



**For Immediate Release**

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**Terry Campus student helps save life of cardiac victim**

DOVER- Delaware Tech, Terry Campus EMT paramedic student Matt Palmer got a chance to put his newly developed skills to the test as a first responder in a life threatening situation. What started out to be a typical June evening in the Swartzentruber home turned into a critical situation as Sussex County farmer Richard Swartzentruber was discovered by his wife lifeless and with no sign of a pulse. Mrs. Swartzentruber, thinking quickly, called Sussex County 911 where dispatcher Todd McCabe was able to give CPR instructions to Richard's wife while she relayed the instructions to their son Joshua to administer chest compressions.

Sussex County Emergency Medical Services responded to the scene within minutes with paramedics John Jacobs, Holly Donovan and Sharon Wile and Terry Campus student Matt Palmer. The crew immediately took over life saving procedures with Matt playing a critical role in accessing the situation and utilizing the skills he had been taught in the Delaware Tech Paramedic program. Working with Matt was field training officer John Jacobs, an alumnus of Delaware Tech from the first Terry Campus paramedic class of 2000.

Paramedic Department Chair Chris Hainsworth said, "In over 20 years of working

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in this field, I've only seen 2 or 3 cardiac arrest situations where the responders successfully saved the victim's life and then were able to meet them afterwards like this."

This is a rare opportunity for a student to have such an experience he said.

Mr. Swartzentruber, who lives in Greenwood, Delaware with his wife and five children, was transported first to Bayhealth Milford Memorial Hospital and later to Bayhealth Kent General Hospital where he was released with expectations of a full recovery.

Mr. Robert Collins, president of the Greenwood Fire Department, said this is a perfect example of how all involved -- the 911 Center, the Fire Department, Sussex County Medical Services, State Police, ambulance transportation, and Richard's family -- collaborated and did exactly what was needed to save a life.

To find out more about the Paramedic Program at the Terry Campus contact Chris Hainsworth 302-857-1733 or visit [www.dtcc.edu/terry](http://www.dtcc.edu/terry).

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