

City of 

INDEPENDENCE

2018 Annual Report



AIRPORT



Runway 4/22 Sealcoat and Remarking



Total gallons of fuel sold in 2018 was up over **15%** from 2017.

- ★ **199,017 gallons of fuel sold, generating \$545,221.13.**
- ★ **Applied for a Kansas Airport Improvement Program (KAIP) FY2020 grant to remark Runway 17/35.**
- ★ **Applied for a KAIP FY2020 grant to reconstruct the South Ramp Runup Area.**
- ★ **Received a grant from Phillips to upgrade the Fuel Farm.**
- ★ **Rehabilitated Runway 4/22 and Taxiway C (FAA Grant).**

324 single engines and **838** jets were fueled at the Independence Municipal airport in 2018.

AWOL



DOGS

- ★ 136 adopted
- ★ 112 reclaimed

CATS

- ★ 116 adopted
- ★ 5 reclaimed



Total animals sheltered: 477

Dog spays/neuters: 167

Cat spays/neuters: 225

23 volunteers worked **1,008** hours in 2018.

BUILDING



19 residential building permits issued, representing
\$195,893 in construction

40 commercial building permits issued, representing
\$6,775,993 in construction

\$34,432 collected in permit fees

\$6,971,286 total building valuation



13 condemned structures removed by the City

16 rental inspections for the Independence
Housing Authority

39 inspections from rental housing complaints



FINANCE



City Licenses Issued	No.	Revenue
Business	1,033	\$34,759.50
Electrician	64	\$2,865.00
Plumber	37	\$1,185.00
CMB/Alcohol	23	\$4,625.00
Pet Licenses	425	\$1,275.00
Rummage Sales	265	\$662.50
TOTALS	1,847	\$45,372.00
Other Fees		
Water Payments		\$2,794,130.66
Sewer Service Fees		\$2,468,178.57
Sanitation Fees		\$1,251,041.43
TOTALS		\$6,513,350.66

*Total revenue collected
through all City sources*

\$21,513,830.49



*Welcomed
David
Schwenker
to the role of
City Clerk/Treasurer*

Received **27**

requests

for a total of **70**

Open Records
items

MEMORIAL HALL



*Total Rental Fees Collected
= \$56,897.50 which is over
75% more than 2017!*

Facility Usage Detail –

Number of times used:

- ★ **Civic Center – 113**
- ★ **Kitchen – 169**
- ★ **Gallery – 201**
- ★ **Veterans Room – 111**
- ★ **Am. Legion Room – 92**
- ★ **VFW Room – 66**
- ★ **Spanish Room – 48**
- ★ **Patriot Room – 6**
- ★ **Lobby – 103**
- ★ **Auditorium – 57**
- ★ **Green Room – 49**
- ★ **Dressing Rooms - 63**



*Photos from
Chamber
Banquet and
musical at
historic
Memorial
Hall*



MUNICIPAL COURT



946 Cases Filed
238 Trials
234 Found Guilty
23 Diversions
258 Cases Dismissed



\$183,618.50
collected in court fines

PARK & ZOO



PARK

- ★ Refurbished miniature train engine.
- ★ Renovated existing picnic tables to ADA standards.
- ★ Worked with FORPAZ for new sign at Penn/Oak.
- ★ 101,832 amusement tickets sold, generating \$17,094.34.
- ★ 427 park facility rentals generated \$16,591.00/ Concession stand \$1,240.96.
- ★ Hosted more than 30 school outings.

Renovated Carousel!



ZOO

- ★ Updated kitchen counter & sink in Stevens Building, painted Stevens Building, replaced over 20 fence posts, and constructed hoof stock sheds for bison and llama.
- ★ New animals: Bison, elk, white tail deer, bearded dragon, porcupine, African domestic goose, runner duck and peacock chicks.
- ★ Zoolalloween: 1,500 guests/\$3,238 raised with 41 volunteers and 27 Sponsors.
- ★ 7th year to assist ICC Vet Tech program.
- ★ 29 volunteers contributed 290.50 hours of service.

CEMETERY

- ★ Sold 44 cemetery spaces, with 113 burials, 47 cremations and 55 new stones placed.

FIRE/EMS



2,849 Medical Calls

2,129 Emergency

716 Non-Emergency

1,742 Patients Transported

4:07 Avg Response Time

(National Avg is 7 Minutes)

\$962,123.04 Revenue Generated

93,100 total miles for EMS units



30 Structure Fires

24 Gas Leaks

9 Grass Fires

36 Outside Fires

11 Car Fires

7 Mutual Aid Requests

58 False Alarms

18 Smoke Scares

3 Carbon Monoxide

18 Alarm Malfunctions

12 Power Lines Down

34 Aircraft Standbys

2 Haz Mat Spills

FIRE/EMS



Independence Fire/EMS responded to 14 cardiac arrests with a 28% successful resuscitation. The National Average is 11%. This success is attributed to the following factors:

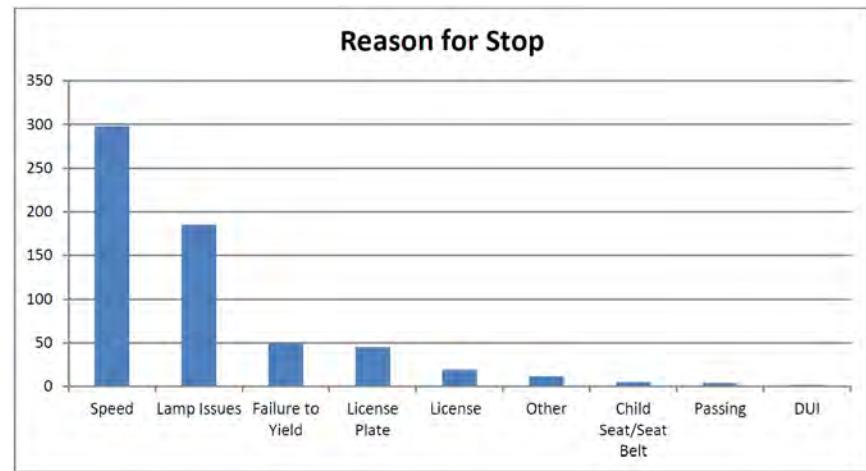
- IPD Dispatch performing Emergency Medical Dispatch and instructing callers to start CPR.
- Auto Pulse, a device that provides nearly perfect CPR on a patient.
- Fire/EMS Personnel Training, continuous training to ensure excellence in patient care.

Projects

- Pressure Tested 6,000 feet of fire hose.
- Performed 44 fire prevention inspections.
- Began annual Montgomery County Kid's Camp with Labette Health.
- Participated in Downtown Movie Night.
- Conducted Kid's Day during EMS week with Labette Health.
- Held a "Stuff the Ambulance" event to collect toys for foster kids.
- Performed 44 fire prevention inspections.
- Installed 142 smoke detectors.

POLICE

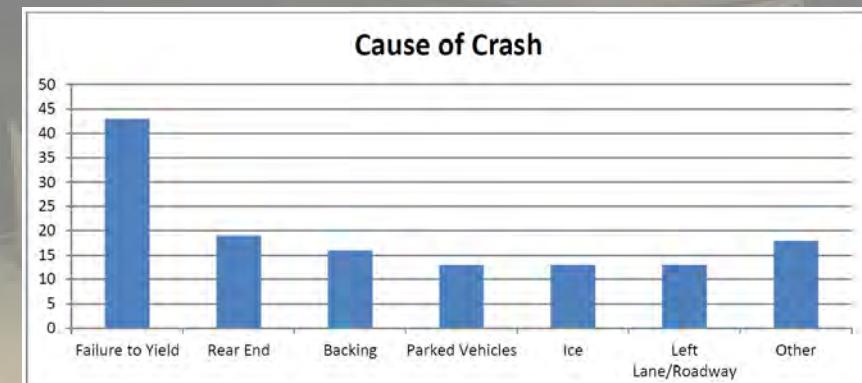
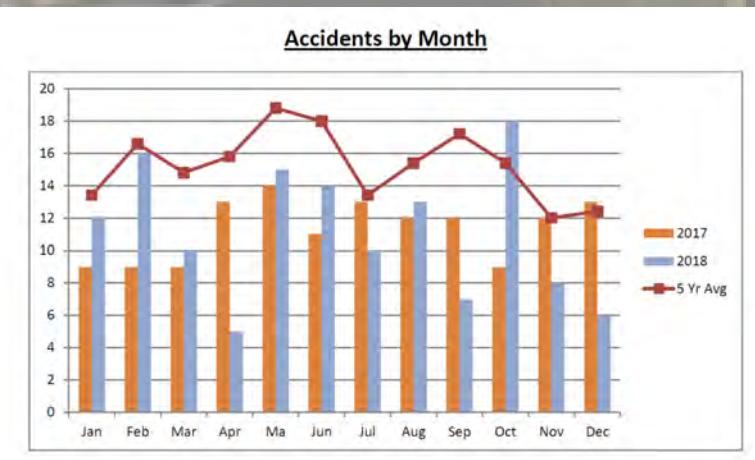
- ★ A lifesaving award was presented to Officer Hilary Cook.
- ★ Four meritorious conducts awards were presented to Officer Cook, Officer Lupardus, Officer Benedict and Officer Athey.
- ★ Officer Benedict received recognition from the Kansas House of Representatives for his life-saving efforts that occurred in 2017.
- ★ Dispatchers handled 19,205 calls for service. Of those, 15,280 were handled by the PD and the remainder by Independence and Cherryvale Fire and EMS.
- ★ A total of 2,398 incident and crime reports were taken. Patrolmen investigated 134 vehicle accidents; executed 391 felony and misdemeanor arrests; and conducted 632 traffic stops.
- ★ The SRO made 10 arrests for drug offenses, theft, and interference with an officer. The SRO issued three notices to appear for truancy and conducted many home visits.



POLICE



- ★ Officer Charlie Benedict conducted 4 Women's Self-Defense courses, attended by approximately 45 women. Officer Benedict has conducted 27 Women's Self Defense classes since initiating this program.
- ★ Dispatch went live with Pro QA in November of 2018. Pro QA is an automated version of EMD. Since changing over from flip cards for EMD, IPD dispatchers have improved their EMD compliance by 153 percent.
- ★ Dispatchers answered 11,685 calls to 911. Overall with inbound, outbound and 911 calls, dispatchers handled 68,579 phone calls.



STREET DEPARTMENT

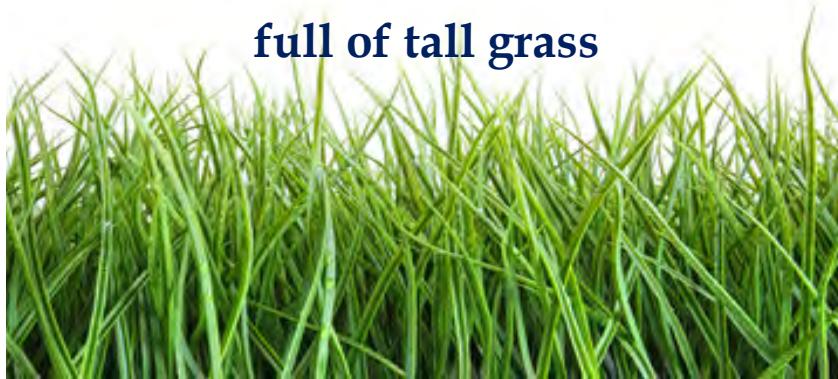


Completed all routine tasks... hanging downtown banners, setting barricades for events, annual leaf pickup, setting up voting booths, etc.



Cut out 11 utility patches and filled with concrete.

Mowed 254 nuisance lots full of tall grass



Picked up **912** piles of brush and performed **1,400** linear feet of ditch cleaning.

Removed **10** dead trees from the Rights-of-Way.

Swept **2,300** lane miles of streets.

Updated walk signals at 10th and Laurel.



2018 Annual Report

2018 Resurfacing



Note: Distances are estimated.



SANITATION

Picked up **35** appliances and
327 miscellaneous work orders
(furniture, bedding, misc. trash)

Picked up **6,056** tons of trash



*Supported annual City-wide and
Downtown Cleanup events.*



RECYCLING



Over 40% more collected
in 2018 than 2017!

144,420
lbs.

COLLECTED!

★ **232** Volunteer Hours
for the year ★

Average **291** Drop-offs per Month which
is **30%** more than 2017!

★ **Average 6 Tons**
monthly collections ★

Added weekly recycling on Tuesdays, in
addition to the 1st Saturday.



WEBSITE



86,190
TOTAL VISITS

163,002
TOTAL PAGE VIEWS

2:35
AVERAGE TIME
SPENT ON PAGE

12,572
PARK & ZOO
PAGE VISITS

5,663
ONLINE PAYMENT
PAGE VISITS

50%
VISITORS USE
MOBILE DEVICES

PLANNING & ZONING



2018 Planning Commission

Processed 2 Rezoning Requests	Planning Commission	City Commission
800-814 S. 19 th Rezoning Request from R-2 to M-2	Recommended	Approved
East side of 2200 N. 21 st Rezoning Request from R-4 to M-1	Recommended	Not Approved
 Summer 2018 Planning Intern Abbey Hebbert		
Processed 2 Conditional Use Permits	Planning Commission	City Commission
301 N. 24 th (church in a residential district)	Approved	Approved
1601 Halsey Avenue (daycare in a residential district)	Approved	Approved

PLANNING & ZONING



2018 Planning Commission

Processed 4 Text Amendments	Planning Commission	City Commission
Article VIII, Sign Regulations, including but not limited to 802.6 (District C-3, central commercial district), and 803.6 (Attention-attracting devices)	No Text Amendment Recommended	N/A
Appendix B - Zoning code relating to: Food trucks	Recommended	Approved
Appendix B - Zoning code relating to: Off-street parking requirements	Recommended	Not Approved
Appendix B-Zoning of the City code, including Appendix A. "Listing of Permitted and Conditional Uses" and any related definitions in Article IV. "Rules and interpretation" relating to "Microbreweries", "Bottling and canning soft drinks and carbonated water", and "Beer, wine and alcoholic beverages – wholesale".	Recommended	Approved

PLANNING & ZONING



2018 Board of Appeals Approvals

Processed 7 Variances	Board of Zoning Appeals
1825 N. 10th (electronic sign)	Approved
600 N. 13th (setbacks)	Approved
401 S. 16th (setbacks)	Approved
208 N. Penn (sign size)	Approved
808-822 South 19th Street (setbacks)	Approved
121 South Peter Pan Road (size and number of signs)	Approved
410 E. Main (setbacks)	Approved



WATER/SEWER



Repaired **230** water main leaks.



Performed **2,065** locates.

The Electrical Upgrades at the Water Treatment Plant were awarded to Kelly Electric Inc. in the amount of \$1,217,557.



Performed Annual Hydrant Flushing

Repainted fuel tank and added additional signage.

Cleaned **99,864** feet of sewer main pipe

Produced approximately **521,773,000** gallons of drinking water for customers



Airport pump station heater replacement



Replaced surface wash lines on #2 and #3 filter

Replaced 40 linear feet of 2" water line on Cement Street.



Basin Cleaning Completed

WASTEWATER



Annual draining of the two 1.04 million gallon aeration basins for cleaning and service. While drained, the 2,000 individual aeration diffusers mounted on the basin's deck were cleaned.

Applied **86** dry tons
of bio-solids.

Treated

620,340,000

gallons of waste water

Two composite samplers were overhauled, and a spotlight was installed for added security.

ADMINISTRATION



INFRASTRUCTURE

- ★ Completed negotiated portion of North Peter Pan Project.
- ★ Rehabilitated Runway 4/22 and Taxiway C (FAA Grant).
- ★ Accepted a grant for upgrades to the Fuel Farm.
- ★ The Electrical Upgrades at the Water Treatment Plant were awarded to Kelly Electric Inc. in the amount of \$1,217,557.
- ★ TreanorHL was hired to design Phase I of the 1916 City Hall rehabilitation project.
- ★ In partnership with Montgomery County, five streets were resurfaced, within the \$150,000 budgeted.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

- ★ Worked with MCAC to support economic development proposals.

STRATEGIC PLAN

- ★ A Community Based Strategic Plan was adopted by the City Commission on October 11, 2018.

ADA

- ★ Dog Park
- ★ Basketball Court
- ★ Worked on transition plan.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- ★ Hired new City Clerk/Treasurer.
- ★ Received "Gold Star" rating from KMIT resulting in 10% insurance discount.
- ★ Performed City wide evaluations.
- ★ Several department heads attended diversity training.
- ★ Two department heads attended cybersecurity training.

COMMUNICATIONS

- ★ Continued enhancing web site.
- ★ Continued quarterly newsletter.
- ★ Continued video recording of City Commission meetings available on website, City Facebook and City YouTube Channel (closed captioned).
- ★ Continued online agenda packets.
- ★ Continued to co-sponsor "First Friday" community updates with Chamber of Commerce.
- ★ Distributed Administrative Reports weekly to the public
- ★ Distributed financial information and special reports as needed.
- ★ Continued Montgomery County Collaboration Partnership Meetings and Training with City and County officials through November, 2018.

PIVOTAL EVENTS



Leadership Commitment Sessions

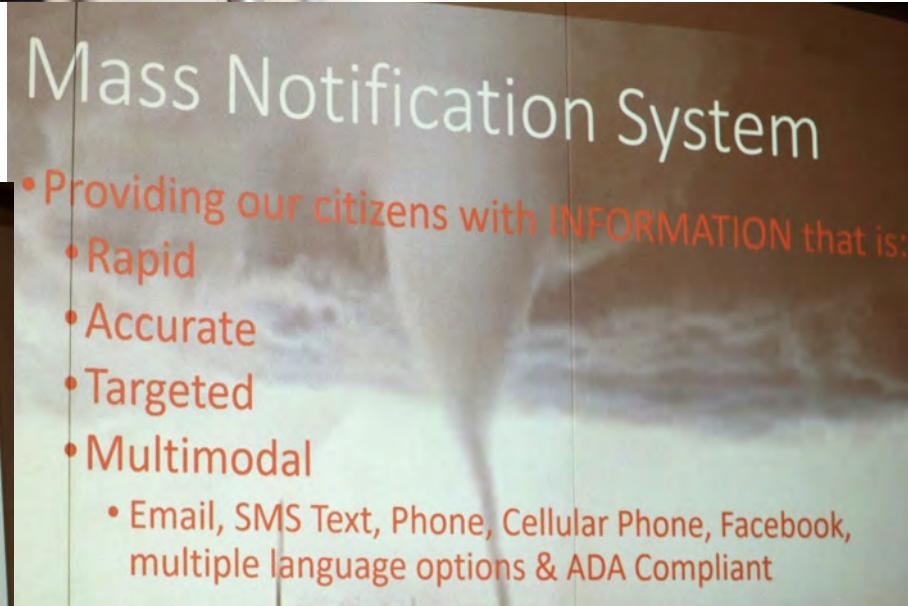


City Manager Craig Whitehead conducted Leadership Commitment sessions which followed the City's new motto of "Delivering Excellence". The training focused on four core values: Integrity - The Power of Honesty; Commitment - The Power of Responsibility; Excellence - The Power of Quality; and Teamwork - The Power of Working Together. This training follows the strategic alignment with the City's new vision of Service Excellence, Continuous Improvement and Teamwork, and mission; "Excellence in providing municipal services to our residents, visitors and business community to foster a high quality of life."

LAUNCHED CIVIC READY AND ADA REGISTRY



February - March 2018



CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE



March 1, 2018



Community-Based Strategic Planning
Empowers decision making,
particularly in the face of
individual pressure or an unknown
or adverse political climate

PLANNING RETREAT



Commission / Staff Planning Retreat March 2018

1. REPLACE 1993 LADDER TRUCK WITH NEW PLATFORM TRUCK -- Determine Funding to replace the Fire Department's 1993 Ladder Truck - **Truck ordered to be delivered in April 2019.**
2. ADMINISTRATIVE/PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES -- Pursue Commission's Direction (Not Steering Committee's Recommendation) - **Phase I to be awarded in Spring 2019.**
3. WATER TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADES -- Update and modernize the water treatment facility to continue to provide clean, safe potable water to users - **Awarded December 2018, project started March 2019.**
4. INFRASTRUCTURE -- Increase Funds Allocated to Infrastructure Projects - **Increased budget for street and utility improvements in 2018 and 2019.**
5. COMMUNITY PRIDE -- Building a sense of Pride in our Community to enhance our quality of life, attract new businesses and residents - **Developed the Community Based Strategic Plan. Also implemented a Community Engagement Group.**

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Shulthis Stadium

Crossland Construction

Associated Contractors of Kansas, Inc.



April 6, 2018



HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

April 11, 2018



FREE CAROUSEL RIDES & CPR/FIRST AID CLASS FOR LOVE INDEPENDENCE DAY



Love Independence Day

Come Celebrate the
Carousel Renovation
with FREE Carousel Rides



Saturday, April 28th
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Show some LOVE

BE A LIFESAVER

CPR / First Aid Class

Saturday, April 28

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER HERE](#)

A photograph showing a person's hands performing chest compressions on a mannequin's torso. The mannequin is lying on a light-colored surface.

Whether it's a smile, a compliment, a hug, a wave, a handshake, opening the door for someone, or a personal note of thanks or encouragement, kindness comes with minimal cost to the giver, but can be priceless to the recipient.

3rd Annual "LOVE Independence" day will officially be celebrated

Saturday, April 28th

This day is an opportunity for all residents, young or old, to get involved and show some love for each other and our wonderful community.

Everyone in the city is encouraged to participate as individuals or together with their churches, businesses, clubs, neighborhoods or families to help spread the love.



If you have questions or would like to get involved call 331-1890



VETERANS FREEDOM SQUARE



Dedicated May 28, 2018

STRATEGIC PLAN



“Build upon our unique sense of community by offering residents the vibrant, welcoming environment that has led people to call Independence home for generations.”

Strategic Planning Action Committee (SPAC)



Pastor Mike Rose



Jean Barnett



Dean Hayse



Rick Mott



Mike Baldassaro



Tim White



Pastor Brandee Mimitraiem



Jerry Bright



Philipp Umlauf

Community Engagement Summary

Facilitated
Community
Dialogue Sessions

9

Surveys Completed

500+

Organizations
and Stakeholders
Approached

30

1. Economic Development
2. Infrastructure
3. Beautification
4. Parks & Recreation
5. Community Spirit & Unity

The SPAC Followed Community Feedback in Creating the Strategic Plan

*A Community Based Strategic Plan was adopted by the
City Commission on October 11, 2018.*

CELEBRATION PARK



Ribbon Cutting November 10, 2018

EMPLOYEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS



**Gary Macy Retired
with 36 Years Of
Service from the
Street
Department**



**Jerry Tuchscherer
Retired with 6 Years
Of Service from the
Housing Authority**



SERVICE AWARDS



25 YEARS
MARK VINING
Detective, Police



15 YEARS
LISA HELKENBERG
Police Captain, Police



20 YEARS
DONNA DEAN
Clerk III, Finance

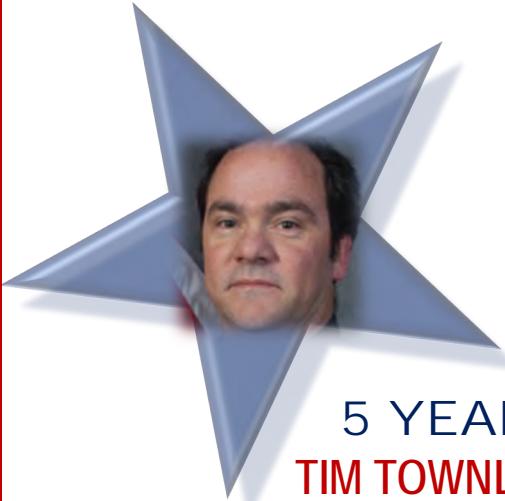


15 YEARS
KEITH COPITHKE
Fire Captain/AEMT,
Fire/EMS

SERVICE AWARDS



15 YEARS
ARRON STRINGER
PSW III, Water
Distribution



5 YEARS
TIM TOWNLEY
Patrol Officer, Police



5 YEARS
CALLIE HAGOOD
Administrative
Assistant, Housing
Authority



5 YEARS
RANELLE RICE
Firefighter/Lead Medic,
Fire/EMS

SERVICE AWARDS



5 YEARS
MATHEW KENT
Fire Captain, Fire/EMS



5 YEARS
DUSTIN TAYLOR
Patrol Officer, Police



5 YEARS
CRYSTAL SHERLEY
Zoo Keeper I, Park/Zoo



5 YEARS
ELMER CHITWOOD
PSW I, Sanitation

5 YEARS
PAT POMEROY
Firefighter/Lead Medic



Thank You...

A decorative arrangement of seven stars of various sizes and colors (blue, white, and red) scattered across the page, surrounding the central text.