



# NEWS RELEASE

## CLAY FIRE

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Fire Chief Timm Schabbel

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## Two separate kitchen fires changes the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> bulbs on Clay Fire's "Keep the Wreath Red"

**Clay Township, IN** - Crews from Clay Fire were called to the 2500 block of Royal Vista Terrace at Castle Point just before 11am Sunday morning for a possible commercial fire. Units arrived on scene within minutes to find smoke in an apartment from a fire on the stove. The Fire was extinguished by the "Stove top Firestop" extinguisher unit along with the occupant using a fire extinguisher. The other kitchen fire happened on Thanksgiving (11/26/15) in the 14500 block Old Farm Road in Harris Township. Crews were dispatch around 11:30 on November 26 for an oven on fire. The fire was extinguished by the home owner using fire extinguisher. The investigation found that grease from a cooking turkey had boiled over and ignited from the gas burner within the oven. Both of these fires could have been preventable. With these fire comes the changing of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> red bulbs on the "Keep the Wreath Red" program. "Keep the Wreath Red" is a holiday fire safety program designed to increase fire safety awareness. Our goal is to keep the bulbs on the wreath red throughout the Holiday Season. In the event of a fire, firefighters will replace one red bulb with a white one.

The Community Risk Reduction Division of Clay Fire would like to remind the community that based on 2009 -2013 annual averages, unattended cooking was the leading factor in home cooking fires. Two-thirds (66%) of home cooking fires started with the ignition of food or other cooking materials. These two fires fit into these averages with frying poses the greatest risk of fire and Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires. Please be careful during this holiday season.



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