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PHOTOGRAPH CREDIT: NASA GODDARD/CHRIS GUNN

Kenneth Harris II works in the clean room at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

NASA Engineer Named in Forbes 30 Under 30 List of Innovators

By ROB GUTRO
NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md.

Kenneth Harris II, a senior engineer at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, has been named one of Forbes' 30 under 30 Class of 2020.

Forbes' 30 Under 30 list is a selection of young, creative and bold minds the magazine's experts consider revolutionaries, changing the course of business and society. Forbes evaluated more than 20,000 nominees to decide on 600 business and industry figures, with 30 selected in each of 20 industries.

"As I reflect on my story, beginning in 2008, I am truly grateful for both the successes and failures," Harris said. "Receiving this award, I would be remiss to ignore the infinite amount of guidance I've received along this journey. Each mentor played a pivotal role in my career to present day."

"As engineers and scientists it

is my belief that we have the responsibility to make ourselves open to the unexpected. Allowing our curiosity to fuel thoughtful questions and impactful research, that will enable the next generation of explorers to go even further than us. I am humbled to be acknowledged by Forbes and hope that this award serves as a confirmation to someone relentlessly pursuing their goals."

Harris, 27, lives in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Forbes selected him in the Science category for his work on NASA's James Webb Space Telescope mission. He has worked on five different satellite missions since he started working at NASA at age 16, including the Magnetic Multiscale Mission or MMS satellite and the Global Precipitation Measurement mission (GPM) satellite, a joint mission between NASA and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). Kenny also worked on the Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS) J1 and J2 missions, a joint

project between NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA).

In 2017, he led a team to successfully integrate the Integrated Science Instrument Module, the main science component of the Webb Telescope. This structure houses four instruments that will detect the light from stars billions of light-years away. "This mission holds such a special place in my heart because I was only 24 years old when we completed the ISIM integration," Harris said.

At 16 years old, Harris volunteered as a counselor at a NASA Goddard space camp. He then served as an intern in the High School Internship Program, beginning his affiliation with NASA. This initial internship was the beginning of semester long immersion in NASA projects and culture.

In addition to his work as an engineer, Harris is a strong pro-

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Greater Washington Anti-DUI Group Urges Safety on Super Bowl Sunday

Nearly half of all U.S. traffic deaths on game day involve drunk drivers

By TAMMY WAN
WRAP

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (Jan. 22, 2020)—While the teams, site and time have been finalized, a local anti-drunk driving organization is urging the public to also develop a game plan to prevent drunk driving during this year's "Super Bowl Sunday."

During Super Bowl Sunday 2017, nearly half (48%) of all U.S. traffic fatalities involved alcohol-impaired drivers according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (see NHTSA chart below).

"With nearly half of all U.S. traffic deaths being caused by drunk drivers during Super Bowl Sunday, it's important to have a game-plan to defeat this opponent," said Kurt Gregory Erickson, President of the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), a 38-year-old public-private partnership combating drunk driving.

The Falls Church-based organization has issued a number of "safe celebrating" tips (below) to prevent drunk driving during "Super Bowl Sunday," scheduled for February 2, 2020. However, the nonprofit emphasizes that even those not drinking during the game can help deter drunk driving

by both reporting suspected drunk drivers as well as by wearing their seatbelts.

"Even if you have every confidence in your own ability to not drive impaired, that confidence doesn't extend to the next driver," said Erickson. "Motorists in Greater Washington whom suspect that they are sharing a roadway with an impaired driver should report such by safely dialing 911 in the District of Columbia or Maryland and #77 in Virginia."

"And while you often hear that wearing a seatbelt may be your best defense against a drunk driver, the true bottom-line is that the routine wearing of seatbelts is the single most effective measure to reduce crash-related deaths and injuries." In addition, and for those hosting or attending Super Bowl parties, WRAP's tips to prevent drunk driving include:

- Planning ahead and designating a sober driver if you're celebrating with alcohol.
- Using alternative transportation like ride-sharing services, taxi cabs or public transportation.
- Being a responsible host by:
 - Never serving anyone who appears to be impaired.
 - Closing the bar at least an hour before the event's end.
 - Designating a sober bar-

tender. (Don't let guests mix their own drinks.)

- Serving food with alcohol (high protein foods like meats and cheeses stay in the stomach longer thereby slowing the body's alcohol absorption rate).
- Using a non-carbonated base in alcoholic punches (the body absorbs alcohol faster when mixed with carbonation).
- Serving non-alcoholic beverages as an option.
- Never serving minors.
- And never allowing impaired guest to get behind the wheel.

While the DUI penalties differ in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia for first-time offenders, such range from fines up to \$2,500, jail terms up to one year and driver's license suspension periods also up to one year.

For more information, visit WRAP's web site at www.wrap.org.

Founded in 1982, the nonprofit [501(c)(3)] Washington Regional Alcohol Program is a coalition of diverse interests using effective education, innovative programs, and targeted advocacy to end alcohol-impaired driving and underage drinking in the Washington, D.C. metro area.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY PSI EPSILON OMEGA CHAPTER

From L to R: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Psi Epsilon Omega Chapter President Benita Swindell, high school student volunteer Kristiana Mateo, and vice president Cassandra Jones sort items at MLK day of service in Greenbelt, Md.

Psi Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® Supports Vulnerable Communities in Greenbelt, Bowie, and Laurel On MLK Day of Service

By RACINE TUCKER-HAMILTON
Psi Epsilon Omega Chapter

GREENBELT, Md. (Jan. 21, 2020)—In observance of the 25th anniversary of the Martin Luther King Day of Service, Psi Epsilon Omega Chapter held its "Back to Basics: Meeting the Needs of Our Community" event. More than 200 members of the sorority worked side by side with local students and community members sorting and packaging canned goods, hygiene products, and clothing for those living with homelessness and food insecurity.

"The primary focus of this day is to uplift the theme of 'A day on, not a day off' and to serve together as a community," said Benita Swindell, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Psi Epsilon Omega Chapter President. "Alpha Kappa Alpha's motto is supreme service to all mankind and it's important that we begin by serving in our local communities."

Hundreds of canned goods and healthy food items, hygiene products, and men's and women's clothing will be distributed to three local organizations: Oakland Elementary School, Laurel Advocacy and Referral Service

Warm Nights in Laurel, and Bowie Interface Pantry. Volunteers ranged in age and included high school students.

"I volunteered today because I wanted to help my community and do something good to start off my year," said Kristiana Mateo, an 18-year-old high school student.

One student hoped her participation would help break down stereotypes about teenagers.

"People from older generations think we are self-absorbed, and I feel like that's not true. I believe that any way you can make a difference and honor the memory of Dr. King, you should, and I just wanted to act on that," said, Damaris Moore, a 16-year-old high school student.

This event supports two of Alpha Kappa Alpha's global programs: "Operation AKA Assist" which focuses on supporting populations in need and its "Nutrition and Wellness" initiative which highlights healthy lifestyles.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated®, Psi Epsilon Omega Chapter was chartered in 2007. Since its founding, the chapter has been aggressively implementing its programs of service in the communities of Laurel, Bowie, and Greenbelt, Maryland.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Fatality Analysis Reporting System Data Fatalities in Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes for February 5, 2017–February 6, 2017 and the Highest BAC in the Crash

Date	Alcohol-Impaired BAC= .08+	Alcohol-Impaired BAC= .08–.14	Alcohol-Impaired BAC= .15+	*Total Fatalities
6 a.m. February 5, 2017–5:59 a.m. February 6, 2017	Number: 48 Percent: 48%	Number: 11 Percent: 10%	Number: 38 Percent: 37%	Number: 101 Percent: 100%

*Total fatalities include unknown numbers of fatalities in crash.

INSIDE

Former NASA Astronaut to Visit PGCPS for Community STEM Program

"STEM education is a valuable investment that Prince George's County Public Schools is committed to furthering through this great opportunity," said Dr. Monica Goldson, Chief Executive Officer.

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Statements from Governor Larry Hogan and Congressman Steny H. Hoyer on the Passing of Coach Morgan Wootten

Governor Hogan: Coach Wootten had an immeasurable impact not only on my life, but on the lives of his players, students, and the community.

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Aaron Robertson Named Agency Manager at Western & Southern Life in Washington, D.C.

"Aaron's wealth of experience in sales and leadership make him a valuable resource," said Joshua Swogger, divisional vice president.

Business and Finance, Page A5

Celebration! Black History Month 2020: Highlighted Events from the M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation

Performances to history lessons to festivals, there are plenty of exciting M-NCPPC, Department of Parks and Recreation events and activities planned throughout Prince George's County.

Out on the Town, Page A6

Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk:

Why are environmentalists so scared of Donald Trump winning a second term?

—Jay W., Modesto, CA

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