

Press Release



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OATS, Inc. Celebrates Saline County Driver for 15 Years of Service

(Sedalia, Missouri, January 28, 2010) – Terry Heilman of Marshall, Missouri began her career with OATS, Inc. fifteen years ago when she realized that her recent divorce would necessitate going back to work. Terry had not been formally employed for the previous 10 years, but spent a good portion of her time shuttling her mom and aunts to and from the places they needed to go. For Terry, driving for OATS seemed like a natural fit. She proceeded to obtain her chauffeur's license and was hired shortly after. Terry became so busy working for OATS that eventually her mom and two aunts, still in need of transportation, became regular passengers on Terry's OATS bus.



“I like that we're able to provide transportation to those who otherwise wouldn't have any,” says Terry who feels that everyone at OATS is committed to the purpose they serve, and that teamwork is prevalent. She also enjoys the variety of her job, having driven routes for Head Start, senior centers, dialysis centers and various workshops. Most importantly, Terry likes the people. “You must have a good sense of humor to work here. You meet a lot of different characters – it's the quirky little things we deal with that make it fun.”

Terry has 2 children and 3 grandchildren whom she enjoys visiting, and spends much of her spare time relaxing and reading. When asked why she's stayed with OATS all these years, Terry says “I've always enjoyed the job – it's just a lot of fun. I really enjoy it.”

For more information about OATS, Inc., please visit their website www.oatstransit.org or contact Tracy Walkup, Midwest Regional Director, 107 W. Pacific, Sedalia, MO 65301, 660-827-2611, tracy@oatstransit.org.

NOTICE TO ALL PRESS AGENCIES: Please do not refer to OATS as “Older Adults Transportation Service” as this is no longer part of the official name. OATS is a public transportation system that is available to everyone, regardless of age, race, gender, color, religion, or national origin, and in fact serves a wide diversity of clientele.

OATS is a private, not-for-profit corporation providing specialized transportation for senior citizens, people with disabilities and the rural general public in 87 Missouri counties. OATS is funded, in part, by an allotment of federal funds from the Missouri Department of Transportation and through contracts with various agencies. OATS also receives rider donations and private contributions, which are tax deductible. OATS is an equal opportunity employer M/F/H/V.

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