

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.

Part- Time Driver***Gene Schick***

Hello! My name is Gene Schick. I reside on a farm outside of Warren, IL with my wife, Paula. We have 3 married sons and 9 grandchildren that we love spending time with. We enjoy serving at our church and with our missionary son and his family in Honduras. I enjoy snowmobiling, biking, campfires and family activities.

I began my working career at age 7 delivering newspapers. I had a variety of jobs, attended barber college, and managed the John Deere Historic Site for 33 years. After "retirement", I drove semis for farmers, and helped with fieldwork. Another "retirement" lead me to drive for Monroe Truck Equipment for 10 years. 2 years ago, I "retired" again and had double knee replacement surgery August 2021. I used Jo Daviess County Transit for my rides to therapy. Because I was so pleased and impressed with the transit service for my therapy sessions, I knew I wanted to be a part of this great team. I began driving for Jo Daviess County Transit December 2021.

It is my desire to serve residents of Jo Daviess County who are in need of transportation. I hope to be a help and encouragement to those who I transport.

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***Ken Voigt***

My name is Ken Voigt and I have been working at Jo Daviess County Transit (JDCT) for 4 ½ years. I joined Transit because I love to drive and my wife and I could use additional retirement income. I quickly learned that what we do at JDCT is bigger than any one person, and the feeling of being part of something larger than myself is very rewarding. Traveling around with those less fortunate has helped me keep my life and that of my family in focus; we are truly blessed. We are reminded daily how wonderful it is to serve others. My wife and I moved to Galena in 2003. I retired in 2000 after working for American National Bank and Trust Company in Chicago for 30 years. Prior to my bank job, I spent 8 years in the US Air Force stationed at Westover AFB in Massachusetts and Offutt AFB in Nebraska. Following my retirement, I worked as a volunteer Treasurer for St Matthew Lutheran Church for more than 10 years. And just before joining JDCT, I delivered prescriptions for Hartig Drug.

My wife and I have a wonderful family. Our two boys and their wives have blessed us with 4 beautiful grandchildren: 3 granddaughters ages 19, 13, 10, and a 9 year old grandson. We cannot brag enough about each of them. I have been an avid fan of model railroading since I was 3 years old. My wife and I built several operating railroads and some come out only at Christmas time. Speaking of Christmas, we love decorating for Christmas and as of Christmas 2021, we have 12 Christmas trees decorated inside the house, (one for each of the biblical disciples) and 1 outside. We have a number of Christmas items that remain up all year around to remind us of the beauty and true meaning of Christmas. Finally, I enjoy working outside maintaining the lawn; the views of nature from our home are spectacular, regardless of the weather. In closing, I am pleased and very proud to wear the JDCT logo on my clothing. For me, serving others is what life is all about!

Full-Time Driver***Mike Aldous***

My name is Mike A, and I started working for the Jo Daviess County Transit as a driver in August 2021. I enjoy being able to assist the people in need. I am happy that the Jo Daviess County Transit offers this service to be able to take the people to their doctor appointments, to the grocery stores, etc. If this service were not available, the people would have to depend on family members, friends, and neighbors. I am rewarded at the end of my shift that I was able to help people in need.

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 XX. 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 am very XX. 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.



Full-Time Dispatcher

Casey Sullivan

I am Casey Sullivan and I am a dispatcher at Jo Daviess County Transit. It's a real pleasure working at Transit as we have such a wonderful bunch. We provide much needed service to the residents of Jo Daviess County. For example: Rides for all of the Consumers to and from The Workshop, rides for the residents of Jo Daviess County for non-emergency medical trips, shopping, dental appointments, Galena Food Pantry, etc. I like spending time with my nieces and nephews and their children. I like reading and old movies on TCM. Born and raised in Hanover, IL. While spending many years in Milwaukee, Madison, and Door County, WI.

Part-Time Dispatcher & Part-Time Driver

Kara Rau

My Name is Kara Rau I am a Dispatcher and Driver for Jo Daviess County Transit. I recently started working here this year. I live in Galena, IL and am originally from the Suburbs of Chicago. I absolutely enjoy working in the community. It is also a lot of fun to help people get to where they need to go. I have 4 amazing boys, and 2 beautiful granddaughters. Some of the things I enjoy doing is swimming, fishing, and spending quality time with my family. I have 2 kitties named Hiccup and Sophie. I definitely enjoy meeting new people and that is one of the reason's I enjoy working for Jo Daviess County Transit.

Office Manager

Katie Riley

My name is Katie Riley, and I am the Office Manager for Jo Daviess County Transit. I do the billing, invoicing, and recordkeeping. I have worked for Jo Daviess County before, for 14 years, and am happy to be working for them again. What I like about this job is all my co-workers and learning something new in my job. I currently reside in Dubuque IA, but have lived most life in Galena, IL. I live with my husband; I have two

sons, and am blessed with two beautiful granddaughters. Outside of work I like going on the river with friends, watching football and baseball, and spending time with my 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 4 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 lived in Galena, IL since November of 2019. We have a beautiful daughter, 2 dogs (Duke and Dale), and 2 cats (Fat Tammy and Princess). 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!