Tech Center News

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TeamGM Cares volunteers recently planted urban gardens in Detroit.

TeamGM Cares Week Help Neighborhood Projects

by Jim Stickford

GM is getting ready to launch its annual teamGM Cares Week, an event that lets the company and its employees give back to the communities that are home to GM facilities. This year's event takes place during the week of Sept. 16.

This is our seventh teamGM Cares week, my fifth managing it,' said Sean O'Sullivan, teamGM Cares Program officer. "The idea is that for a week GM employee volunteers make a concentrated effort to help out their local communities. We do this on a national level. This year we have teamGM

Cares projects taking place in eight states, including Michigan, Georgia, Illinois, Missouri, Indiana and Texas. We are also working in the Canadian province of Ontario."

While the teamGM Cares program has a special week of activities, it operates year round.

"In any given year, we start planning between the months of January and April," O'Sullivan said. "After that it's off to the races and we go off ripping and roaring.

Some teamGM Cares activities that have taken place earlier this year include volunteers from the

GM Upgrades Vehicles Via Google Building on nearly 25 years of bedded technology experience in and in-vehicle applications to connectivity leadership, General the vehicle, and increasingly ex-

Motors will be introducing new in-vehicle technology that will enhance the overall customer experience and make it easier than ever for customers to bring their digital lives into future connected vehicles.

GM's research shows that many customers prefer an em-

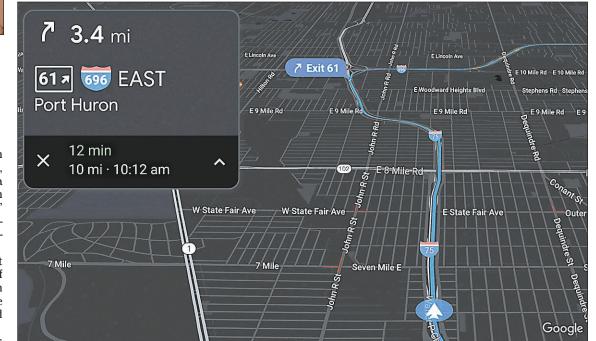
pect seamless integration between the tech in their hands and the tech in their vehicle, said General Motors spokeswoman Katie Downey.

Listening to customer feedback, GM will work with Google to bring new options for a voice assistant, embedded navigation

compatible Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac vehicles in regions around the world beginning in 2021.

Broad deployment across all GM vehicle brands is expected to roll out in the years following, Downey said.

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Google Maps will be integrated into GM Infotainment in 2021, making the system easier to use by drivers.

Jeep Employees Proud of Gladiator Work CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

GM is UAW Strike Target

by TOM KRISHER AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) - The United Auto Workers union has picked General Motors as the target company for this year's contract talks with Detroit's three automakers.

The move announced Sept. 3 means that GM will be the focus of bargaining, and any deal with the company will set the pattern for Ford and Fiat Chrysler. It also means that if the union decides to go on strike, it will be against GM. Contracts between the union

representing about 152,000 workers and GM, Ford and Fiat Chrysler expire at 11:59 p.m. on Sept. 14.

plans to shutter four factories in Ohio, Michigan and Maryland. The union has pledged to fight the closures at two Detroit-area factories, in Lordstown, Ohio, and near Baltimore. Production already has stopped in Lordstown, Baltimore and one of the Detroit-area factories.

"We are focused. We are prepared and we are all ready to stand up for our members, our communities and our manufacturing future," union President Gary Jones said in a statement Tuesday.

GM said it looks forward to 'constructive discussions" with the union to build a strong future for employees and its business.

GM, the nation's largest au-Earlier Sept. 3 the union an- tomaker, likely was picked because talks there will be the most difficult of the Detroit Three, said Kristin Dziczek, vice president of

Jeep is proud of the new 2020 Gladiator, and Jeep employees are proud to be able to build the new pickup truck and carry on a tradition that extends back more than 75 years.

Building the new 2020 Jeep Gladiator continues a decadeslong, interconnected relationship between the city of Toledo and the Jeep brand, said Edward Cardenas, FCA multimedia editor.

For nearly 80 years, Jeeps have been built in Toledo, and that's a point of pride for the women and men who build the Gladiator in the south plant of the Toledo Assembly Complex, Cardenas said.

"While these skilled workers have worked for FCA for anywhere from a few years to a few decades, they all have an appreciation for their place in the long history with the Jeep brand and Toledo." Cardenas said. "This is true for Codey Simpson who was born and raised in the Toledo area. He initially worked on the Jeep

Wrangler, which is built in the north plant, before moving to the Gladiator decking area.'

"I get to say I am part of it," Simpson said. "Going through this whole process is just a dream come true for me.

Michael Carroll has been with Jeep for six years and is impressed with the new Gladiator.

"It's one of the best vehicles I've seen in a long time with all the different options that are available," Carroll said. "This is the only truck that you are ever going to find with a top that comes off, doors that can be removed and a windshield you can drop down to experience all the freedom of a topless truck."

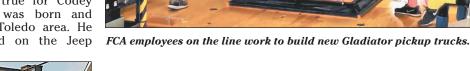


nounced that over 96 of its members voted to authorize strikes against the companies.

The strike authorization vote is a normal part of the bargaining process, and it doesn't mean that there will be a work stoppage. But tensions are high in contract talks this year because the automakers are making billions in profits and workers want a bigger slice. The companies, though, want to get closer to parity with foreign automakers with U.S. factories that are mainly in the South.

In a statement, the union said 96.4 percent of workers at General Motors voted to authorize a strike, while it was 95.98 percent at Ford and 96 percent at Fiat Chrysler.

Picking GM as the target is no surprise because it's the most profitable of the three companies, and it also has announced CONTINUED ON PAGE 4





Ford's hybrid police interceptor have been ordered by police units.

Ford Police Hybrids Save Taxpayers Cash on Fuel

When thinking of hybrid car said engines, most people don't think of them as ways to save taxpayers' money. But that's the case with the 2020 Ford Police Interceptor Utility.

Already America's best-selling police vehicle, the Ford Police Interceptor Utility is capturing the attention of law enforcement agencies for a new reason – the 2020 model is the first-ever pursuit-rated police utility vehicle with a standard hybrid engine,

Ford spokeswoman Michaela Johndrow.

Orders for the Ford Police Interceptor Utility Hybrid are piling up. Agencies in cities such as San Diego, Columbus, Ohio, and Madison, Wisc., have committed to adding hybrids to their law enforcement fleets, Johndrow said.

So far, these police agencies have ordered more than 2,600 units equipped with the vehicle's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

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TeamGM Cares **Projects Start** This Month

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Detroit area helping clean up the Cody neighborhood in Detroit in July.

"We helped clean up five elementary schools as well as a high school," O'Sullivan said. "We also boarded up abandoned buildings and planted urban gardens. Being able to do things like that is very satisfying."

TeamGM Cares just doesn't pick any charity to help, O'Sullivan said.

'We pick organizations that focus on areas we want to help.' O'Sullivan said. "The non-profits we help focus on things like education and improving the quality of life of people in the community.

So team GM Cares like to groups like Focus:HOPE, O'Sullivan said.

"They do a great job working with residents to improve their lives," O'Sullivan said.

volunteer Khristi Miller. manger for Focus:HOPE, said that this year teamGM Cares volunteers will come on Sept. 17 and Sept. 20 to help pack food packages for Focus:HOPE's food program.

"Ĕvery month we provide 41,000 meals to seniors," Miller said. "Of those 41,000 meals, 13,000 go to homebound people. When I talk with GM volunteers, I can tell they're happy to be able to do something that helps people, and not just have busy work to do."

TeamGM Cares Week 2019 will cover 242 Projects using 3,000 volunteers in eight states plus Ontario for 79 nonprofit organizations between Sept. 16-20, O'Sullivan said.

Here are a few of the Michiganbased nonprofit organizations receiving help: Autism Support & & Resource Center, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit, Capuchin Soup Kitchen, Forgotten Harvest, Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan, Grace Center of Hope, Habitat for Humanity Oakland County, Macomb County Habitat for Humanity, Michigan Science Center, and Wigs 4 Kids.

GM Connectivity Gets Upgrade With Google Technology

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Building on nearly 25 years of connectivity leadership, General Motors will be introducing new in-vehicle technology that will enhance the overall customer experience and make it easier than ever for customers to bring their digital lives into future connected vehicles.

GM's research shows that many customers prefer an embedded technology experience in the vehicle, and increasingly expect seamless integration between the tech in their hands and the tech in their vehicle, said General Motors spokeswoman Katie Downey.

Listening to customer feedback, GM will work with Google to bring new options for a voice assistant, embedded navigation and in-vehicle applications to compatible Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac vehicles in regions around the world beginning in 2021.

Broad deployment across all GM vehicle brands is expected to roll out in the years following, Downey said.

We are re-envisioning the future in-vehicle customer experience, and this is just the first step. The integration of select Google technology and services into our vehicle infotainment systems will foster a more connected and efficient driving experience," said Santiago Chamorro, vice president for Global Connected Customer Experience, GM. "We will continue to offer our own unique infotainment features that only GM can deliver, such as service recommendations, vehicle health status, in-vehicle commerce and more, with the Google applications and services complementing our offerings."

Future GM infotainment systems will continue to be powered by Android, which enables GM to bring familiar and enhanced experiences from Google to the vehicle, Downey said.

Among the services are Voice Assistant. With the builtin Google Assistant, drivers will be able to make the most of their driving time in the vehicle and easily get things done hands-free using just their voice.

Drivers can use the Assistant to make calls or text a friend, play a favorite radio station or podcast, close the garage door (requires compatible smart home devices) or even change the temperature in the vehicle, all while keeping their eyes on the road and their hands on the wheel.

The Assistant integration will continue to evolve over time, so that drivers in the future will be able to simply use their voice to engage with their vehicle, which could include renewing their OnStar or Connected Services plans, checking on their tire pressure, scheduling service and more, Downey said.

There is also Embedded Navigation. Google Maps in the vehicle is constantly up-to-date and helps drivers navigate with realtime traffic information, automatic re-routing and lane guidance, Downy said.

With the Assistant, drivers can use voice to navigate home, share their ETA, find the nearest gas station and EV charging stations (based on availability) or

ask about a store's hours without needing a phone.

Another service is In-Vehicle Applications. The Google Play Store lets drivers find their favorite apps and services designed specifically for in-vehicle use. Drivers can listen to the same albums, podcasts and audiobooks in the vehicle as at home and stay connected with their most important contacts on communication apps, Downey said.

"GM is a trailblazer with Android in automotive and a leader in vehicle connectivity," said Patrick Brady, vice president of Engineering, Google.

We're incredibly excited to work with them to transform the way people consume media, stay in touch, navigate and access information on the go."

While using Google applications and services make driving safer, it's still vitally important that the driver must always remain attentive.

Additional services and data may be required.

Full feature details will be available closer to launch. Downey said.

Mount Clemens Startup Enters Into New Partnership

The MDNA and Machine Hub of Mount Clemens have entered into a new strategic partnership that will modernize, update and transform LOCATOR Services Inc. across all of its product lines.

"LOCATOR Services Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Machinery Dealers National Association (MDNA), offers top-quality products to the used machinery industry.," said Machine Hub CEO Jimmy Gwizdala. "Their primary objective is to provide easy-to-use and effective tools to help businesses buy and sell machines and equipment.'

Products include: Locator Customer & Inventory Management System (Locator CIMS), Gwizdala said. LocatorOnline.com which has been a major online listing service for used metalworking machinery, with tens of thousands of For Sale listings updated on a regular basis.

The companion printed directory, LOCATOR of Used Machinery, Equipment & Plant Services, the world's largest printed directory of available used metalworking equipment, Gwizdala said. This directory reaches almost 100,000 buyers, sellers and dealers

"With the expertise that Machine Hub brings to this strategic partnership, dealers and endusers will be able to access the most advanced machine dealer software system on the market," Gwizdala said. "This system includes improved inventory management (CIMS), customer relation management (CRM), analytics, marketing resources, and machine maintenance logs. Additionally, Machine Hub has made it incredibly easy to get your machines to market with an intuitive and bustling marketplace."

"We're excited by the opportunity to work closely with the MD-NA and look forward to providing MDNA Members with substantial benefits in the years to come,' said Jeff Stern, COO of Machine Hub. "It's an honor to be connected to an association that does so much for its members. We built Machine Hub to assist machine dealers in doing what they do best, buying and selling machines. I look at this partnership as an extension of this core company philosophy."

MDNA Executive Vice President Mark Robinson said the organization's strategic partnership with Machine Hub will bring an enormous new member benefit to the MDNA by immediately empowering members to improve their marketing, selling and inventory tools.

"We selected Machine Hub to partner with because they built

their product offering with direct message to end-users ahead of input from the customers and dealers that trade in and know this industry, and this input will continue to drive updates to existing products and the development of new ones," Robinson said. "This will allow MDNA Members to deliver their unique

the competition."

Machine Hub was developed to fill a huge gap in the used machinery industry, said Gwizdala. There was a lack of technologies available to help brokers and dealers become more efficient and profitable.





Street Gets Jazz Legend Name

DETROIT (AP) – Late jazz trumpeting great Marcus Bel-grave will be honored with a downtown Detroit street ceremonially renamed in his honor.

Belgrave's name will grace John R where it meets Madison Avenue, which takes the name "Aretha Franklin Boulevard."

Belgrave, who died in 2015, played with singer Franklin early on.

The sign was unveiled last month before the launch of the Detroit Jazz Festival.

Singer Joan Belgrave says in a statement to the media that she worked on the effort on behalf of her late husband.



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GM Employee Appreciated Iconic Design of Cooper Mini

by Jim Stickford

The thing about fans of automotive design is that they appreciate great design no matter who made the car. At least that's what Adam Bernard, the proud owner of a 1972 Mini Cooper and associate director of Competition Intelligence at GM says.

Bernard has a long history with GM. He has a mechanical engineering degree and worked for many years in the company's design department.

Even before working for GM, Bernard said he was a fan of cars and interesting car designs. So when he had the chance to purchase a 1972 Mini Cooper car, he took it.

"I consider this car to be a design icon," Bernard said. "It's a great example of automotive engineering and innovation. It's because of its great use of interior space. The car is 10 feet long and seats four people and has some room for luggage. They made the wheels small so that they wouldn't intrude into the interior space of the vehicle.'

Bernard said the Mini Cooper was an example of using innovation as a way to adapt to circumstances. The first Mini Cooper came out in 1960.

The head of what was then called the British Motor Company (BMC) got tired of seeing 'bubble' cars in Europe and asked his people to design something that would replace them," Bernard said. "Bubble cars were vehicles that looked like a bubble with four wheels. The BMW Isetta is an example of one. They were easy to make and very economical fuel-wise."

After the Suez incident in 1956, the price of gas became very high in Europe, so having cars that were fuel efficient became a great selling point.

But BMC wanted a better car, and thus the Mini Cooper was born. The first editions came out in 1960, Bernard said. They were originally made until 2000.

"It's an interesting story," Bernard said. "BMC became British Leyland in 1968. British Leyland became the Rover Group in 1986. The company eventually became bankrupt and BMW bought up what assets they could. That included the Mini Cooper nameplate. BMW started building their version of the Mini in 2001.

Mini, also known as the Mini and tighter European cities and

Austin, for 21 years. Over time he's put a lot of work into the vehicle.

"One of the ethos around the Mini Cooper is personalization," Bernard said. "So it's not unusual to swap out components. I also own a 1963 Buick Riviera. That's another vehicle I consider a design icon. That car I try to keep as close to original as possible. But it's different for the Mini. People were always making personal modifications to those, so I don't mind replacing components.'

Changes include putting in bigger wheels, a bigger engine, a new interior as well as body work. Bernard has also replaced the chrome.

"The car was in decent shape when I bought it," Bernard said. "But it was an old car then, and 21 years is a long time in and of itself. I'm glad I've done the work. The car has lasted as a result of everything I've done.'

And Bernard is looking forward to the time when he can get replacement parts created through 3D printing.

While having a long career at GM, Bernard said his colleagues "totally get" why he would own a Mini because it's an iconic de-

"Auto people love great design, no matter who makes it," Bernard said. "I got my 1963 Riviera in 2010 because it's such an iconic design and represents its time. The same with the Mini. I also just bought a new Cadillac XLR two years ago. I really like that kind of slick design. And it's a really nice ride. My partner, Rich Kwiecien, owns a 1963 Lincoln Continental. People call it the Kennedy car after President Kennedy. That's another great design icon, but that's it for us. There's no more room for classics in the garage. I will say the Continental looks great in the driveway.'

Bernard said his colleagues liked the Mini so much that they even used it in a photo a number of years ago.

They wanted to compare it to an American car built and designed roughly around the same time," Bernard said. "So we lined it up across from a 1955 Chevy. It showed just how different the design concepts were between Europe and North America."

The Mini was designed in re-Bernard said he's owned his sponse to different fuel costs



Bernard's 1960 Cooper Mini and this 1955 Chevy were lined up in this photo of European and American cars.

roads, while the Chevy was a mass market vehicle designed in the post-war years of prosperity in the United States.

"One thing I hear from people when they see the Mini for the first time is how small it is," Bernard said. "They have heard of the Mini, of course, but they have to see one to understand how small it is."

Bernard said that he gets an every day car from GM as part of his job, so he only drives the Mini on special occasions. So he does drive the car. It doesn't just sit in a storage area.

But while the Mini is an icon of design, it's still a car that's almost 50 years old, Bernard said. For example, its ride isn't the greatest or smoothest, especial-

ly when driving over winter-ravaged Michigan roads.

"It's not a car for driving from Detroit to, say, Kalamazoo," Bernard said. "I can do that with the Riviera. I will say that with 80 horsepower it's easy to cruise comfortably at 80 mph. As Winston Churchill once said, it's not the size of the dog in the fight, but the size of the fight in the dog.'



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TECH CENTER NEWS

Ford Hybrid Police Vehicle Saves Taxpayers Money

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

standard 3.3-liter hybrid engine.

These commitments represent more than 17 percent of the 15,000-plus orders for the 2020 Police Interceptor Utility. Conventional gas engine options include a 3.0-liter EcoBoost V6 and a 3.3-liter V6 with flex fuel capability.

Many agencies continue to evaluate their vehicle needs and will place orders later in the year. A few, such as the Los Angeles Police Department, tested the new hybrid in advance, and have already placed orders, Johndrow said.

"I drove the new Police Interceptor Utility and was impressed," said George Yamanaka, Los Angeles Police Department fleet manager. "It's great - a hybrid utility vehicle that doesn't sacrifice performance."

As part of an ongoing effort to convert its full patrol fleet to hybrid power, the department has ordered 39 2020 Police Interceptor Utility Hybrids to date, according to Yamanaka. He said the arrival of the 2020 Police Interceptor Utility Hybrid gives law enforcement an option that until now didn't exist - a pursuit-rated hybrid SUV.

While actual mileage will vary, the new 2020 Police Interceptor Utility Hybrid has an EPA-estimated rating of 23 mpg city/24 mpg highway/24 mpg combined - a 41 percent improvement over the current Police Interceptor Utility equipped with a convengas engine, tional 3.7-liter Johndrow said.

Projections indicate the hybrid could help police departments save between \$3,500 and \$5,700 per vehicle annually in fuel costs versus the current Police Interceptor Utility.

Applying those projected numbers to every Police Interceptor Utility sold in 2018 would equate to an estimated savings of more than 43 million gallons of fuel and an estimated annual cost savings of between \$118 million and \$193 million.

Hybrid technology is ideal for threats.

law enforcement because of the potentially significant idle-time fuel savings, Johndrow said. When police vehicles are stationary, a conventional gasoline engine must run continuously to power emergency lighting, radios, computers and other onboard electrical equipment.

The hybrid powertrain of the Police Interceptor Utility allows the engine to shut off for extended periods, powering electrical equipment via its lithium-ion battery and helping achieve significant reductions in fuel usage and CO2 emissions over the previous generation Police Interceptor Utility.

"Our Police Interceptor Utility's standard hybrid powertrain provides the potential for significant fuel savings with improved performance and no tradeoffs in safety or cargo space," said Stephen Tyler, Ford police brand marketing manager. "It's a winwin-win formula for law enforcement."

In testing by the Michigan State Police in 2018, the new Police Interceptor Utility Hybrid had the fastest 0-100 mph acceleration, fastest lap, fastest average lap and highest top speed of 137 mph versus competitive police utility vehicles, including V8powered entries.

The only faster entry was the Ford Police Interceptor Utility powered by a 3.0-liter EcoBoost engine.

And in Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department testing, the new Police Interceptor Utility Hybrid bested the outgoing 3.7-literequipped model in 0-60 mph by 1.1 seconds and in the 0-100 mph run by 4.7 seconds. It also turned a fastest lap time that was 2.4 seconds better than the 3.7-liter and fastest average lap time that was 1.7 seconds better

The vehicle is purpose-built at Ford's Chicago Assembly Plant.

The Police Interceptor Utility includes vinyl rear seats and vinyl flooring enable easy cleaning, and anti-stab plates in the rear of the front seatbacks help protect officers from potential

GM is UAW Strike Target

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

labor, industry and economics at the Center for Automotive Research, an industry think tank.

Although she doesn't know how negotiations have been going so far, the likelihood of a strike was high even before the union picked GM, Dziczek said. The union raised strike pay for workers and has said it will use all tools in its toolbox during contract talks.

labor costs, which have grown when compared with Southern U.S. factories run by Toyota, Nissan, Hyundai-Kia, Volkswagen and others.

Fiat Chrysler pays about \$55 per hour in wages and benefits to UAW workers, while it's \$61 at Ford and \$63 at GM. That compares with an average of \$50 per hour at plants owned by foreignbased automakers, according to the Center for Automotive Research, an industry think tank. Also playing into the talks is a corruption investigation into the union's leadership. Last month federal agents searched Jones' suburban Detroit home, and several union leaders and executives have been found guilty of taking money from a training center run jointly by the UAW and Fiat Chrysler. Jones, who has not been bor Day parade but exited the route before its completion and didn't speak to union members. About 20 marchers carried signs calling for the union to be reformed.



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In addition to the four plants that GM has slated to close, it also has three other factories in Michigan and Kansas that aren't being fully utilized, and the union will seek new products for those plants, she said. GM also leads all automakers in production of vehicles in Mexico, another thorny issue for the union.

It's also possible there will be an economic downturn within charged, marched in Detroit's Lathe term of the next four-year contract, so the union will seek job and income security, Dziczek said

Adding to the tension is the automakers' quest to trim hourly

State Gathering to Look at Great Lakes Issues

next year in Michigan will seek to identify and explore solutions to water infrastructure challenges faced by the Great Lakes region.

The state is lining up speakers for the Great Lakes Water Infrastructure Conference, which

NOVI, Mich. (AP) – A gathering runs April 28-30 at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi. Registration starts in January

> Topics are expected to include funding, water affordability, environmental health, water planning, green infrastructure and cybersecurity.

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More Nissan Money Issues

TOKYO (AP) - The chief exec- tion system to Greg Kelly, a forutive of scandal-plagued Nissan on Sept. 5 acknowledged receiving inappropriate payments from the Japanese automaker but denied he ordered or knew about it.

Hiroto Saikawa said an internal company investigation found he had received the money, but he would return it.

"I thought everything was being carried out properly, and I didn't know anything," Saikawa told reporters.

Nissan said that the findings from its ongoing internal investigation will be reported to the board of directors Sept. 2, but declined to elaborate, saying the board was independent.

"We have heard that share appreciation rights will also be part of this report," the company said, referring to the payments linked to Nissan share prices that executives, including Saikawa, received as bonuses.

Japanese media reports have said that the dates were changed to allow the maximum amount of cashing in on the stock prices, allowing Saikawa to receive hundreds of thousands of dollars in dubious compensation.

The latest development comes as former Nissan Chairman Carlos Ghosn is awaiting trial on charges of falsifying documents on deferred compensation and of breach of trust in allegedly diverting Nissan money for personal gain. He denies wrongdoing.

Saikawa blamed what he called "the Ghosn system" at Nissan for the payments, and said the system was being reviewed.

Saikawa succeeded Ghosn and in the past was closely allied with Ghosn, who led Nissan for two decades and made it one of the most successful automakers in the world.

Saikawa said he had left the task of overseeing the compensamer board director who was arrested last year with Ghosn on financial misconduct allegations. Kelly has maintained his innocence.

Since the arrests of Ghosn and Kelly, Nissan profits and sales have tumbled. Investors are also worried about Nissan's relationship with alliance partner Renault SA of France, which owns 43 percent of Nissan.

GM Car Services Help Dorian Storm Victims

To help keep people in the path of Hurricane Dorian safe, General Motors will offer complimentary OnStar Crisis Assist services for owners of all properly equipped Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac vehicles.

All owners of properly equipped Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac vehicles in the impacted region can access On-Star Advisors who are ready to help 24/7 with the following services:

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- Directing to available resources like shelter, food and water;
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