

# THANK YOU!

To Current, Past, and Potential Hankey Law Clients:

If you are reading this note, it is because you have reached out to us at one time or another. Whether you worked with us or not, we are thankful for you. For every client, every phone call, and every email – thank you. We quite literally would not be here without you. You are the reason we get up and go to work in the morning.

For decades, our firm has been able to help thousands of disabled and injured Hoosiers, and we will continue to fight for you as long as you need us.

With Thanks and Appreciation,

*Charles Hankey and the Hankey Law Team*

## Inside this issue



### Heating Safety Tips

Furnaces and space heaters kick into high gear this month. So do the dangers.

Page 1



### Nursing Home Abuse

When seniors in care facilities can't tell about the abuse they suffer, know the warning signs.

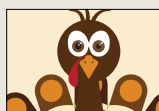
Page 2



### Recipes for Leftovers

Check out these tasty ideas to make the whole family happy about holiday leftovers.

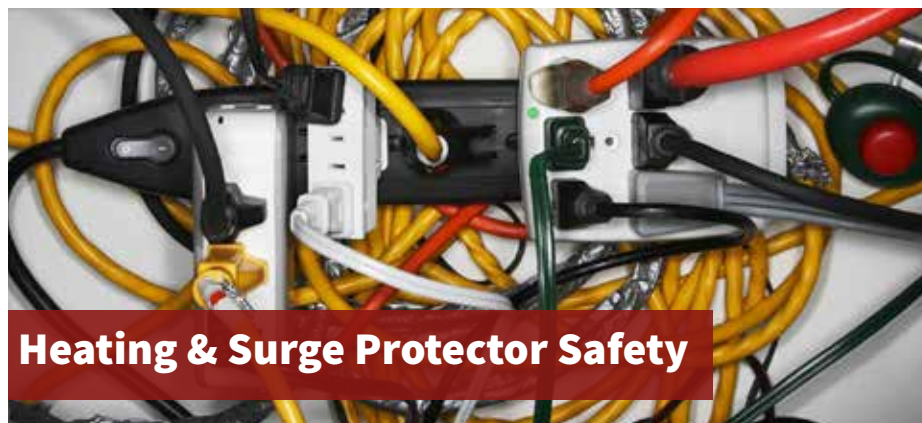
Page 3



### Thanksgiving Puzzler

Take a few minutes to relax with our seasonal word search puzzler. Can you find all 15?

Page 3



## Heating & Surge Protector Safety

By Attorney Daniel M. Randolph



As our months continue to grow colder and snowier, heating becomes a concern for many people.

Often times, home heating systems don't keep up, or they stop working all together. Many people use portable space heaters or other heating equipment for added heat. Many also use surge protectors to plug in all their various electric devices.

Heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths. We have a few simple safety tips and precautions to help you prevent most heating fires to stay safe and warm during these colder months.

### 3-foot "Safety Zone"

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away from a heating source – furnace, fireplace, wood stove, and portable space heaters.
- Keep children, whether they are awake or sleeping 3 feet away from a heating source.

### Always do the following:

- Have a "what if plan" in the event of a fire. Make sure everyone knows how to get out of the home and have a place to meet.
- Practice your plan just like a school fire drill.
- Turn off and unplug portable heaters when you leave the room or while you sleep.

- Ensure ALL your smoke alarms are working.
- Test your smoke alarms monthly.
- Replace your smoke detector batteries around Thanksgiving and the batteries should last through the winter season.
- If your smoke alarm is beeping or “chirping,” then it’s time for new batteries.
- Have a licensed professional perform the appropriate yearly maintenance on furnaces and fireplaces.
- Use the right type of fuel if using a fuel burning space heater. Read the labels on the heater regarding what fuel is the right fuel.



**Never do the following:**

- Never use your oven to heat your home.

- Never leave portable heaters turned on when you leave the room or while you sleep.
- Never remove your smoke detectors.

**Heating Equipment Tips**

- Install all permanent heating equipment following manufacturer’s instructions or have a professional do the installation. All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.
- Install and maintain carbon monoxide (CO) alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning.
- If you smell gas in your home, leave the home immediately. Call your local fire department and gas company.

**Surge Protectors**

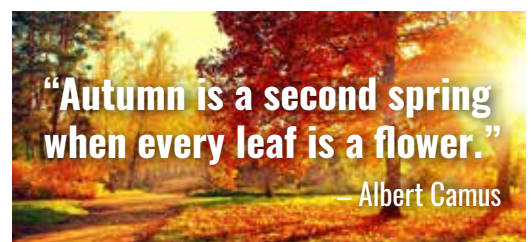
- Use only surge protectors or power strips that have an internal circuit breaker. These will trip the breaker if the power strip is overloaded or shorted to prevent overheating.

- If at any time the surge protector or plug strip is hot to the touch remove and replace the entire unit.
- Do not plug a surge protector or power strip into an existing surge protector or power strip. This is called “daisy chaining” or “piggy backing” and can lead to fire or cause the surge protector to explode.
- All surge protectors or power strips need to be UL (Underwriters Laboratory) or ETL (Electrical Testing Laboratories) approved. The UL or ETL label must never be removed from the unit. On the underside of the casing, there should be the manufacturer’s name and the name of the testing lab where the unit was tested.
- There should only be one surge protector or power strip plugged into an outlet at any time.
- Do not place a surge protector or power strip in any area where the unit would be covered with carpet, furniture, or any other item that will limit or prevent air circulation.
- Do not staple, tack, or tape a surge protector or power strip.
- Replace a surge protector that has exposed or frayed wires.
- When the surge protector or plug strip is not in use, unplug the unit. Remember - surge protectors hold their charge even after being unplugged.



Store unused surge protectors or power strips separately from one another. Never store multiple surge protectors or power strips together.

Lastly, listen to your pets, they can be a good early warning sign of a problem. Pets will behave differently when something is not right. They may continuously try to get your attention or pace around a particular area. Dogs may bark or whine much more than they normally do – your pet may even try to wake you up.



**Nursing Home Negligence  
Signs of Elder Abuse and Mistreatment**



According to AARP, 52% of people turning 65 or older will need some type of long-term care services in their lifetime. Each year, roughly 2.5 million Americans\* are victims of elder abuse through negligent nursing home care, and many of these cases are underreported. Nursing home negligence can be in the form of neglect or physical, financial, or emotional abuse.

One of the biggest red flags of nursing home negligence is unexplained recurring injuries. These injuries may not necessarily be caused by physical abuse. They can also occur as a result of a neglected person trying to do things for themselves that they are no longer capable of doing.

Other signs of nursing home negligence can include, but are not limited to:

- Rapid weight loss
- Bedsores
- Dehydration
- Withdrawn behavior
- Changes in personal hygiene
- Loss of mobility
- Sudden changes in sleep patterns
- Frequent illness
- Reluctance to speak
- Torn or soiled clothing

In addition to signs of abuse in a patient’s health or appearance, there are also environmental signs that could signify abuse. Persistent strong odors of urine or feces could be a result of hygiene negligence. Recurring hazards like poor lighting or slippery floors could cause patients to get injured. Broken or unsafe mobility equipment or furniture could also cause serious injury.

If you believe a loved one is being neglected in a nursing home, contact our office at 317-634-8565 right away to discuss your options.

*\*Statistics provided by NursingHomeAbuseGuide.org.*



# Thanksgiving Word Search Puzzler

The leaves are falling and so are the letters. Can you find the words below hidden in this pile of leaves and letters? Grab a slice of your favorite pie and settle in to see how many you can find.

Remember, words can go forwards, backwards, up, down, and diagonally.

Z K H T S N T G V E L B F O A  
 I J R I M E R M I Z E X E H I  
 L T Y U B A I P G C A J A I P  
 Z E T N T O N R T Z V U S E O  
 D U F E L I R V R I E K T J C  
 A B F T K T G E F E S B I T U  
 H U E P O V J Y Q J B J N S N  
 L T M G T V U W U S J N G E R  
 V U S Y K W E Z S N X T A V O  
 P F A M I L Y R G D L G P R C  
 F M S V J Y W O S O N R S A C  
 S O O V A O D K K B B E R H Y  
 S W N W W A J R O Q R B I O T  
 T R A D I T I O N S Y N L R X  
 G N I F F U T S M S N I G E F

- |             |           |             |
|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| Autumn      | Friends   | Leaves      |
| Cornucopia  | Gobble    | Pumpkin Pie |
| Cranberries | Grateful  | Stuffing    |
| Family      | Harvest   | Traditions  |
| Feasting    | Leftovers | Yams        |



## CLIP & KEEP: Utility Help

As we head into colder months, there are resources for Hoosiers who need help with utility bills or other assistance. In the Indianapolis area, check out these organizations:

### Mary Rigg Community Center

Phone: 317-639-6106  
 Website: [www.maryrigg.org](http://www.maryrigg.org)  
 1920 West Morris Street  
 Indianapolis, IN 46221

### Edna Martin Christian Center

Phone: 317-637-3776  
 Website: <https://ednamartincc.org>  
 2605 East 25th Street  
 Indianapolis, IN 46218

### John H. Boner Center

Phone: 317-633-8210  
 Website: <http://jhbcc.org>  
 2236 E 10th Street  
 Indianapolis, IN 46201

### Shepherd Community Center

Phone: 317-375-0203  
 Website: [www.shepherdcommunity.org](http://www.shepherdcommunity.org)  
 4107 East Washington St.  
 Indianapolis, IN 46201

If the above locations are outside of your area, or you want to explore other options, call **Connect 2 Help** at 211 to be connected with an organization in your area that may be able to assist you.

See income limits and find helpful contacts in your county online at [www.incap.org/energyinfo.html](http://www.incap.org/energyinfo.html).

## Holiday Leftover Recipes

Each year, 88% of Americans eat turkey in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. Oftentimes, we end up with leftovers for days, which can get a little repetitive after a while. We dug up a couple of recipes that can add a little variety to your leftovers!

### Bird to the Last Drop

- 2 quarts vegetable stock
- 1 turkey carcass
- 1/2 cup rice
- 2 cups cooked turkey, cubed
- 1 teaspoon Old Bay seasoning
- 1 (10-ounce) box frozen mixed vegetables
- 2 teaspoons dried thyme
- Salt and pepper, to taste



Combine the vegetable stock and the turkey carcass in a large soup pot over low heat and bring to a simmer. Cover and simmer for 1 hour.

Add the remaining ingredients to the stock. Cover and simmer for an additional 20 minutes. Remove the bones before serving.

*\* Courtesy of FoodNetwork.com.*

### Thanksgiving in a Blanket

- 1 tube refrigerated crescent rolls
- 3/4 cup shredded roasted turkey
- 3/4 cup prepared stuffing
- 3/4 cup prepared mashed potatoes
- 1 cup cranberry sauce
- 1/4 cup prepared gravy, warmed (for serving)



Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper.

On a lightly floured work surface, roll out Crescent Rolls. Top with mashed potatoes, turkey, stuffing and cranberries. (You'll want just a small spoonful of each.) Roll up and transfer to prepared baking sheet.

Bake until golden, 12 to 15 minutes. Serve with gravy for dunking.

*\* Courtesy of Delish.com.*



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With 80 years of combined experience, both in and out of the courtroom, the legal professionals of the Charles D. Hankey Law Office can resolve cases involving:

- Disability Claims (SSD/SSI)
- Long Term Disability
- Short Term Disability
- Worker's Compensation
- Employment Law
- Workplace Discrimination
- Wage & Hour Issues
- Insurance Law
- Personal Injury
- Car Accidents
- Truck Accidents
- Motorcycle Accidents
- Bicycle Accidents
- Railroad Crossing/  
Train Accidents
- Airplane Accidents
- Highway Defects
- Workers' Compensation
- Premises Liability
- Product Liability
- Brain/Head Injuries
- Spinal Injuries
- Dog Bites /Animal Attacks
- Child Injuries
- Construction Accidents
- Burn Injuries
- Drowning

## Employee Spotlight: Whitney



Prior to joining the Hankey Team, Whitney served as the Director of Client Services and Development for Chosen Ministries, a 501(c)(3) that offers assistance to financially struggling single-parent families.

She continues to serve Chosen in a part-time capacity as Digital and Social Media Content Strategist.

Whitney graduated from IUPUI with a BS in Secondary English Education.

She is married with two children, ages 3 and 8 months. In her free time, she enjoys going on adventures with her kids and volunteering as a worship leader at her church.

Past results afford no guarantee of future results. Every case is different and must be judged on its own merits. The contents of this newsletter do not constitute legal advice.

**Connect With Us Online**

It's easy for you to stay connected with the Hankey Law Office online. You can like us on Facebook, follow our tweets, meet us on Google+, and watch our videos on YouTube. You can find out more about the team and our services on our website at [hankeylaw.com](http://hankeylaw.com).

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