



BUSINESS beat

Janet E. Sherid Theory & Driving School

By Melissa Krutz



Fifteen-year resident of Lago de Vita, Janet E. Sherid is a Delmont native who has 30 years of experience in driver education. As an instructor licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and owner of her own business – Janet E. Sherid Theory & Driving School – she is often called upon by school districts and community organizations to teach

the state's 30-hour Driver Theory Course.

Yes, you read that correctly: 30 hours of talking to teenagers about driving. Add to that the six hours of road instruction required for each of her students, cruising the local highways, navigating our winding rural roads, and practicing tricky maneuvers like parallel parking and three-point turns in a car



Janet coaches student Clay Sheffield

fitted with dual controls (you know, just in case!), and we know two things about Janet:

- **She knows how to talk to teenagers.**
- **She has nerves of steel.**

Some people find working with teenagers to be a challenge even under the best of circumstances, but not Janet. This mother of three grown sons has refined her approach to engaging young people in discussions about responsibility, accountability and safety.

"I encourage parents to give their children every opportunity to practice driving, as often as possible," says Janet. Her students quickly recognize that their teacher is in favor of their parents practicing between lessons and they respond by taking their driver education very seriously.



AFTER

BEFORE

"My students always share stories of other drivers' bad behaviors behind the wheel, especially the behaviors of their parents," says Janet. "By sharing their observations they are becoming more aware of how they can become better and safer drivers themselves."

Right about now any parents reading this article are thinking of those times they may have bent the rules. Whether or not your

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children "caught you" speeding or texting or being distracted while behind the wheel, Janet has a message for you: "I would like parents to set good examples for their children by not texting while driving, and by allowing for enough time to reach their destination without speeding."

As for her nerves of steel, Janet makes sure her students get experience in everything from parallel parking to maneuvering highway traffic. The goal is for young drivers to learn to be more at ease behind the wheel, so they are ready for any situation that may arise. That makes it easy for her to get in the training car with a new driver; she knows that she has taught them well.

When not teaching, Janet keeps busy with her two Jack Russell Terriers, Parker and Preston, and enjoys taking time to smell the roses. She also is very proud of her sons (all of whom are excellent drivers): John is a Pennsylvania State Trooper out of Troop A in Greensburg. Jeffrey lives in Los Angeles and is a film producer and president of J Hour Productions, as well as a numismatist. His experience with rare U.S. coins is called upon as president of PCAG, LLC, which does consulting on tangible assets. Youngest son Jason works in operations and sales management for Gavco in New Stanton and Golden Eagle in Uniontown.

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