

Part- Time Driver***Marty Raymon***

Hi, my name is Marty Raymon & I am a part time driver for Jo Daviess County Transit and have been working here since the spring of 2021. A friend of mine, Phil Sullivan - who also works for JDCT – told me that they were looking for drivers and that I should apply. Well, I did and, lo and behold, they hired me! In truth, it's a wonderful job – one of the best I have ever had. The most rewarding part of it is the satisfaction that comes from helping our passengers live their best lives. People have no idea just how important it is for the people we serve to have a reliable and economical means of transportation to help them do what they need to do. Whether it's going to the doctor or dentist, a trip to the bank or to go shopping, or helping folks get to and from the Workshop so they can be productive and engaged members of the community, the greatest satisfaction we all get is to be a part of trying to make our consumers live a better life.

A little about me. Although I am not originally from Jo Daviess county, my roots and connections to the area run long and deep.

Way back in the early 70's my folks, who were living in the Chicago suburbs, began looking for a future retirement home. Apple Canyon Lake was just getting developed and they decided to buy a lot and start building. Of course, being a farm boy, my dad decided to do it himself and for the next twenty years we all worked on plumbing, electrical, drywall, flooring, and whatever else needed to get done. Goes without saying, we spent a LOT of time out here! I was married at the lake, and my brother & his family moved to Scales Mound over 20 years ago. When my old profession in Chicago disappeared about 2008, I began spending more and time in Jo Daviess county. I am originally a musician by trade and found out that, between Galena and some of the other surrounding towns, I could actually sort of make a living out here. Push finally came to shove and I decided to throw the dice, buy a house outside Galena, and move here full time in 2015. It was a good decision, to say the least.

In my spare time I like to play music, garden, golf, cook, and spend time with my dog, my cat, and my friends. Hopefully I will see you on the bus or the van one of these days. Give us a call.

Part- Time Driver***Dan Dillon***

Hello!! My name is Dan Dillon and I have driven for Transit for 5 years, mostly local routes, but I do occasional medical trips. I really enjoy the people I transport and my co-workers. I drive part-time because I am retired after working 40+ years in operating heavy equipment. My wife, Linda, and I have 6 kids and 21 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren!!! Yikes!!! I enjoy the kids, old cars, and being retired.

Mechanic/Collision Technician***Phil Sullivan***

Phil has worked for Jo Daviess County Transit for 14 years as a Driver and Mechanic/Collision Technician. Phil's sense of humor, and unique zealous for life has been a joy to have as a member of our team. I know that his regular passengers he transports look forward to seeing him every week, and request him by name if he is on vacation. Outside of work, Phil is an avid musician in his band, playing gigs nearly every weekend. Phil is quite the talented 'handy-man', working on projects in his home garage.

Full-Time Driver

Bill Steger

Relocated to Galena in 1999

Serviced 6 years in the U.S. Army deployed 24 months in Vietnam

Wife Kathryn has taught in Galena Middle School

5 Children 9 Grandchildren & 2 Great Grandchildren

Hometown Steger IL.

Full-Time Driver

Annette Story

Hi, my name is Annette Story. I am a driver for Jo Daviess County Transit. I am originally from the Chicago suburbs, but I live in Scales Mound now. I raised my two kids, Joshua and Isabella. When they were little, I helped coach the basketball/football teams and I always enjoyed watching them play. Josh, my oldest, graduated in 2020 and now attends college in Salt Lake City, UT at Neumont College of Computer Science. Isabella, my youngest, is a senior this year and is not sure what she would like to do yet, but I know she will do amazing in whatever she decides. She enjoys art very much and she is very talented at it. She would like to get an apprenticeship at a tattoo shop or maybe do trade welding. A little about myself, I am the middle of 5 kids, 2 boys, and 3 girls. I grew up in Park Ridge then moved to Galena. I played some basketball and softball on a summer league out of High School. I have always worked babysitting, at a bakery, and Target. I think I have a really good work ethic. I am polite to my coworkers and passengers. I understand teamwork and working together. I love working for Jo Daviess County Transit because of my fellow drivers and how we look out for one another, helping each other out. I enjoy helping people and making a difference in someone's day or life. It is very rewarding to me. I have worked for Jo Daviess County Transit for 4 ½ years.

Full-Time Driver

Crystal Panfil

Hello, my name is Crystal Panfil and I have worked with Jo Daviess County transit as a transit driver for the past 3 years. I've been in the customer service industry for over 30 years. I really enjoy interacting with our riders and always strive to provide the best customer service possible.

I am originally from Park Ridge Illinois, married to my husband George for 27 years; and have a very handsome cat named Putter. I have lived in Jo Daviess County for over 30 years. Outside of work, I have a small organic apiary; we also love to hunt, fish, ATV, travel, barbecuing and spending time with our amazing group of friends. I am grateful every day to be working for transit and absolutely adore my transit family.

Operations Manager

Todd Holland

In 2007, I began my career with Jo Daviess County Transit as Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor. As time progressed, so has my role, first moving to Fleet and Facilities Manager and currently Operations Manager. In my 15-year career at JDCT, I have overseen nearly 4.5 million miles travelled in Jo Daviess County by a team of dedicated drivers transporting the residents and visitors of the County.

A lifelong resident of the County myself, I grew up on a small family owned and operated dairy farm in the rolling hills of rural JDC. I attended River Ridge Community School and Highland Community College where I graduated with an AAS in Automotive Mechanics.

With a passion for the outdoors or anything mechanical, I can usually be found under the hood of a new project, or outside enjoying time with my wife, daughter, family and friends.

Transit Director/Program Compliance Oversight Monitor

Nicole Hermsen

Before I delve into my current role and why Jo Daviess County Transit is the most underutilized resource in the County, I will take you back in time to where it all started. I was born and raised in Republic, WA with my 5 brothers. I absolutely relished the fact that I grew up in a rural country town nestled in the mountains of Washington State. After high school, I played collegiate softball in California, upon graduation; I was eager to continue my education at Marquette University; which is why I am a Midwest Transplant. I spent 9 years in Milwaukee, WI; and I had the absolute pleasure of working in the Pharmaceutical Chemistry industry for 6 of those years. At this point, you are probably wondering how I ended up in Galena, IL; and that is truly the best part, my husband! We have a beautiful daughter, 2 dogs (Duke and Dale), and 3 cats (Fat Tammy, Princess & Captain Hook). We spend our time primarily outdoors; we are avid golfers, we love sports, and we enjoy family time. I continue to enjoy playing softball, gardening, reading, hiking with my dogs, and cooking.

Now we are in January of 2021, I became the Program Compliance Oversight Monitor (PCOM) for Jo Daviess County. In August of 2021, I became the Transit Director and PCOM for Jo Daviess County. Whew! You made it through the very condensed journey of my life and interests to this point.

What is a Chemistry nerd doing as a Director of Transportation for Jo Daviess County? It is simple, really. For every job that I have ever held, it has been in the service of others. Since August of 2021, I have had the pleasure of watching our service transform lives. Yes, I said it, transform lives. You might be wondering how that is possible, I'll tell you. Take for instance, a simple task, going to the grocery store. If you or I want to go to the grocery store, we get in the car and go. For others, it is not that simple, some are unable to drive due to their age or health conditions, or some individuals might not have a mode of transportation. That is where we come in! Whether it is taking residents to medical appointments, the bank, or to get their hair done at the salon, we are making a difference in these individuals lives. Still not convinced in the transformation? We have had passengers credit Jo Daviess County Transit for receiving their degree from Highland Community College because without us, they would not have been able to attend classes. Whether big or small, we are here to provide a service to the residents of Jo Daviess County; and we love doing it. I look forward to spending the next 40+ years assisting the residents of Jo Daviess County with all of their transportation needs!