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Career Building Tool Sets Awarded to Eight Chattahoochee Tech Students through Mike Peterson Memorial Award

(Marietta, Ga. – April 19, 2018)

Eight Chattahoochee Tech students in the college's Automotive Technology, Diesel Equipment Technology, and Automotive Collision Repairs programs were presented with complete Snap-on tool sets funded through the Mike Peterson Memorial Scholarship Fund in a ceremony held Wednesday, April 18, at the Chattahoochee Tech Marietta Campus.

Award winners received a Snap-on tool rollcart and a set of tools each valued at approximately \$6,000. This equipment is essential for these students completing school as they enter careers in the automotive, diesel, and collision repair industries.

The 2018 Mike Peterson Memorial Award recipients were:

- Andrew Ballew, of Fannin County
- Dawson Caldwell, of Cherokee County
- Ronnie Cooper, of Paulding County
- Jose De La Pava, of Cobb County
- Joshua Owens, of Paulding County
- Wiley Pritchett, of Cobb County
- Arthur Tarantino, of Cobb County
- Tyler Bailey, of Cobb County.

Cobb County residents Alan and Claire Peterson established this annual awards program 14 years ago to honor the memory of their son, Mike Peterson, an automotive enthusiast who passed away in 2002. The awards are funded through proceeds raised by the annual Mike Peterson Memorial Golf Tournament.

"This is a tremendous gift of support for our students," said Dr. Ron Newcomb, President of Chattahoochee Technical College. "The Peterson family's steadfast support for our students has changed their lives. We are all very grateful for their support and we are truly inspired by their commitment."

In order to be considered for the Mike Peterson Memorial Award, Chattahoochee Tech students in the Automotive Technology, Diesel Equipment Technology, and Automotive Collision Repair programs must meet award GPA requirements, complete an application, write an essay and provide a letter of recommendation from a current Chattahoochee Tech faculty member.

“This award is a true blessing for me and my family,” said award winner Dawson Caldwell, of Ball Ground, who is in the Automotive Technology program at the Chattahoochee Tech Appalachian Campus. “My wife and I had been discussing a way to purchase a tool set before I graduate. But with two young children and me not working full time, it was going to be a challenge. This award has relieved so much of that stress from my wife and me.”

Award winner Tyler Baily, of Marietta, is completing his studies in the Automotive Collision Repair program at the Chattahoochee Tech Appalachian Campus. “As one of this year’s recipients, I am beyond grateful for everything that is included in the tool set and for all the help it will provide me while pursuing my career in collision repair,” said Bailey.

“Throughout the last two years in this program I have learned more than I ever thought I could,” said Baily. “I am beyond excited to begin my career in the industry.”

For more information, visit www.ChattahoocheeTech.edu.

About Chattahoochee Technical College:

A unit of the Technical College System of Georgia, Chattahoochee Technical College is the largest technical college in the state with more than 14,000 students enrolled in the past academic year. The college has eight campus locations serving the counties of Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Gilmer, Paulding, and Pickens. CTC provides a high quality, easily accessible college education at a fraction of the cost of other area colleges and universities. Chattahoochee Technical College awards more than 70 certificates, diplomas and associate degrees in 45 programs of study through traditional classroom courses as well as online training. The college also provides the community with learning opportunities, including customized workforce training, adult literacy and continuing education programs. For more information, visit www.ChattahoocheeTech.edu.

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