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Project Wins

Belstar, as part of the Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson (JMT) and HDR-led team, will be providing on-call services for the Washington Metro Transit Authority (WMATA) contract under six different categories.

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 Happy Birthday during the second quarter of 2025:

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 2025:

Gina Welc 20 Years
Mark Schwindt Five Years

Charitable Donations

Compassion – For the benefit of Richica from Haiti

Belstar Second Quarter Activities

Mr. Dan Belcher, Jr., attended the Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance (VTCA) 2025 Dialogue with the Richmond District. This Dialogue was held on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at the Virginia Crossings Hotel in Glen Allen, Virginia. The Dialogue was well attended by industry consultants and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) staff.

The attendees had the opportunity to meet industry peers, VDOT's 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.

Highlights from the Dialogue included topics on safety, communication, and building

teamwork within the industry. Discussions were held regarding work on and around I-95 and the use of the design-build process (turn-key projects and task orders). The Central Virginia Transportation Alliance (CVTA) discussed several current projects and how a portion of Virginia's sales tax has allowed their work to move forward.

One of the major discussions was the importance of teamwork between VDOT and the consultant industry members. By working together, current and future projects stay on track to meet timelines and/or deadlines.

This year, the program was held in the afternoon and concluded with a special networking session allowing face-to-face meetings with industry and VDOT program staff. The very informative roundtable discussions are typically sold out. Some of the topics for this Dialogue included:

- Alternative Project Delivery
- Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI)
- Central Region Operations, Construction, Locally Administered Projects
 - Maintenance, Preliminary Engineering, and Structure and Bridge

The next VTCA meeting is the Annual Meeting being held at the Greenbrier in West Virginia on June 19-22, 2025.

Gina Welc attended two information webinars in the second quarter.

The first was *Mastering Compliance: Guide to Annual Reports and Business Licenses*, presented by CSC.

Topics included the difference between filing annual reports and business licenses, compliance challenges, and consequences of noncompliance.

The second was *Understanding the Role and Responsibilities of a Plan Fiduciary*, presented by Manulife | John Hancock.

The head of defined contribution consulting and the director / senior ERISA consultant covered the fiduciary duties ERISA creates for plan professionals and strategies for navigating through the fast-changing regulatory environment.

Ms. Welc found both to be interesting and informative!

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



National Military Appreciation Month

By Lon Solomon (3/5/2000)

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

40 Year Record of Performance

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

Each May, we celebrate National Military Appreciation Month. During this time, we support and honor those who serve and have served in the United States Armed Forces. It is a time for all Americans to express their gratitude for the sacrifices made by service members and their families to protect our freedom. Beginning May 30, 1868, as Decoration Day, key observances during this month now include:

- May 1 - **Loyalty Day**
- May 8 - **Victory in Europe Day**
- May 9 - **Military Spouse Appreciation Day**
- May 17 - **Armed Forces Day**
- May 26 - **Memorial Day**

Each of these days offers an opportunity to reflect on the commitment, courage, and strength of our military community, from families and spouses to veterans and active duty personnel. Whether it is by flying an American flag, volunteering, sending a letter of thanks, or simply a moment of silence, there are many ways for us to reinforce the deep appreciation we have for our nation's heroes. Please join Belstar in giving respect and gratitude this month and every month to those who serve and have served.

National Women's Health Week

May 11 (Mother's Day) through May 17, 2025, was National Women's Health Week. During this time women everywhere are encouraged to prioritize their well-being and shine a spotlight on the importance of health and wellness at every stage of life. This observance is meant to be a powerful reminder for women to take simple actions that may have a big impact, such as:

- Scheduling preventative care screenings and check-ups
 - Eating balanced, nourishing meals
- Getting and staying moving with enjoyable physical activity
- Staying up to date on health issues that are relevant to age and lifestyle
 - Taking time to prioritize mental health and self-care

Let's come together to build a future where all women have the support, knowledge, and resources to lead fulfilling, healthy lives. Click [here](#) for more information and resources about Women's Health.

Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

May was also Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month. During this time, we celebrate the AANHPI community, culture, and contributions to the fabric of our nation. The theme for 2025 was "A Legacy of Leadership and Resilience." From public service to art and science, business, civil rights, education, and beyond, generations of AANHPI individuals have contributed to the American story with heart, innovation, and resilience. Let us lift the voices and experiences of these communities by learning about them and reflecting on what they have given our nation. Let us also celebrate the vibrant diversity within the AANHPI community by deepening our understanding of the unique achievements, identities, and struggles represented by this community.

Ways to celebrate this observance include:

- Amplifying AANHPI voices and stories online

- Attending cultural events or discussions in your community
- Supporting AANHPI-owned businesses and creators
- Learning about AANHPI history and heritage through books, films, or museum exhibits

Click [here](#) for more information about AANHPI Heritage Month events and resources.

Juneteenth

June 19 is Juneteenth, the commemoration of the end of slavery in the United States. It is on this date in 1865, more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation, that enslaved African Americans in Galveston, Texas, finally received word that they were free.

“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 this holiday is considered the longest-running African American holiday, with early celebrations dating back to 1866, it was the most recently added federal holiday in the United States in 2021. This celebration of resilience, freedom, and history is much more than a historical milestone. It is a powerful reminder of the ongoing struggle for justice, equity, and freedom. It is a time to reflect on the deep roots of Black American history and to celebrate culture, progress, and the work still ahead. Ways to observe and honor this day include:

- Learning about the history and impact of Juneteenth
- Supporting Black-owned businesses, artists, and organizations
- Participating in service projects, educational events, and community celebrations
- Reflecting on the meaning of freedom and how we continue to uphold it for everyone

Let us come together at this time of hope and remembrance to recommit to building a future where liberty and justice truly belong to everyone. Click [here](#) for information about Juneteenth events at the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

SOME (So Others Might Eat)

Breaking the cycle of poverty and homelessness since 1970, So Others Might Eat (SOME), is a cornerstone supporting Washington, D.C.'s most vulnerable residents. Beginning as a soup kitchen, SOME now offers a comprehensive suite of services aimed at addressing the multifaceted challenges of poverty and homelessness, such as:

- Education and job training
- Healthcare services
- Emergency and social services
 - Nutritious meals
 - Affordable housing

SOME's comprehensive and holistic approach allows immediate, necessary assistance, as well as resources which promote long-term self-sufficiency and stability. There are many ways you can support SOME's mission: by joining efforts to promote policies that address homelessness and poverty; by volunteering your time and skills to assist with their various programs; and by making a financial contribution to support their services.

Click [here](#) for more information about SOME, and below to donate to this important

Donate to SOME



ACE DC's 25th Annual Scholarship Awards Breakfast was May 12th, 2025 at the InterContinental Washington D.C. at 801 Wharf St. SW, Washington, D.C. 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, \$196,300 was raised and 18 students and alumni were awarded \$5,000 scholarships.

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. Currently, there are more than 300 students and 100 mentors involved with the program across Maryland, Virginia, and Washington D.C. Save the date for ACE DC's golf outing September 18, 2025. Registration opens in June!



BECOME AN ACE DC MENTOR

The Washington Architectural Foundation's Fall Design Fête



The Washington Architectural Foundation's Fall Design Fête was held November 15, 2024 at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, DC. 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.

The 2024 honorees were:

2024 Centennial Medal Winner – Yolanda Cole, FAIA

2024 Glenn Brown Award Winner – Uwe Brandes

2024 Architect Educator Award Winner – Amy Gardner, FAIA

2024 Emerging Architect Winner – Kumi Wickramanayaka, AIA

2024 Wieb Award Winner – Ian Walker

2024 Partnership for the Planet Award Winner – Heather Jauregui, AIA

2024 Donald B. Myer Award for Public Service – Brian J. Hanlon, AIA

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



***Time
Flies
When
You're
Changing
Lives***



In 2024, Belstar celebrated their 20 year "Sponsor-versary" of partnering with the Compassion organization to help make a positive impact on the lives of Carline and now Richica.

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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