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award in 1991, has three certificates of merit and was recognized two other times for life-saving situations before the department had a life-saving award. Despite his intensity, the 35-year-old father of two boys, has been the subject of many thank yous from members of the community for his diplomacy and compassion.

"He's sincerely interested in helping people, he's dedicated and he's very professional," said Fire Chief Richard Marinucci. Like with all firefighters, the toughest part of his job is seeing children who are victims of fires and other tragedies, Hughes said.

"That's almost a stock answer, but it's true," he said. "Any firefighter will tell you that." And situations involving children, like the one where he, St. Clair and two paramedics were able to save a 7-year-old having a grand mal seizure, also can be the most satisfying, he said.

Yet Hughes is a testament to competition. Although only 5 feet 8 and 150 pounds, he played high school football at Detroit Cady. Then he discovered weight lifting and built himself up to 200 pounds. He still works out, although he admits he's backed off just a bit.

But whether it's the department softball team or the bed racing team that won at the Founders Festival, he still wants to win. "He's very good with the boys (Bryan, 3, and Kevin, 1)," says his wife Jackie. "At first I thought he was going to be too hard on them. He can hold back."

(Hughes has small pictures of his sons mounted on the sides of his fire helmet.) If he's competitive, Hughes also has an upbeat way of putting people at ease, something more than a little helpful in his line of work. And even when his competitive juices overflow, Jackie says with pride mixed with relief, "he'll be there in a second if you need him."

As he reflects on 13 years as a firefighter, Hughes says the memory of his recently departed friend and first partner, Terry Heiman, holds a mixture of feelings for him.

"He was my first partner,"

■ He's calm and cool under pressure. I have a tendency to be more PR (public relations) oriented. He gets more into the technical end. We work real well together because we complement each other.'

*Don St. Clair
firefighter*

Hughes said. "He came off as a real tough guy, but inside 'Buster' was a real nice guy. I don't think a lot of people knew that about him."

The son of a Detroit police officer, Hughes said he first wanted to follow in his father's footsteps. But after being laid off from a Ford factory, Hughes landed a part-time job as a Farmington Hills firefighter at station four.

Once challenged, Hughes knew he had to go as far as he can go (hear that Chief Marinucci?). And he loves what he's doing.

"To this day, there are never two days alike," he said.

"The one thing that is the same day to day, even on weekends, is Hughes' competitive spirit."

"I respect his competitiveness," St. Clair said. "He puts a lot of thought into his decisions and makes good ones. And he's good-natured."

Hughes for his part, says competition has its bounds as well. He coaches a softball team that goes to tournaments representing the Farmington Hills Fire Department," he said. "I want us to win, but I want us to encourage good sportsmanship."

Nobody is going to remember whether we won or lost. They're going to remember how we conducted ourselves."

Although they're partners in firefighting, Hughes and St. Clair do approach some situations differently.

"I coach another (Hills fire department) softball team," St. Clair said. "I'm one of those guys that just likes to play."



Ride on a bomber: Ken Murray of Farmington pops out the window of the only flyable B-29 airplane in the world during a recent Confederate Air Force air show in Midland, Texas. The group restores vintage aircraft. Murray is a U.S. Air Force veteran who now serves in the Army Reserve.

Panel talk: Homemaking, careers, volunteerism

The Sisterhoods of Congregation Shalom Zedek and Adat Shalom Synagogue will hold a joint dinner meeting and panel discussion beginning at 6:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 6, at Adat Shalom Synagogue in Farmington Hills.

Taking a look "Through the Looking Glass: Combining Homemaking, Careers and Volunteerism" will be three panelists who, themselves, lead active, multi-dimensional lives. The group will hear from Harlene Winnick Appelman, Lynda Giles and Sherry Margolis.

Appelman has been teaching, directing and creating family education programs for 10 years. In addition to her work as director of Education Services for the Agency for Jewish Education, she is the director of Field Services for the Whizn Institute for the Family of the University of Judaism and the editor of Jewish Family for Torah Aura Productions.

Among her other accomplish-

ments, Harlene created the Jewish Experiences for Families program in the Detroit area. She holds degrees from Northwestern University and the University of California in Berkeley.

Giles is a clinical psychologist in private practice in Bloomfield Hills. She received her undergraduate education at the University of Michigan, her master's degree in social work at Wayne State University, and her doctorate from the University of Michigan. Giles' dissertation was titled "Divorced Jewish women with children: their needs and adjustment," and she has lectured extensively on that subject. She is an officer and serves on the Board of the Agency for Jewish Education.

As a leader of JEFF, she created the Institute for Single Jewish

Mothers in Metropolitan Detroit. Margolis came from Buffalo to WJBK-TV2 Eyewitness News as a weekday anchor in September 1984. The current anchor of Eyewitness News at Noon and First News at 4 p.m., she has won an Emmy award for best news anchor. She is active on behalf of numerous Jewish and non-Jewish philanthropic organizations.

A spokeswoman for Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, she has also been involved in fund raising for the Mental Illness Research Association, Channel 56, the Haven, Children's Miracle Network, Children of Chernobyl, and Myasthenia Gravis. Margolis co-chairs the task force on Media in Education with the Bureau of Jewish Education and has been honored as a "Woman of Distinction," by the Michigan Women's

League of Conservative Judaism. She is a graduate of the State University of New York at Buffalo.

There is a \$14 per person charge for the dinner. Guests are welcome, but reservations by Nov. 30 are required. For information, call dinner co-chairmen Sharon Moss Lebus 661-2889, Elaine Resnick 661-3545 or Arline Rein 855-4353.

Serving as the Adat Shalom Sisterhood President are Celia Lubetsky, Sharon Lubetsky and Beverly Yust. Sharon Moss Lebus is program chairman.

Rusty Rosman is president of the Shurey Zedek Sisterhood this year. Program vice presidents are Elaine Resnick and Arline Rein.

Adat Shalom is at 29901 Middlebelt Road in Farmington Hills.

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