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INSIDE

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WHO'S HUNGRY?

Brandon Area Briefs

January sobriety checkpoints announced
The South Department of Public Safety has announced its plans for sobriety checkpoints in January.
The Department of Public Safety says there will be 16 checkpoints in 15 different counties.
The checkpoints will take place in the counties of Aurora, Codington, Edmunds, Fall River, Jackson, Lawrence, Lincoln, Lyman, Marshall, Meade, Minnehaha, Moody, Pennington, Sanborn, and Yankton.
Officials remind drivers not to drink and drive regardless of whether there is a checkpoint planned in their county.
BVSD Early Childhood Screening is Jan. 27
Brandon Valley School District will conduct its annual Early Childhood Developmental

Cont. on page 2

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2024 - 2025 Preschool Registration NOW IS THE TIME!

Join us now to register for the August 2024 - May 2025 school year!

Community registration will be held Sunday, January 28th @ 2 pm.
Be sure to register, spaces fill quickly!

For questions please contact Michelle Ternus, Director, at 582-2396.
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Brandon Area Briefs

Screening from 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 25 at Brandon Elementary School. Screenings are free for all children from birth to age 4 who live in the BVSD. South Dakota School for the Deaf will also be providing free hearing screenings at this time.

Kindergarten screening for any child who is eligible to attend this fall will be held Feb. 26-March 8. Parents/guardians should contact the office of the school their child will attend to schedule those appointments.

To register for early childhood screening, visit brandonvalleyk12.sd.us/spec_serv or call (605) 582-3446.

Current needs at the Brandon Food Pantry

Current needs at the Brandon Food Pantry are small boxes of instant oatmeal (variety flavors), fruit snacks, breakfast bars, pancake mix and syrup, Spam, cookies, pizza crust.

To make appointments for pickups or donations, call 582-7001. The BAFP is open from 4-6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. BAFP executive director Linda Weber asks groups that conduct food drives to contact the Pantry prior to dropping off donations.

Used eye glasses and hearing aids for the Brandon Lions Club may also be dropped off at the BAFP.

Brandon Burger Battle is on

The second annual Brandon Burger Battle is on and this year, there are eight different burgers to taste test. Organized by the Brandon Valley Area Chamber of Commerce, the Battle continues now through Jan. 31. Participating restaurants and their burger entries are: 2023 champion The Gruff Plates +

Cont. from page 1

Pours, Boom! Burger; Bottom's Up, The Italian Job; Grand Falls Casino & Golf Resort, Pub Style Burger; Kingbird Coffee's "Everything But Acadian" burger; 212 The Boiling Point, Jalapeño Wonton Burger; Tailgator's Grille & Bar, Mac Smash; and CHUDS Pub & Grub, Slawsome CHUD.

For a description and to vote, visit brandonvalleychamber.com.

Brandon Boss Gobblers Hunting Heritage Banquet is Jan. 26

The Brandon Boss Gobblers will host their annual Hunting Heritage Banquet on Friday, Jan. 26 at the Holiday Inn Express in Brandon. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and dinner is at 7 p.m.

To learn more, contact Eric Olson (605) 360-5707 or email hunter/3008@midconetwork.com.

Brandon Senior Citizens

The Brandon Senior Citizens meet at 12:30 p.m. every Thursday at the VFW for Bingo, cards socializing and coffee. All seniors are welcome.

Al-Anon meetings in Brandon

Al-Anon meets from 7:30-8:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Brandon Lutheran Church, 600 E. Holly Blvd.

Ed Polzine Wild Game Feed seeks donations

The Ed Polzine Wild Game Feed committee is seeking donations for its annual event on Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024.

The committee welcomes donations of wild game and items for silent and live auctions and raffle prizes.

To learn more, contact Stan Schoeneman at (605) 366-7842, Harry Buck at (605) 366-0221 or Jill Meier at (605) 321-8423.



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Puzzle Solution Sudoku

7	4	6	8	1	5	3	9	2
9	2	5	3	7	6	1	8	4
8	1	3	9	4	2	5	6	7
6	7	8	1	9	3	4	2	5
1	5	4	6	2	8	7	3	9
2	3	9	7	5	4	8	1	6
4	9	2	5	3	1	6	7	8
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Puzzle Solution © OnlineCrosswords.net

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JOIN US AT A BRANDON LIONS CLUB MEETING!

We meet at the Brandon Pizza Ranch on the third Thursday of each month. We eat at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 7 p.m. For questions, please call Dennis at 605-366-2387 or Lance at 605-367-1833.



Ask the Motor Medics®

Automotive Advice from The Under the Hood® Show

Dear Motor Medics,

I'm thinking about purchasing a "green" vehicle, either a Hybrid or totally electric design but I don't know where to begin. I'll be using this as a second car but hope to use it as much as possible and I will likely purchase one that is new or less than a year old. Can you help me understand some of the differences between the two and give me ideas on what to consider?

Thank you, Gary in Lincoln, Nebraska..

Dear Gary,

The first thing to consider when purchasing either one is how it will be used. As a second car you have the luxury of using your other car for long trips. With the Hybrid this would not be a problem but with a fully electric car this would be a showstopper. Hybrid Vehicles all have an internal combustion engine combined with an electric motor that shares the load in part to save fuel while Electric Vehicles must be recharged when exhausted. If the Hybrid runs low on electricity it can rely on the engine, which if low on fuel can easily be refilled at the gas station. If you run out of juice on the Electric Vehicle it means a tow. Before purchasing either model we suggest you spend considerable time researching both options. There are many people who swear by their "green" vehicles and would never go back to a conventional car, others swear at them. Research is crucial.

Take care, the Motor Medics.

Dear Motor Medics,

My Dodge Caravan is five years old, and I just don't seem to be able to see the road like I used to. The lenses are still clear, and I've had them adjusted but I don't see well at all. We also have a Cadillac that has those tiny round headlights, and I can see great while driving it. Is there anything I can do to my van to get the same light out of it that the car has? I see cars with those bright lights that blind me when I drive. Can those be legal? I don't want to blind people, I just want to see well.

Thank you, Glenna in Illinois.

Dear Glenna,

There is a major difference in lighting systems between your two vehicles. The van uses headlight technology that has been used since the Model T; it has been refined a bit with better reflectors and bulbs but still has limits. The Cadillac uses H.I.D lamps. High intensity discharge comprised of special ballasts and bulbs, and a focusing projector lens to send the high-power light to the road immediately in front of you and not into oncoming vehicles eyes. You can upgrade to a better conventional bulb in the van but legally you can't use H.I.D bulbs without the projector type lens because it will blind other drivers. After-market projector lenses are available for some vehicles but not the van as far as we know.

Take care, the Motor Medics.

VALLEY SPRINGS AMERICAN LEGION POST 131

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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

THIS IS FOR THE COMMUNITY



Each Wednesday night, the aroma of broasted chicken, beef tips, or pork fills the halls of Brandon Lutheran Church (BLC). This month, **Bill Thompson State Farm** would like to shine the spotlight on Marian Horr and the crew of volunteers at BLC. For the past nine years, they have been preparing and serving hot meals for more than just members of the church.

"This isn't just for the Brandon Lutheran congregation. This is for the community. We have people that don't go to church here, but they wouldn't miss our Wednesday night meal. So we feel pretty good about that," said Horr.

The volunteers range from young to old alike. They arrive as early as 3:15 pm to prepare the meal, and stay into the evening hours to clean the kitchen and dining area.

"I love it when the kids come to volunteer and eat, and I always make a great big deal out of them. The older people really like to see them as well.... The bottom line is the future of our church are these young individuals," said Horr.

The meal has a suggested donation of \$6.00 per week and includes a main course provided by Tony's Catering, sides, deserts, and refreshments. Horr noted that the event is generally not a fundraiser, but on February 7th, **Bill Thompson State Farm** will match all donations from the meal to help the BLC youth group attend a national gathering in New Orleans this summer.

"These matching funds will make a big difference for the kids," Horr said.



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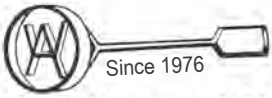


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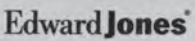
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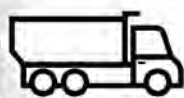


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- Across**
- Examination
 - Teacher in Siam
 - Instruction segments
 - Buzzi of “Laugh-In”
 - Court claimant
 - Flynn of film
 - Rug coverage
 - Con man’s game
 - Like Seattle or London
 - Aspen activity
 - Double curve
 - Enzyme ending
 - Geologic division
 - Certain Koran reader
 - “West Side Story” girl
 - D.C. figures
 - Lyricist Gershwin
 - Change for a five
 - Regular place
 - Give off
 - Wanted-poster initials
 - Chums
 - Fourth estate
 - “Città” near Vesuvius
 - Income after deductions
 - “I should say ___!”
 - Red Book author
 - Oahu, for one
 - Fountain drinks
 - Tiny tear
 - Part of AD
 - Paying attention
 - Finger jab
 - It’ll come to him eventually
 - Isn’t stubborn
 - Diary duration
 - Numbered rds.

- Down**
- Team transaction
 - Replacements for marks
 - Hearty dishes
 - Comparative word
 - St. Francis’ home
 - Atomic cores
 - Patricia of “Hud”
 - Weaponry
 - In no mood for kidding
 - Amtrak equipment
 - Emerald Isle
 - ’70s video game
 - Sneaky
 - “Very funny!”
 - Tidily arranged
 - Family member
 - Word on all US coins
 - Poetic adverb
 - Drink garnish
 - Eye part
 - Car floor items
 - Sound of discomfort
 - “Diana” singer
 - Do harvesting
 - West Indian republic
 - 2001 role for Will Smith
 - Fraction of a 25 Across
 - Satisfies
 - Mining locations
 - Farther down the trail
 - Sorenstam of golf
 - Waste time in one place
 - Impressionist Édouard
 - Musical based on a comic strip
 - Kitchen emanations
 - Elias or Julia
 - Attorney Dershowitz
 - Culp/Cosby show
 - Healing plant
 - Memorable lion portrayer
 - Car for hire

SUDOKU • MEDIUM

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. Digits cannot repeat within the same row, column or box. **Solution on page 2**

				1		3	9	2
		5	3		6		8	
				4		5		7
6		8		9				
1			6	2				
4	9	2	5			6		
					9			1
	6		2					3

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13		
14					15					16						
17					18					19						
20					21					22						
23					24					25						
				26				27	28				29	30	31	
32	33	34						35					36			
37						38	39						40			
41					42								43			
44				45					46	47						
				48					49					50	51	52
		53	54					55	56				57			
58								59					60			
61								62					63			
64								65					66			

SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND?

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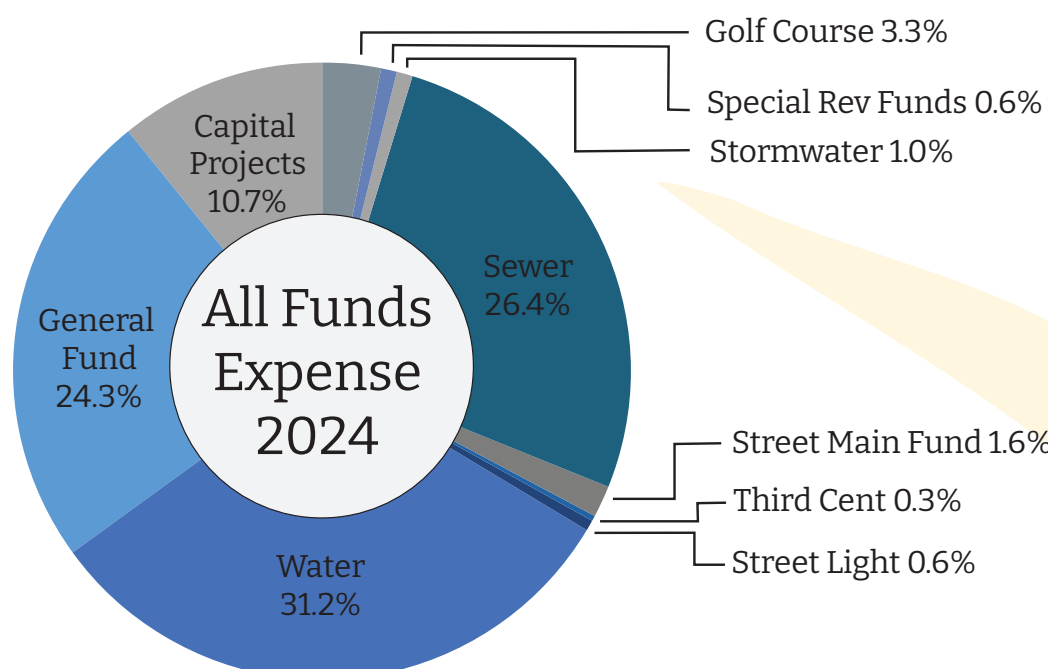
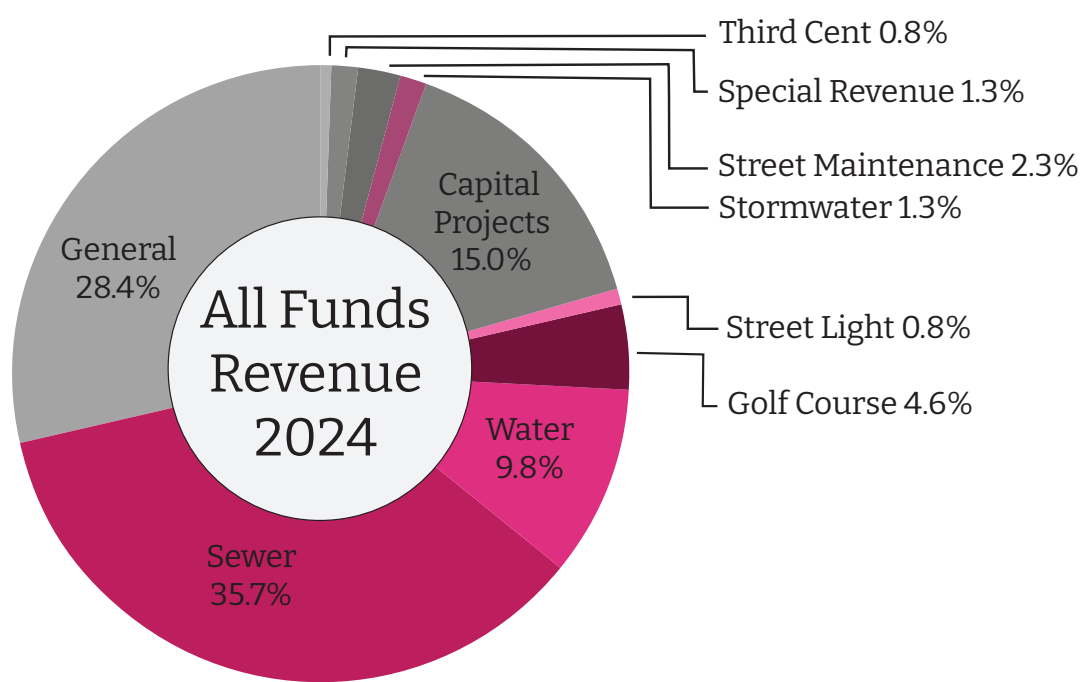
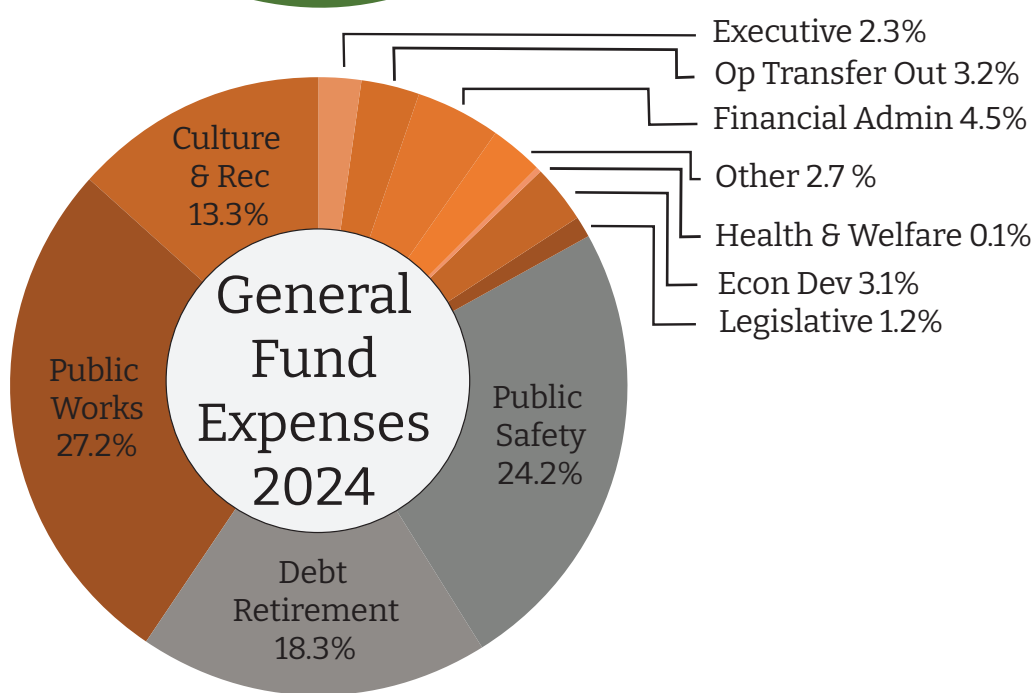
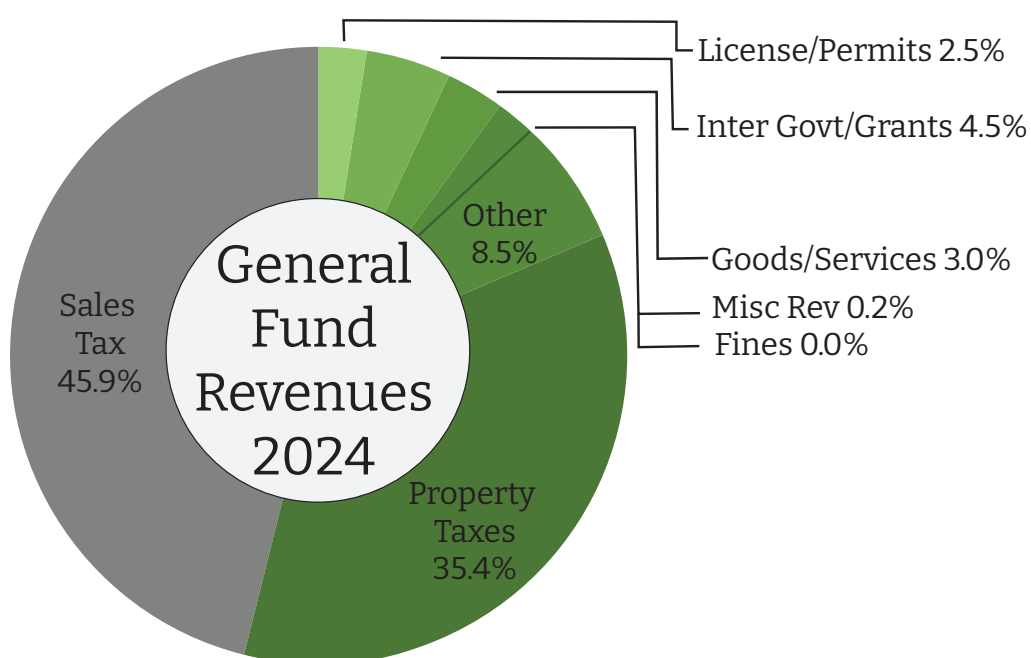
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CITY FINANCES

2024 Budget



OVERVIEW OF MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTING

Cities use an accounting system called fund accounting. Funds are accounting devices that the City uses to keep track of specific sources of funding (revenue) and spending (expenses) for particular purposes. The City of Brandon maintains fifteen funds. Some of these funds include the General Fund, Water Fund, Sewer Fund, Street Maintenance Fund and the Street Light Fund. Below is an overview of some of the funds the city maintains. Visit <https://cityofbrandon.org/finance> for a detailed budget, audit and more.

GENERAL FUND

Revenue for the general fund comes mostly from property and sales tax revenue. Departments included in this fund are general government, public safety, public works, health and welfare, culture and recreation and more.

STREET MAINTENANCE FUND

Revenue for the street maintenance fund comes from an annual street maintenance fee on your property taxes. The 2024 assessment is \$2.50 per front footage of your lot. The revenue is used to maintain or repair public streets, like our annual Slurry Seal. A Slurry Seal is done each year in an area of town to extend the life of the road. Replacing curb and gutters, street patching and striping roads are other repairs done on streets to extend the life.

WATER FUND

Revenue for the water fund comes from water usage on your monthly utility bill and this revenue remains in the water fund. The water revenue helps pay for operations, maintenance, capital projects and debt. 2023 major capital projects included Water Tower, Water Treatment Plant, Water Meter Replacement Phase IV and new water lines for Rushmore Phase 2.

SEWER FUND

Revenue for the sewer fund comes from sewer usage on your monthly utility bill and this revenue remains in the sewer fund. The sewer revenue helps pay for operations, maintenance, capital projects and debt. The City has an agreement with the City of Sioux Falls to ship our waste to the Sioux Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant. This is the largest operational cost the City of Brandon has for the sewer fund, coming in at over \$1.2 million dollars in 2023. Studies to compare options and cost have been done in the past, with this being the best option for the City. Those studies can be viewed at <https://cityofbrandon.org/publicworks>. 2023 projects included new sewer lines in the Rushmore Phase 2 area and Preliminary Design on Dual Force Main.

STREET LIGHT FUND

Revenue for the street light fund comes from street light fee on your monthly utility bill and this revenue remains in the street light fund. The street light revenue helps pay for crossing lights, street lights, all of the streets lights in residential areas and major roads throughout the City of Brandon. A 2023 project included adding lights in the Rushmore Phase 2 project to improve the lighting and safety of the area.

This is a brief overview of the City of Brandon finances. For a complete budget or audit report visit <https://cityofbrandon.org/finance>. City finances are very different from private business. Should you have any questions, you may reach out to City Finance Officer, Christina Smith at 605-582-9056.