Indian woman who lead Lewis and Clark as they discovered a vast part of our great nation, to Elizabeth Blackwell, who was turned down by 29 medical schools before being accepted as a student and graduating at the head of her class to become the first licensed woman doctor in the U.S., females have been impacting history since the beginning of time. It wasn't until 1978 that the public celebration of women's history began in this country, as "Women's History Week" in Sonoma County, CA. By 1987 the celebration was expanded by Congress to a month, and March was selected as Women's History Month. Please join Belstar in honoring women and the role they have played, and continue to play, in every sphere of life.

## Project Wins

Belstar is a member of the IC3 Partners team for the Maryland MSHA for scheduling and professional services. IC3 Partners is Prime of record.

Belstar is a member of the Ballou Justice Upton (BJU) team for the Tidewater Community College New Student Services Center. BJU is the prime of record. Belstar Cost Estimating, LLC (BCE) is Quality Control on this MP project.

Belstar is a member of the Potomac Crossing Consultants (PCC) team for the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Replacement Project for Urban Deck Park extra work order. Belstar's Mentor Protégé M.A. + A also works on this assignment under the guidance of Senior Project Manager, Hassan Kobrosli.

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## Overhead Audit

Belstar's 2007 audit was completed in March of 2008. Based on the previous years audited rate at the date of the audit's completion, Belstar's project 2008 overhead rates (OH) for any new contract work started after April of 2008 are as follows:

Maryland Field OH - 97.39%  
Maryland Combined - 104.07%  
VA Field OH - 97.55%  
VA Combined OH - 104.23%

**Please note:** Actual OH numbers will be based on the numbers shown on the MDOT and VDOT audit division acceptance OH rate letters sent to Belstar. Belstar anticipates getting the respective MDOT and VDOT acceptance letters in the second quarter of 2008.

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## Mentor Protégé Spotlight

Jarrett Contracting, Inc.

Jarrett Contracting, Inc. strives to provide its customers with professional and affordable construction services for any size project. Jarrett Contracting, Inc. promotes the use of renewable energy by educating its customers on the benefits of renewable energy technology. To contact Jarrett Contracting, Inc. send an email to [admin@jarrettcontractinginc.com](mailto:admin@jarrettcontractinginc.com) or via the following numbers:

Toll Free: (877) 299-0090  
Phone: (703) 299-0090  
Fax: (703) 299-0110

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## Promotions & Recognitions

Congratulations to the following individuals for their achievements:

**Ali Bitar** was promoted to Senior Resident Engineer at PMC and received a Certificate of Recognition from Belstar.

**Brian Gerlach** started his full time assignment as the Senior Scheduler on the ICC project.

Colleagues **Ahmed Elamin, Antonio Robinson and D'Artanyon Yarborough** completed their assignments on the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Replacement project and received Certificates of Appreciation.

**Dan Belcher, Jr.** received a Certificate of Accomplishment in honor of his successful completion of the first section of the Toastmasters International Communication Program.

**Greg Helmick's** assignment on the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Replacement Project was extended through the summer of 2009.

**Juan Washington** started his new assignment as a Project Inspector on Belstar's RK&K / Heery team for the Maryland State Highway Administration on-call project on six various lift install projects.

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## Charitable Donations

Compassion International - Rose-Carline Petit-Frere

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## New Staff

Mark Holland has rejoined Belstar as a Senior project manager on an Arlington, VA large program. Don Moore has rejoined Belstar as a 2008 Seasonal Inspector on Belstar's VDOT CIS on-call project. Welcome back!

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## ACE Mentor Program

Belstar is a sponsor of the Architect, Construction and Engineering (ACE) Mentor Program of the Greater Metropolitan Washington Area, a non-profit organization established by industry leaders in 1995 to provide mentoring, educational programming and scholarship opportunities for deserving students. The program has teams of volunteer mentors that go to area high schools to meet with students and hold educational programs, encouraging students to consider careers in architecture, construction and engineering. The program currently has 12 active mentor teams and over 130 students participating in Northern Virginia, Maryland and DC.

ACE holds one major fundraiser, the ACE Annual Scholarship Breakfast, each year in order to raise critical funds for scholarships and program operation. Belstar would like to invite you to join the Board of the ACE Mentoring Program, along with hundreds of industry colleagues, at this year's event. The ACE Annual Scholarship Breakfast will be on **April 29, 2008** in the **Historic Lobby of Terminal A at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport** from 8:00a to 10:00a. Scholarships ranging from \$2000 to \$4000 will be awarded at the breakfast to 8 -12 deserving high school students so they may pursue their advanced educations in the industry.

Belstar would like to make you aware of this extremely worthwhile program and ask for your support, either by attending the breakfast or donating to the program. In order to determine the number and amount of awards, ACE Mentoring needs to confirm scholarship contributions and tables/seats to be purchased by each participating firm by April 1, 2008. Details concerning both methods of donation are as follows:

### **ACE Annual Scholarship Breakfast April 29, 2008**

The cost of a table for 10 will be \$1500, and individual seats will be \$150. The proceeds will be used by the ACE to fund operation and mentoring program.

The available funding levels for combined table purchase/scholarship contributions will be:

**Penthouse Level: \$10,000-** includes 2 tables@\$1500, a \$6000 scholarship contribution in the firm's name (maybe more than one scholarship) and a \$1000 contribution to operating expenses.

**Top Floor Level: \$5000-** includes 1 table@\$1500, a \$3000 scholarship contribution in the firm's name and a \$500 contribution to operating expenses.

**Mezzanine Level: \$3500-** includes 1 table @\$1500 and a \$2000 scholarship in the firm's name.

**Lobby Level: \$2000-** includes a \$2000 scholarship in the firm's name.

**All firms donating scholarship funding will also be provided space to place company presentation boards, or time on a PowerPoint projector rolling display for company presentations.**

Please fill out the ACE Breakfast reservation form (also sent as an attachment with newsletter) or send your donation to:

c/o Parsons Brinkerhoff  
Attn: Chris Reseigh  
Spring Park Technology Center  
465 Spring Park Place  
Herndon, VA 20170-5227  
Phone 703/742-5701 Email [reseigh@pbworld.com](mailto:reseigh@pbworld.com)

**Please respond by April 1, and cc Ozzie Belcher, if you will be participating this year.** When responding please advise whether you will be purchasing a table or seats, providing a scholarship contribution or a combination of tables and scholarship contributions. Every donation helps, no matter what size. Thank you for your continuing support.

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## Corrections

There are two corrections to Belstar's December Newsletter:

- The first version that was sent incorrectly referred to BCI as Belstar Consultants, Inc. Please note that BCI stands for "Belcher Consultants, Inc."
- We insinuated that Melvin Jarrett received his law degree during his time with Belstar. Mr. Jarrett actually received his law degree before joining Belstar.