

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Greg Clark, SVP of Marketing
817-713-1596
greg.clark@calibercollision.com

Local Businesses Thank and Honor Veteran for Service through Donation of Recycled Rides Vehicle

Owning a car would have been as alien as “getting to the moon,” says local National Guard veteran.

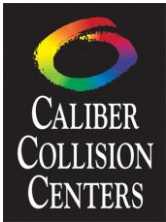
LEWISVILLE, TX – February 23, 2012 – For many veterans, returning home and assimilating back into civilian life is sometimes a struggle. As a way to thank and honor their service, Lewisville-based Caliber Collision Centers and GEICO Insurance have teamed up through a nationwide program called Recycled Rides to donate a refurbished vehicle to a local Dallas-area veteran.

John Jones and his family will be presented with keys and title to a 2006 Toyota Camry on February 28, 1:00 pm, at Caliber Collision’s Keller Center on 1725 S. Main St.

Diagnosed with post traumatic syndrome and suffering from a back injury, Jones has been unable to work since returning home to Dallas in August 2011 after two back-to-back tours of duty in Iraq. Jones, his wife and two children, ages 13 and 10, currently live with his sister and rely on family for support during this difficult time. Lack of transportation has been particularly difficult due to frequent visits to doctors and everyday requirements of school-aged children.

With limited financial resources, buying a car at this point in their lives would be as alien as “getting to the moon,” according to Jones, but having a car will be a “gigantic step to making us feel like a normal family again.”

Jones was nominated for the Recycled Rides vehicle by ReserveAid, a nonprofit organization that provides assistance to military families with a Reservist or National Guard member on full time deployment or who has recently returned from deployment.



News Release

“Partnering with businesses like Caliber Collision and GEICO through Recycled Rides provides us with a wonderful resource in our mission to alleviate the financial burdens placed on the men and women who have been called to serve our country,” said Polly Weidenkopf, Executive Director of ReserveAid.

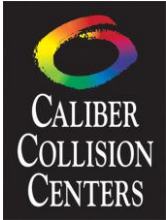
“Our purpose day in and day out at Caliber is ‘restoring our customers to the rhythm of their lives.’ We thank John for his service to our country and hope this vehicle acts as a catalyst that restores his entire family back to the rhythm of their lives,” said Steve Grimshaw, Caliber Collision President and CEO.

“We truly appreciate the sacrifices that individuals like John Jones have made on behalf of our country,” said Don Lyons, senior vice president and chairman of the GEICO Philanthropic Foundation. “We support Recycled Rides’ goal to provide a helping hand to those in need and are committed to giving back to our local communities.” GEICO donated the vehicle and Caliber Collision provided the resources and services to refurbish it for the Jones family.

Recycled Rides is a nationwide program of auto body repairers collaborating with insurers, parts suppliers and other vendors to refurbish and donate vehicles to needy families. Caliber Collision technicians and other staff members donated their time to fix the vehicle as well as collect gifts for the Jones family. Other local businesses that donated parts, materials and services include Ethridge Auto Center, Dent Repair Solutions, Bagwell’s Auto Trim, Star Tires and LKQ Parts.

This gifting at Caliber’s Keller center is one of more than 12 Recycled Rides that the company plans to donate over the next 12 months across California, Arizona, Nevada and Texas, according to Michael Quinn, Caliber Collision Vice President of Industry and Community Relations. Later this week, on Friday, March 2, Caliber’s Round Rock Center will present a Recycled Rides vehicle to Family Promise, whose mission is to help homeless and low-income families achieve sustainable independence.

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News Release

About Caliber Collision Centers

Caliber Collision Centers is one of the largest collision repair companies in America with 100 centers across California, Arizona, Nevada and Texas. Caliber is consistently ranked among the highest customer satisfaction scores in the industry and backs all repair work with a written, lifetime warranty available at any of its 100 repair centers. For more information about Caliber Collision Centers, visit our website at www.calibercollision.com.