

Genisys Grant, Chrysler Mentoring Aids 'Killer Bees' Group

Earlier this month, Notre Dame Prep's Killer Bees Robotics Team got a little help from an unexpected source – Genisys Credit Union, Michigan's fifth-largest credit union.

The help came in the form of a \$1,000 mini grant, contest winnings from Killer Bees Parent Volunteer and Group Mentor, Louise Palardy. Palardy entered the Genisys Cash for Kids contest, and as the winner, got to choose the nonprofit youth program, club or association that would win the grant. Naturally, she chose the Killer Bees.

Genisys of Auburn Hills teamed with 96.3 WDVD to promote the credit union's contest.

The Killer Bees, a FIRST robotics team, are a group of high school students, volunteers and mentors from the community, such as Palardy.

They've enjoyed the mentorship and support of Chrysler since 1996, but this grant gave their bank account, and their spirits, an added boost.

The group works together to promote the mission of FIRST

(For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) through competitive robotics.

"Competitive Robotics" is just as spectacularly cool as it sounds – the students use their creativity and expertise to design and build a one-of-a-kind robot, then use it to compete for prizes and bragging rights.

According to Ellen Green, a junior at Notre Dame Prep and student leader on the Killer Bees, the team will use the winnings to bolster their "junior varsity" team and to purchase items needed to help the JV students design, build, and compete with their very own robots.

"This smaller-scale program gives students the confidence to contribute more in the larger-scale FIRST Robotics Competition," said Green. "As the Killer Bees, we pride ourselves in sharing knowledge in every grade level, so even our new freshmen can learn to build high-caliber robots and develop critical project management and leadership skills."

"As we like to say, 'Teamwork Keeps the Hive Alive,' and thanks



The Notre Dame Prep "Killer Bees" robotics team accepts a check from Genisys Credit Union.

to Genisys, the "hive" is surely buzzing."

Genisys Credit Union's CEO Jacki Buchanan said, "We are very passionate about educating

the youth in our communities.

"They are our future and providing them with the financial resources they'll need to make wise monetary decisions at an

early age will hopefully start them on the right path to financial success and help keep them from getting into debt as they become adults."



The Cadillac Converj concept foreshadowed the ELR.

Planned 'Luxurious' Cadillac Plug-In Will be True to Its Concept Design

General Motors is in the process of preparing its Detroit-Hamtramck plant to build the Cadillac ELR, a luxury coupe featuring extended-range electric technology.

GM president Mark Reuss declined to give many details about the vehicle and its features and capabilities at the SAE Convergence conference in Detroit's Cobo Center. He said GM would give more details soon.

"The ELR will be in a class by itself, further proof of our commitment to electric vehicles and advanced technology," Reuss said.

"People will instantly recognize it as a Cadillac by its distinctive, signature look and true-to-concept exterior design."

Production is scheduled to begin in late 2013 and represents a \$35 million investment at Detroit-Hamtramck.

Overall, GM has spent \$561 million in total product investment at the plant since December 2009.

"This investment reflects the corporation's confidence that the highly-skilled members of UAW Local 22 can successfully build one of the most technologically-advanced vehicles in the world," said UAW Vice President Joe Ashton.

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