

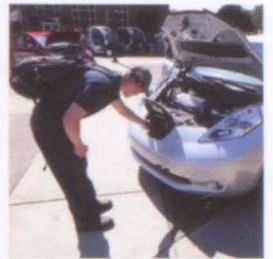


#### ◀ GREAT SUCCESSOR

The leadership of North Korea passed from father to son when Kim Jong Il (right) died of a heart attack and his youngest son, Kim Jong Un (third from right), became ruler. Although North Korean leaders called Kim Jong Un the Great Successor, officials worldwide were unsure of his readiness to lead the nation, known for its strong military and poor human rights record.

#### ▼ CARS OF THE FUTURE

Cars powered by electricity, such as the Nissan Leaf and the Chevy Volt, became more readily available for those interested in energy efficiency. However, selling for \$35,000-\$40,000 meant the cars were still out of the price range for many.



#### ▲ ARAB SPRING CONTINUES

The Arab Spring uprisings of 2011 continued into 2012. Egyptians returned to Tahrir Square to protest the temporary government, and violence increased when a military police officer was seen beating a woman. In Syria, more than 5,000 people died in 2011 during government protests, while the government said it was cracking down on what it called armed terrorists.