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Project Wins

Belstar, as part of the AECOM team, was selected for the Amtrak Professional Design and Construction Phase Services Stations Design and Delivery Project.

Belstar, as part of the Kumi team, was awarded a prime contract by the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC).

Belstar was also awarded a prime contract for cost estimating and schedule analysis services with the M-NCPPC for Solicitation No. P44-110.

Click [here](#) to see a comprehensive list of Belstar projects at www.Belstar.com

Promotions and Recognitions

Belstar would like to wish the following team members a Happy Birthday during the second quarter of 2024:

Dan Belcher, Jr. 4/10
Ozzie Belcher 4/24
Bill Gray 5/07
Logan Morrison 6/09
Miranda Moore 6/15
Mark Schwindt 6/16
Gina Welc 6/28

Belstar would also like to congratulate the following employees who are celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2024:

Ozzie Belcher - 30 years
Hassan Kobrosli - 25 years
Michael Johnson - 20 years
Daniel Belcher, Jr. - 20 years
Allan Luai - 15 years
Carolyn Jarrells - 10 years
Miranda Moore - 10 years
Henry Biggs - 5 years

Charitable Donations

ACE Mentor Program of the Greater Washington Metropolitan Area, Inc. – general donation fund
Compassion – For the benefit of Richica from Haiti

Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance 2024 Spring Transportation Conference and Trade show

Mr. Dan Belcher, Jr. attended the Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance (VTCA) 2024 Spring Transportation Conference and Trade show. This Conference was held on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 to Friday, April 5, 2024, at the Hampton Road Convention Center in Hampton, Virginia.

The Keynote Speaker was Mr. Donnie Campbell, What's Your MVP - Leadership Lessons from the Coach who Inspired Ted Lasso – Presented by Marsh McLennan. Other various transportation leaders, innovators, and builders were at this premier event to help present how Virginia's transportation infrastructures will be shaping the future.

Key players in the industry included: contractors, engineers, material suppliers, government officials, and many more. The attendees were able to explore Virginia's dynamic transportation program, tackle its challenges, and discover innovative solutions. A lot of networking took place with the industry experts, focusing on successful program delivery and the future of transportation. Many technical and business development sessions were offered across various disciplines.

The Spring Conference was well attended and hopefully the attendees were able to take this knowledge back to their respective businesses and be a part of the driving force shaping the Commonwealth's transportation future!

Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance 2024 Dialogue

Mr. Dan Belcher, Jr. attended the VTCA 2024 Dialogue with the Richmond District. This Dialogue was held on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, at the Double Tree by Hilton, Richmond, Virginia, and was well attended.

The attendees were able to meet industry peers, the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) District staff leadership and local government leaders for networking, education, and discussions. Richmond District Engineer, Mr. Dale Totten, PE, hosted the program along with leadership staff and industry representatives. The program covered the District's latest program news, leadership vision, partnering philosophy, and goals for delivering the District's program.

This year the program was held in the afternoon and ended with a special networking session to meet face-to-face with industry and VDOT program staff.

District Department of Transportation's 2024 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Networking Event

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) hosted the 2024 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Networking Event on Friday, May 31, 2024, starting at 8:30 a.m. Mr. Hassan Kobrosli attended this event which was held at 250 M Street SE, Washington, DC.

Mr. Kobrosli stated that this was the third time that DDOT held their DC DDOT Networking Event at one of their locations, in a smaller format, and that this worked better for everyone in attendance. DDOT's continuous goal is to support the development, growth and success of small and minority owned businesses.

Topics that were discussed are as follows:

- upcoming DDOT and agency specific procurement opportunities
- engaging with highway construction contractors, construction management companies, and architectural and engineering firms
- working directly with DDOT procurement and project representatives
- learning about DBE Certification and program compliance requirements
- how to do business with DDOT

There were many prime contractors/consultants covering this event and a time of networking and exchanging business cards took place along with an opportunity to connect with DDOT's Director, Administrators, and Managers.

Special Announcements

Mentor Protégés

Belcher Consultants, Inc.
[Belstar Cost Estimating \(BCE\)](#)
[Holland Home Improvement/Construction](#)
M.A. + Associates
[Millennium Institute of Construction \(MIC\)](#)

Why Choose Belstar

Core Values

*Trust - Faith In Others

*Shared Values - Common Goals

*Effective Communication - Good Listeners

*Humble Leadership

- Shared Spotlight

*Empowerment - All of the above

By Lon Solomon (3/5/2000)

Facility/ Program / Project /
Construction Management /
Cost Engineering / Cost
Management / Dispute
Resolutions and Claims Analysis
/ Scheduling / Commissioning

37 Year Record of Performance

Fees average 20% for
combined Office / 15% for Field
Below similar-sized firms



National Military Appreciation Month

May was National Military Appreciation Month (NMAM). This observance honors and recognizes the contributions of active duty service members, veterans, and their families. Established by a resolution of the United States Senate in 1999, this celebration lasts throughout the month and includes:

Loyalty Day / May 1 - A day meant to reaffirm loyalty to the United States and to recognize American freedom

Victory In Europe (VE) Day / May 8 - This day marks the anniversary of the Allies' victory in Europe during World War II

Military Spouse Appreciation Day / May 10 - A day celebrating the sacrifices and contributions of military spouses

Armed Forces Day / May 18 - A day which honors those currently serving in the United States military

Memorial Day / May 27 - A day of remembrance for

those who have died in military service to the United States

Belstar hopes you were able to attend a parade, ceremony, community service project, educational program, fundraising event or one of the other many activities and/or events throughout the month to express gratitude and appreciation for the sacrifices and dedication of military personnel and their families.

National Women's Health Week

Also celebrated in May was National Women's Health Week, observed May 12 (Mother's Day) through May 18, 2024. Aiming to encourage women to prioritize their physical, mental, and emotional well-being, this annual observance is led by the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health. The 2024 theme was "Empowering Women, Cultivating Health, Celebrating Voices, Wellness, and Resilience." This theme focused on the importance of women taking charge of their personal health journeys, and addressing health issues unique to women, while fostering an environment in which women feel supported in discussing their health needs. A sub-theme to the week, chosen by the FDA Office of Women's Health, was "Know Your Bones," emphasizing the importance of bone health in preventing osteoporosis. Ways to participate included:

- Visiting a healthcare provider
 - Being physically active
 - Eating a balanced diet
- Prioritizing mental health by managing stress and seeking support when needed

Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

May was also Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month. Originating as Asian-Pacific American Heritage Week with the introduction of House Joint Resolution 1007, signed into law in 1978, this celebration recognizes the contributions and influence of Asian American, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the history, culture, and achievements of the nation. May was chosen as the month of celebration due to two significant, historical events:

- The arrival of the first Japanese immigrants to the United States on May 7, 1843
- The completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, which was significantly constructed by Chinese laborers.

Throughout May, numerous activities and events took place across the country such as film screenings, exhibitions, cultural festivals and educational programs. Such events celebrating this observance play a crucial role in promoting understanding and awareness of AANHPI communities, helping to combat discrimination and stereotypes. It is during this time that Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders share their experiences and stories, fostering a greater appreciation for the rich heritage and myriad of ways these communities have shaped and enriched American society, and the significant contributions made across so many fields.

Click [here](#) for more information and resources, including an [illustrated research guide](#).

Juneteenth

Juneteenth, a blend of "June" and "nineteenth", was celebrated on June 19, 2024, and symbolizes a pivotal moment in American history. The Thirteenth Amendment, passed by the Senate on April 8, 1864, by the House on January 31, 1865, and signed by President

Abraham Lincoln on February 1, 1865, finally made emancipation a national policy. This amendment states:

“ Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction. ”

Abraham Lincoln

16th President of the United States of America

Although the Emancipation Proclamation officially freed all those that were enslaved, the enforcement of such proclamation relied on the advancement of Union troops. As Texas was the most remote of the Confederate states, it was the last to receive the news. On June 19, 1865, nearly two and half years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed by President Abraham Lincoln, General Granger's General Order No. 3 informed the people of Texas that all enslaved persons were now free.

Juneteenth has gained greater recognition in recent years as it became a federal holiday on June 17, 2021. This acknowledgement serves as a reminder of the ongoing journey toward racial equality and justice in the United States. There are many ways to observe Juneteenth, including:

- Learning more about the history of this day
 - Support Black-owned businesses
- Participating in local events, celebrations and activities
 - Advocating for equality

For more information click [here](#).

SOME (So Others Might Eat)

SOME (So Others Might Eat), a community-based organization established in 1970 in Washington, D.C., believes that everyone deserves access to basic human needs, as well as the opportunity to lead a dignified life. SOME's mission is to restore hope and dignity one person at a time by combating poverty and homelessness through a holistic approach. They offer a variety of services designed to support individuals and families during their journey towards self-sufficiency and stability, such as:

Food and nutrition
Healthcare
Housing
Employment
Education
Emergency Services

SOME has made a significant impact on the lives of countless individuals and families in Washington, D.C., serving over 300,000 meals in 2023 alone. There are many ways you can get involved and make a difference, including:

Volunteering
Donating
Advocating

Click here to learn more about their mission to support those in need, building a brighter future for

DONATE TO SOME



ACE DC's 24th Annual Scholarship Awards Breakfast was held on May 16th, 2024 at [The Mayflower Hotel](#) at 1127 Connecticut Avenue, NW Washington, DC. This celebration provides networking opportunities and is where ACE DC awards thousands of dollars in college scholarships to students interested in pursuing careers in architecture, construction, and engineering,

This year's keynote speaker was Megan Lantz, Vice President of Research & Development with HITT Contracting. Megan leads the company's strategy to drive change in the built environment, and oversees all R&D projects, the Co | Lab, and establishes strategic partnerships and the development of a new headquarters project. Known for her vision, strategic thinking, and problem-solving skills, Megan leads a team of industry, product, material, and testing experts to utilize out of the box thinking to develop new products and processes.



ACE DC awarded \$70,000 in scholarships to 14 deserving ACE students at the 24th Annual Scholarship Awards Breakfast.

Belstar is a sponsor of the ACE DC Mentor Program. Established in 2000, ACE DC has mentored 2100 DC-area students and distributed 25 scholarships worth more than \$800,000.

To stay up to date on the ACE DC program, please visit their [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) pages.

If you are able and interested in supporting this worthwhile cause, please contact washingtondc@acementor.org. If you are interest in becoming a mentor, please find more information [here](#). If you would like to donate to the organization, click below.

BECOME AN ACE DC SPONSOR TODAY

The Washington Architectural Foundation's Fall Design Fête

The event included a cocktail reception, seated dinner and program. Celebrating the architecture and design community, the event honored several worthy individuals and programs that have made Washington a better city through their contributions as designers, advocates, and clients.

2023 Honorees were:

Amy Weinstein, FAIA - 2023 Centennial medal winner

Caitlin Brady, AIA, LEED BD+C - Emerging Architect Award winner

Mika Naraynsigh, AIA, LEED BD+C - Emerging Architect Award winner

Anna McCorvey, RA, LEED AP BD+C - Wieb Award winner

Anica Landreneau, Assoc. AIA - Partnership for the Planet Award winner

The Washington Architectural Foundation thanks you for your support of the Fall Design Fête. The Washington Architectural Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS

[DONATE NOW](#)

Sponsorships



Richica

Richica is a six-year-old girl from Haiti. Belstar's past "sponsee", Carline, was also from Haiti. Belstar looks forward to providing the same support and guidance to Richica that we did for Carline!

The Compassion International child Sponsorship Program offers:

- Medical checkups and health care

- Ongoing Christian training through a local church
- Key life skills training, mentoring and vocational programs
- Nutritious food and supplements to protect against malnutrition
- Recreational activities and support to develop self-confidence and social skills
- Protection from crime, violence and danger
- Access to special services like surgeries and disaster relief
- Educational assistance, including textbooks, school uniforms, post-secondary courses, tutoring, test and lab supplies and even literacy and financial training for caregivers



Kathryn McQueen, MD

Congratulations to Kathryn McQueen, MD. Belstar began sponsoring her in 2019 as a medical student at West Virginia University with clinical rotations in Internal medicine, Surgery, Psychiatry, Family Medicine, Pediatrics, and OB/GYN. Now that she has graduated, Dr. McQueen will be pursuing a residency with Harpers Ferry Family Medicine.

In addition to serving as a physician, Dr. McQueen hopes to be an active advocate for healthy lifestyle habits in the community through public outreach programs and education development. Additional accomplishments include:

*In October 2019, Dr. McQueen helped create a public outreach program to educate middle and high school students on the effects of e-cigarette smoking in Berkeley County, West Virginia.

*In April 2020, Dr. McQueen was accepted to present a research poster at the American College of Physicians in Los Angeles, California. The poster was on a case of Vaping-Induced Lung Injury

*In May 2020, Dr. McQueen was granted the Michael L. Friedland Award for demonstrating achievement in self-learning in the integrated clinical curriculum at the WVU SOM Eastern Division.

Another sponsor of Dr. McQueen is Dr. Charles Gardner, MD, graduate of the West Virginia School of Medicine and of the Virginia Military Institute.

If you would like to help sponsor Dr. McQueen or find out more information, you can e-mail her at: kamcqueen25@gmail.com.



www.Belstar.com

- Be sure to visit www.Belstar.com for more information regarding Belstar's [internships](#).
- Watch for an updated listing of Belstar's past and present projects in the [Projects section](#).

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