THIS MONTH WE REMEMBER

Brandon Smith was a native of Southern California, but lived in Elk Grove. He was born on September 20, 1987, the oldest of four brothers. His family described him as funny with a big smile. Brandon was the father of three young children and was devoted to being the best man, son, and father he could be, as well as a role model for his three brothers. He worked in a warehouse supporting his children and his mother, Yolanda.

Shortly before he died his mother Yolanda hugged him and told him she loved him. She thought he was going to receive housing assistance. Instead he was arrested by Sacramento Police and thrown in a transportation van where he was found unresponsive after being driven to the county jail. Questions still remain about what exactly happened to Brandon and as usual the police have not been held accountable. His brother Bironne said, “He’s a human being like us. He’s a person. He existed. He wasn’t a nobody for them to just physically and verbally abuse. This happened in your community.”

UPCOMING ACTIONS

6/12  M.H. First Responder Training
6/13  Sanfoka Market
6/14  Neighbor Program Summer School Session Begins
6/17  APTP General Meeting
6/26  NorCal Resist Brake Light Clinic
6/26  Feed Sacramento Free Workshop & Community Resources Fair

GET INVOLVED

MH First Responder Training

Join us via Zoom on Saturday, June 12 for our training that covers basic crisis response skills, designed to prepare volunteers with MH First Sacramento but open to all Sac county.

Sign up on Eventbrite [here](#).
COMMUNITY NEWS

Thank you to everyone who showed up for Community Art Day!

Second Saturdays at Florin Square are happening now! Get details on vendors and activities here.

Now thru June 27 you can view the special exhibit ‘Uba Seo: Nisenan Arts and Culture at: 225 Broad St, Nevada City

COVID VACCINE RESOURCES

Every Friday from now through November you can get your COVID vaccine by appointment at Sam & Bonnie Pannell Community Center, located at:
2450 Meadowview Road, Sacramento, CA 95832.

Text “vaccine” to the Sacramento Vaccine Text Hotline at (916) 476-2225 to schedule your appointment or call one of the numbers listed here.

“Migration is natural, it is a human right. No borders, no walls. Our display says ‘La Causa,’ which is for the liberation of all people.”
- Brown Berets Sacramento Chapter members Natalia and Josie at Community Art Day

MUTUAL AID SPOTLIGHT

Founded in the 1960s during the height of the Civil Rights and Chicano movements, the Brown Berets are an anti-facist, anti-capitalist, anti-racist group. Sacramento’s chapter was founded 9 years ago this past April.

The group frequently helps with security for local events. They are also deeply involved with mutual aid and do food, diaper, and supply drives, as well as toy drives for the holidays. They partner with a variety of organizations in the area to help underserved communities.

They support abolishing ICE, no more kids in cages, and workers’ rights, especially farmworkers. They also stand in solidarity against police violence. You can spot them out at various community events in their brown berets. Be sure to check them out and give them a follow on Facebook and Instagram.

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LOOK BACK AT IT

May 21, 2015 - Say Her Name

“The protest was part of a national day of action for the lives of Black women and girls—including those who are queer and transgender—that swept at least 17 U.S. cities on Thursday and included numerous other Bay Area rallies and vigils. Organized by Black Youth Project 100, the wave of protests was part of a growing call, under the banner of ‘Say Her Name,’ to remember all Black women who are harmed and killed by state violence, including police killings, beatings, and sexual assaults.

The San Francisco protest was organized by The BlackOUT Collective and Black Lives Matter and included people, not all of whom were topless, hailing from a wide range of ages. The organizing was led by black women and girls, including those who are cisgender and those who are transgender.

‘Our labor, our bodies, our lives are valuable. I won’t go another day without that being recognized. The state sanctioned violence against black women is intolerable. It has to stop. We black women have had enough. We’re done. It stops now.’”

Excerpt and photo from CommonDreams. Read the full article here.
M’ster Lewis is an artist and business owner based in Sacramento. The love this man has for his community is apparent in everything he does. The clothing he makes, the lyrics he writes, and the time he volunteers with places like Yisrael Family Farms all aim to empower others.

He tends to choose simple, chill beats to showcase the thoughtful lyrics and their melody. Each song is inspirational without being corny. He has this incredible ability to make you believe anything is possible, which is probably why he is seen as a leader in the local activist community.

His EP “I’m Just Sayin” released in January of this year and you can listen now on Spotify, YouTube or his Facebook page.

Garden of the People is a co-op urban grange and free farm stand located in Oak Park at the corner of 32nd Ave and 16th St. You can find produce, snacks, jars of freshly picked flowers, plant seedlings and sometimes even potted succulents here.

Follow @gardenofthepeople on Instagram for more.

Wondering what to donate? Think of what little thing would have meant a lot to you during your darkest days. Share the joy you find in something with your neighbors.

Mental Health First Tip of the Month

Self care for hard days:
• try to eat something
• drink water/tea
• get some fresh air (even just an open window)
• do one thing that brings you peace
• get into comfy clothes

Community Pantry and Fridge Locations

Pantry -
Midtown 1617 25th St
Sacramento, CA 95816

Fridge (pantry included) -
Oak Park 3349 44th St
Sacramento, CA 95817

Oak Park 4200 4th Ave
Sacramento, CA 95817

North Old Sacramento
425 Lampasas Ave
Sacramento, CA 95815

South Sac 2860 Florin Rd
#D Sacramento, CA 95822

Midtown (mini) 1322 F St
Sacramento, CA 95814

Follow @sacfrige4all on instagram for updates & info.
My Dyke Blood is Angry

and what other flavors can one expect from something so forbidden, even the Lord hesitated to call it fruit?

remember when you kissed the corners of my mouth, just enough cheek caught between your lips for us to remain only friends? How did you miss the nectar of bruised lemons and offending scald of lye? How could you love a breathing skeleton and not want to be a secret?

sweetness is a luxury allotted only to the living, not just the alive — and oh! what i’d do for a drop of sugar on my tongue, pretty lips caressing this dust infestation, a scrape of tenderness, or just soft words.

the edges of a sword forged in the flames of my silence have banished those desires; cast you and me out of the garden we tilled with our own brown fingers. i loved you so deeply, i had to damn us to a purgatory of distance in tandem. And that guilt, the aversion of your eyes from mine, has sliced the corners of my mouth into a boundless, bloodless grimace. trace every line and you could navigate your way to our end. and pretend there was never a beginning.

if i turned your way ever again, pretty girl eternal sister of sin, would you see where my scars have mimicked the curvature of your hips? the sweet saltwater of your collarbones? would you shout my name into the ears of those who would have us dead before together?

Or can I never find an oasis in you again?

by Khaya Osborne