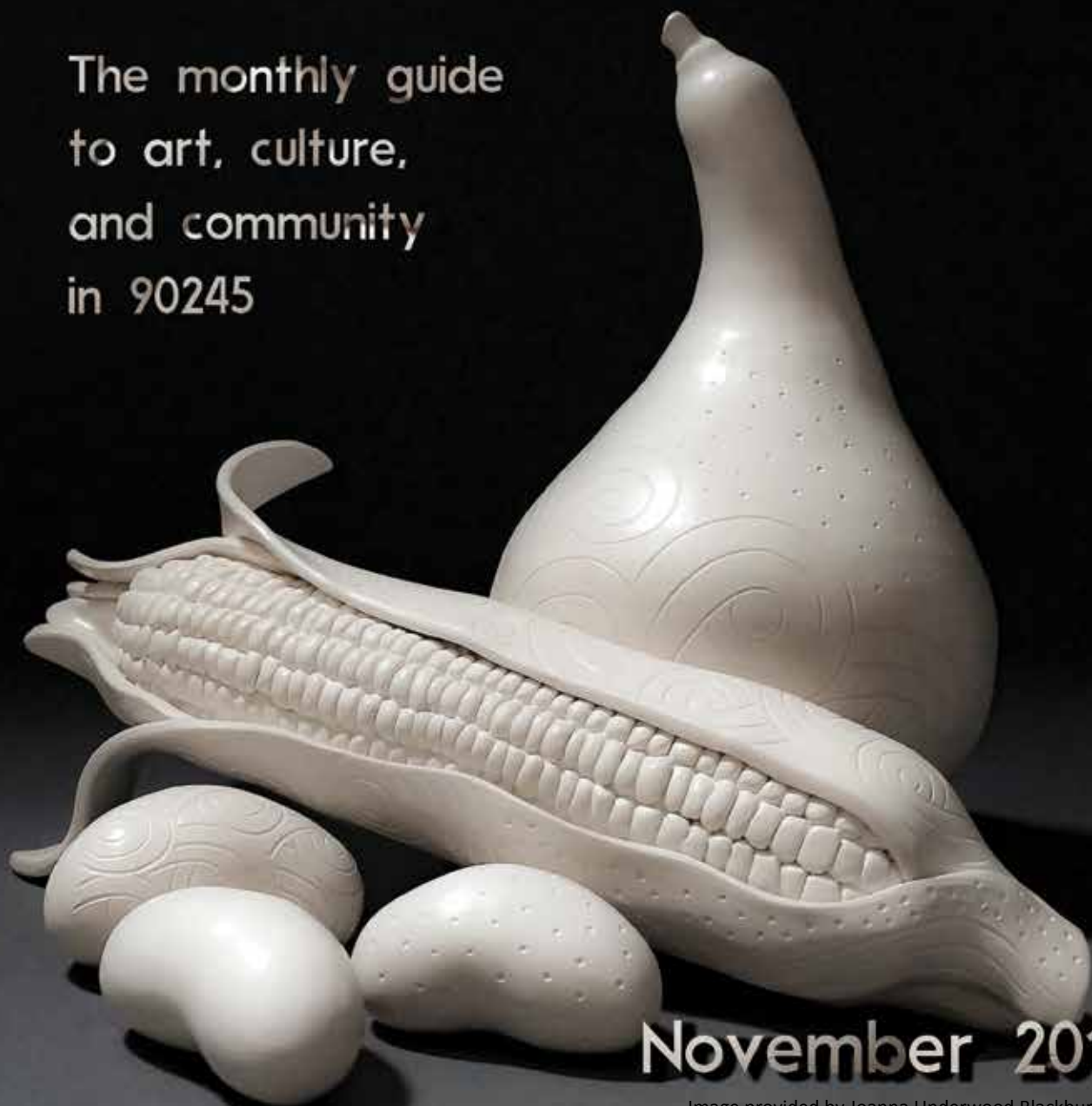


the ElSegundo scene



The monthly guide
to art, culture,
and community
in 90245



November 2018

Image provided by Joanna Underwood Blackburn

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El Segundo



What's Inside



It's November! El Segundo is gearing up for the winter holidays. Are you ready?! If not, local chef (and parent) Jenifer Antonelli is here to help you out in this month's El Segundo Eats column. Check out our Through the Lens "El Segundo Skies" photography spread for some natural, awe-inspiring beauty. Our next issue arrives early next month. Happy Thanksgiving!



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Strike Up the Band

Part 2 of our interview with one of El Segundo's most beloved music educators, Edie Rice, explores her move to El Segundo in the 1990s and her work with the city's youth. By Maureen Kingsley

In our September issue, we printed Part 1 of our interview with Edie Rice, which covered her childhood spent on a Pennsylvania dairy farm, her family's relationship with a fundamentalist church, her move to Pasadena, and her summers spent in Scotland.

Part 2 details her family's move to El Segundo and Edie's subsequent involvement with El Segundo schools.

TESS: What brought you to El Segundo from Pasadena?

Edie Rice: The first week in November 1995, my husband Mike, who had been out of work for three months, received a call that he was hired by Computer Sciences Corporation in El Segundo. Over Thanksgiving weekend in 1995 we moved to West Imperial Avenue and started our new life as a young family in El Segundo. I was so excited that we would make enough money to pay taxes!

TESS: How did your work with the youth of El Segundo begin?

ER: Rosie, our eldest, was in third grade at Center Street School in the fall of 1996

when a notice came home from school that there wouldn't be any band classes that school year because there was no teacher. I was appalled, because in Pennsylvania, where I grew up, band was part of the school day in elementary school, and it was quite popular. I had been an A+ band geek in my youth, and of course I thought my daughter should be one, too! Leslie Thompson, the Center Street School



Students from the elementary band, which is directed by Edie Rice, warm up before marching in the El Segundo holiday parade, an annual tradition.

principal at that time, listened to my plea and suggested that I start the band program myself. So I did!

That first year we had about 20 students playing flute, clarinet, and trumpet. I joined every professional music teaching conference I could, and read the instructional method books thoroughly so I could learn to be a good teacher.

TESS: At what point did you join up with the El Segundo High School band?

ER: In September 2000 I received a call from Superintendent Bill Watkins asking me to come to the high school as band director. After some convincing, I agreed, and I spent five years delving into the high school band-teaching world, including beginning an American Band College Master's Degree in Conducting at Southern Oregon University in 2004, which I completed in 2006.

I always thought I would enjoy being an *assistant* band director rather than director, and in 2007, then-head-of-ESHS band Steve Fox asked me to be his assistant. For 10 years we worked together building the program.

Currently, Robert Soto is the director, and I continue in the Assistant role.

TESS: Any further reflections you'd like to share with our readers?

ER: It is wonderful to look back at nearly 22 years of El Segundo students. I am thrilled to meet my elementary alumni when they get to the high school.

The El Segundo Scene

November 2018: Volume 1, number 7
www.theelsegundoscene.com

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The El Segundo Scene is a free monthly publication created by and for the El Segundo, CA, community and its neighbors. Each issue is available the first week of every month at participating locations.

This month we'd like to extend a special thank you to:
 Javier and Laura Medina at Fox Hills Printing Center, Michael Lipsey and Tim Shank, Edie Rice, Natalie Strong, Evan White, Marites Deregla, Bob Jackson, Jenny Gardner, Natalie Strong, Jenifer Antonelli, Seth Kingsley, Nury Gomez, ESMoA, Chamber of Commerce, Holly Socrates, all of our photo and art-work contributors, and our loyal advertisers. Thank you all!

This issue's cover: "Three Sisters" by Joanna Underwood Blackburn. Currently on display at ESMoA's MATRIARCHS exhibit. Artist is online at jblackburnstudios.com.

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Community Spotlight

More than just a place to buy a Christmas tree, the **Scout House Tree Lot** serves the community in a variety of ways. By Jenny Gardner

Hooray for the holidays! I love El Segundo with its many holiday traditions, and one of my favorites is the Scout House Tree Lot.

Every year, on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, my family visits the tree lot to pick out the perfect fir and officially begin our Christmas celebration. My kids wander up and down the rows, comparing Nordmans and Nobles, and finally find just the right one. We always leave happy, and we love supporting an organization that offers so much to our community.

The Scout House tree lot began in the 1950s, according to Tim Shank, co-chair of the tree-lot committee. The building itself was donated by Douglas Aircraft in 1949 and once sat on the airfield that is now LAX. After the building was placed on land offered by the city at the corner of Grand Avenue and Eucalyptus Street, the El Segundo Scout House Association (ESSHA) needed funds for upkeep and scouting events. Scouts started the lot to raise money for the Scout House and its active troops and packs, and the tradition continues today.

This annual tree-sale event is the chief fundraiser for the three Scouts BSA troops and two Cub Scout packs hosted by the Scout House. The tree lot's proceeds cover ongoing maintenance for the building and rechartering fees for the units, with any additional profits going to defray costs for activities such as the Soap Box Derby and camping trips.

Lacy Cook, ESSHA president, noted that the Scout House, as part of its



agreement with the city, hosts other local organizations throughout the year as well, such as sports league meetings, school district events, and Red Cross blood drives, so its maintenance benefits the town in various ways.

"We want folks to keep their money within the community and support scouting," said Michael Lipsey, a parent leader in several scout units. "We know folks can go to Home Depot or some other corporation to get a tree for less money—for those retail outlets, it is a loss-leader product that just gets folks into the stores to buy something else," he continued. "For us, it is our life's blood."

The tree lot supports the boys and girls of El Segundo's Scouts as



they learn about what it takes to be good citizens through the scouting program and community service. The event is run 100 percent by volunteers, mostly parents and older Scouts, though younger Scouts also help out by watering trees, sweeping, and doing other tasks while their parents are on duty. These volunteers give nearly 3,000 hours of their time each year to ensure the lot runs smoothly. Many customers are former Scouts or scouting parents who continue to patronize the lot and share their own stories of time as volunteers.

The trees come directly from the distributor and, in my personal experience as both a customer and a tree-lot volunteer, are in excellent condition, staying green and supple through Christmas. The lot also offers a unique service: free delivery to El Segundo and surrounding areas.

"I like selling on the tree lot because, unlike any other business, you don't have to convince anybody to buy—they came to buy a tree," Shank said. "They're happy, and their kids are running around, and everybody is in a good mood." This holiday season, the Scout House Association invites you to support the scouts and keep your money in the community by purchasing one of their trees. *Jenny Gardner will be volunteering at the Scout House Tree Lot this year for her fourth season.*

Scout House Tree Lot
Nov. 23 to Dec. 16
1-9pm Mon.-Fri., 9am-9pm Sat.-Sun.
Commercial orders open online Nov. 1
esscouthouse.org



On the evening of Friday, October 12, local photographer Sarah Ainsworth aimed her camera toward LAX and captured this stunning image of lightning crackling through the El Segundo sky during a thunderstorm. Magnificent!

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Last month's location was the children's library at El Segundo Public Library. Did you guess correctly?

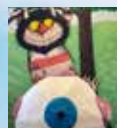


Photo credits, clockwise from top left: "El Porto" by Ashley Dobb-Debnam; Melissa Liebeskind; Ahbra Sargent; Natalie Strong; and Natalie Strong.



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The Artist's Voice

The South Bay Artist Collective serves the Beach Cities, including El Segundo, by educating youth, hosting free art shows, and more. By Natalie Strong

You may not have heard of the South Bay Artist Collective (SBAC) by name, but you've probably seen their artwork around town; you may even own some of it. Artists from the SBAC have participated in the El Segundo Art Walk since its inception and have become a growing presence in both group and solo shows around town summer after summer. The SBAC's reach is spreading throughout the Beach Cities, supporting the visual arts community and, according to their mission statement, "creating a destination for art and creativity, while teaching and inspiring youth." Since its founding, the organization has hosted 12 free-to-the-public art shows a year, plus fundraisers for local schools and the end-of-the-year shows for the Mira Costa and Manhattan Beach Middle School art departments. Collective founder Rafael McMaster says that, though the movement began in Hermosa Beach, "We look to north South Bay—El Segundo and North Manhattan—as our next place of emphasis and partnering to create opportunity for the local El Segundo community, its artists, and patrons."

The South Bay Artist Collective, of which I feel privileged to be a member, is a volunteer-run, donation-driven 501(c)3 non-profit organization currently housed in Hermosa Beach's Resin Gallery, a beautiful, airy space that is perfect for the Collective's frequent art shows, youth art classes, and rotating collection of current work by Collective members. The South Bay Artist Collective depends on the support of its patrons to keep its doors open.

On November 10th, the SBAC will be holding a Save Our Gallery fundraiser at Resin Gallery. The goal is to raise \$15K to ensure SBAC's residency in Resin Gallery for 2019, and the plan is to throw a party unlike any of the others that have come before. From 6-7pm, a VIP reception will offer ticket holders champagne with body-painter Paul Roustan's "tuxedoed" painted models, a meet-and-greet with Collective artists, 10 opportunity drawing tickets for raffle items, early access to the Collective's "Discovery" Collection, in which every piece is available for \$100, plus a ticket-holders-only auction of exclusive items. Tickets to the VIP reception are available for \$75 per guest at www.funddeed.com/projects/save-our-gallery.

At 7pm, the doors will open to the general public, and the party will continue until 9 o'clock with further opportunity drawings, a pig-in-the-poke cash prize drawing, refreshments provided by local businesses, and a one-night-only collaborative art project with me, inspired by my recent Instagram Postcard Project (#alchemypostcards).

On display in the gallery that night will be a selection of artwork donated by the artists that will be auctioned on eBay for the 10 days leading up to the event, ending at 10pm that night. 100% of the proceeds from these sales, as well as all sales from the "Discovery" Collection, will go toward supporting the non-profit.

In addition to ticket sales and artwork proceeds, the South Bay Artist Collective is looking for patrons who would like to become "Friends of the Collective" and have their names displayed in the gallery with our thanks. Partnerships are available from \$150–\$5000. For more information, go to funddeed.com/projects/southbayartistcollective.

"As the South Bay Artist Collective," says McMaster, "we are dedicated to a healthy and thriving art scene, from El Segundo to Redondo to Hawthorne. All-inclusive and room for everyone. There are community infrastructure needs that we can partner with others to grow, to the benefit of all artists, students, and appreciators of art. Our services are available to anyone in the South Bay art scene, so we welcome contact and ideas and service towards others in our shared South Bay community."




Golden Peacock by Rafael McMaster is one of the pieces that will be available for auction on eBay in connection with the SBAC fundraiser.

Current members of South Bay Artist Collective are: Sabrina Armitage, Bev Baigent, Charles Lynn Bragg, Emily Brantley, Josh Barnes, Sara Carli, Alex Diffin, Tom Delaney, Jeff Fieger, Amy Friedberg, Dan Gardner, Kevin Gilligan, Ryan Chun Grace, Michael B Harrington, Blakeley Hunter, Meghan Jerdin, Brian Kingston, Drica Lobo, Rafael McMaster, Radha Mehta, Eric Michael, Ron Piller, Paul Roustan, Janice Schultz, Andre Snyman, Wendy Stillman, Natalie Strong, Chris Taylor, Julio Zarate



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City Guide to Cultural Events

El Segundo's comprehensive monthly calendar of arts, culture, and community events.
Submit local events for this guide to events@theelsegundoscene.com.

November 2018

1 Live @ Aloft: Musician Morgan Taylor Jones
Thurs. 6-9pm
Aloft Hotel (on PCH)
Free admission, 424-290-5555

2 Yoga in Library Park
Fri. 8:30-10am
Library Park
Free, 310-524-2722

2 Mom's Morning Art
Fri. 11am-12:30pm
Holly Socrates Gallery
From \$60, hollysocrates.com

2 Live Music on the Patio
Fri. 5pm
Deluca Pasta
Free, delucapasta.com

2 Rusty's Jitterbug Jubilee



Fri. 8pm-midnight
The Automobile Driving Museum
Tickets \$30 to \$35,
rustyfrank.com

2 ESBC Macheen Tacos Night
Fri. 4pm
El Segundo Brewing Co.
Free admission, 310-529-3882

3 Hotwheels Garage Kids' Event
Sat. 10am-1pm
The Automobile Driving Museum
Admission varies (free to \$10),
theadm.org

3 Flight Path Museum Speaker Series: Bill Scott
Sat. 10:30am
Flight Path Museum & Learning Center
Free, flightpathmuseum.com

3 ESBC Bartz BBQ
Sat. 2-7pm
El Segundo Brewing Co.
Free admission, 310-529-3882

3 Movie Under the Stars: Incredibles 2
Sat. 5:30pm
591 E. Palm Ave.
Tickets from \$10,
waterhouseguild.com

3 PLAY at ESMoA (3-5 yrs)
Sat. 10-11am
ESMoA
Free, RSVP to
rspv@artlab21.org

4 Holiday Cross-Stitch
Sun. 10am-noon
Holly Socrates Gallery
\$65, hollysocrates.com

4 Holiday Shibori Workshop
Sun. 1:30-4:30pm
Holly Socrates Gallery
\$80, hollysocrates.com

4 Tom Bopp in Concert
Sun. 2:30pm
Old Town Music Hall
Tickets \$20, 310-322-2592

5 Maker Monday: washer necklace DIY
Mon. noon-1pm
ES Public Library
Free, 310-524-2722

5 Paint Nite @ Aloft w/Sip n' Color
Mon. 6-9pm
Aloft Hotel (on PCH)
\$20, register at bit.ly/2NjLdwN with code *StayAloft*

6 Election Day
Tues. 7am-8pm
<https://www.lavote.net/locator>

6 Live @ Aloft: Musician Katie Hargrove
Tues. 6-9pm
Aloft Hotel (on PCH)
Free admission, 424-290-5555

6 ESMoA Talk: "The Truth About Thanksgiving"
Tues. 6:30-8pm
ESMoA
Free, esmoa.org

6 Crafts 'n' Laughs hosted by Dave Williamson
Tues. 9:15pm
Flights Beer Bar (on E.S. Blvd.)
Free admission, flightsbeerbar.com

7 Live @ Aloft: Sam Shultz + Trey Macias
Wed. 6-9pm

Aloft Hotel (on PCH)
Free admission, 424-290-5555

7 True Insight Meditation + Healing Ctr. Open House
Wed. 7:30pm
ES Public Library Rose Garden Room
Free, TrueInsightSpiritualCenter.org

7 Cocktails + Chords
Wed. 6-9pm
R6 Distillery
Free, r6distillery.com

8 Live @ Aloft: Nick Shattuck
Thurs. 6-9pm
Aloft Hotel (on PCH)
Free, 424-290-5555

9 ESBC Macheen Tacos Night
Fri. 4pm
El Segundo Brewing Co.
Free admission, 310-529-388

9 ESMoA "Just Draw" Club (adults)
Fri. 10-11am
ESMoA
Free, esmoa.org

9 Live Music on the Patio
Fri. 5pm
Deluca Pasta
Free, delucapasta.com

8-10 "Energy + Information" presented by Transformance experiential sound group
Thurs. through Fri., 7 + 9pm
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eventbrite.com

9 El Segundo 2018 Kiwanis Cup Golf Tournament

Fri. 10am-7pm
Rio Hondo Golf Club (Downey)
Tickets start at \$50, elsegun-
dokiwanis.org

10 Chevron/Center Street School PTA Cougar Garden Work Day

Sat. 9am-1pm
Center Street School
Ages 16+, volunteer@csspta.com

10 Holiday Soap-Making Workshop

Sat. 1-2:30pm
Holly Socrates Gallery
\$40, hollysocrates.com

10 Home Remodeling Seminar

Sat. 10am
Custom Design & Construction
Free, RSVP
310-815-4815

10 "Goga (goat yoga) in the Gundo"

Sat. 10am-noon
Aloft Hotel
(on PCH)



Free, bring a mat,
bit.ly/GOGAintheGundo

10 ORPHAN Car Show

Sat. 10am-2pm
Automobile Driving Museum
Admission varies (free to \$10),
theadm.org

10 CREATE at ESMoA

Sat. 1-4pm
ESMoA
Free, esmoa.org

10 John Van Hamersveld Talk

Sat. 2-3pm
ES Public Library
Free, 310-524-2722

11 Holiday Block-Printing

Sun. 10am-noon
Holly Socrates Gallery
\$60, hollysocrates.com

11 Holiday Poetry Workshop

Sun. 1-3pm
Holly Socrates Gallery
\$48, hollysocrates.com

11 Riverboat Dixie Jazz Band

Sun. 2:30pm
Old Town Music Hall
Tickets \$20, 310-322-2592

11 ADM Annual Fundraising Gala

Sun. 5-9pm
Automobile Driving Museum
Tickets required, theadm.org/
gala20

11 ESBC BurgerShop LA

Sun. 1-6pm
El Segundo Brewing Co.

Free admission, 310-529-3882

11 Giggle Water Comedy

Sun. 8pm
R6 Distillery
\$8 online, r6distillery.com

13 Live @ Aloft: Musician

Morgan Taylor Jones
Tues. 6-9pm
Aloft Hotel (on PCH)
Free admission, 424-290-5555

13 Crafts 'n' Laughs comedy

Tues. 9:15pm
Flights Beer Bar (on E.S. Blvd.)
Free admission, flightsbeerbar.
com

14 Meditation in Library Park

Wed. noon-1pm
Library Park on Main St.
Free, 310-524-2722

14 Live @ Aloft: Yappy Hour (dogs welcome)

Wed. 5-7pm
Aloft Hotel (on PCH)
Free, bit.ly/AloftDogDay

14 Cocktails + Chords

Wed. 6-9pm
R6 Distillery
Free, r6distillery.com

15 Live @ Aloft: Nicki Bove

Thurs. 6-9pm
Aloft Hotel (on PCH)
Free, 424-290-5555

15 Bay Cities Coin Club Mtg.

Thurs. 6:30pm
ES Public Library

Free, 310-714-1991

15 10th Annual Ladies Night Out to benefit Ed! Foundation

Fri. 6:30-9:30pm
Automobile Driving Museum
Tickets \$65+, esedf.org

16 ESMoA "Just Draw" Club (adults)

Fri. 10-11am
ESMoA
Free, esmoa.org

16 "Tinkertopia" kids engineering + art

Fri. 3:30-5pm
ESMoA
Free, esmoa.org

16 ESBC Macheen Tacos Night

Fri. 4pm
El Segundo Brewing Co.
Free, 310-529-3882

16 Live music on the patio

Fri. 5pm
Deluca Pasta
Free, delucapasta.com

16 Night Before Christmas Event

Fri. 6:30-9:30pm
International Garden Center +
Floral Design
Free, 310-615-0353

17 Hedgehog Swing (European jazz)

Sat. 2-4pm
ES Public Library
Free, 310-524-2728

17 ESBC Bartz BBQ

City Guide to Cultural Events

Sat. 2-7pm
El Segundo Brewing Co.
Free, 310-529-3882

18 Swing Dance To Benefit ESWC (w/Beach Cities Swing Band)

Sun. 7-9pm
El Segundo Woman's Club
\$10, 310-322-5428

18 Giggle Water Comedy

Sun. 8pm
R6 Distillery
\$8 online, r6distillery.com

19 Maker Monday: photo frames DIY

Mon. noon-1pm
ES Public Library
Free, 310-524-2722

19 "Parenting the Teenager" workshop, part 1

Mon. 7pm
ES Public Library Rose Garden
Room
Linda Marten, MSW, 310-422-
2397

20 Live @ Aloft: Musician Morgan Taylor Jones

Tues. 6-9pm
Aloft Hotel (on PCH)
Free, 424-290-5555

20 Crafts 'n' Laughs comedy

Tues. 9:15pm
Flights Beer Bar (on E.S. Blvd.)
Free, flightsbeerbar.com

21 Cocktails + Chords

Wed. 6-9pm
R6 Distillery
Free admission, r6distillery.
com

23 ESMoA "Just Draw" Club (adults)

Fri. 10-11am
ESMoA
Free, esmoa.org

23 Scout House Tree Lot Opens (through Dec. 16)

Fri. 1-9pm
Scout House Tree Lot
Free, esscouthouse.org

23 Live Music on the Patio

Fri. 5pm
Deluca Pasta
Free, delucapasta.com

23-25 Laurel & Hardy Festival

Fri. 8:15pm, Sat. 2:30 + 8:15pm,
Sun. 2:30pm
Old Town Music Hall
Tickets \$8-10, 310-322-2592



24 Small Business Saturday at Create & Express

Sat. 11am-4pm
Create & Express
Free admission, 310-955-7355

24 ESBC Bartz BBQ

Sat. 2-7pm
El Segundo Brewing Co.
Free, 310-529-3882

25 ESBC BurgerShop LA

Sun. 1-6pm
El Segundo Brewing Co.
Free, 310-529-3882

25 Giggle Water Comedy

Sun. 8pm
R6 Distillery
\$8 online, r6distillery.com

26 Geneology Club

Mon. 11-12am
ES Public Library
Free, 310-524-2722

26 "Parenting the Teenager" workshop, part 2

Mon. 7pm
ES Public Library Rose Garden

Room
Linda Marten, 310-422-2397

27 Live @ Aloft: Musician Katie Hargrove

Tues. 6-9pm
Aloft Hotel (on PCH)
Free, 424-290-5555

28 Live @ Aloft: Sam Schultz and Trey Macias

Wed. 6-9pm
Aloft Hotel (on PCH)
Free admission, 424-290-5555

28 Cocktails + Chords

Wed. 6-9pm
R6 Distillery
Free, r6distillery.com

28 Goodbye Goldfish book signing w/author Erin Harrington

Wed. 6-9pm
Richmond Bar and Grill patio
Free, <https://amzn.to/2EV87fd>

28 Book Discussion: *Almost Sisters*

Wed. 6:30pm
ES Public Library
Free, 310-524-2722

29 Downtown El Segundo Small Town Christmas + Holiday Open House

Thurs. 5-8pm
Main Street
Free, elsegundochamber.com



29 Live @ Aloft: Nick Shattuck

Thurs. 6-9pm
Aloft Hotel (on PCH)
Free, 424-290-5555

30 ESMoA "Just Draw" Club (adults)

Fri. 10-11am
ESMoA
Free, esmoa.org

30 ESBC Macheen Tacos Night

Fri. 4pm
El Segundo Brewing Co.
Free admission, 310-529-3882

30 Live Music on the Patio

Fri. 5pm
Deluca Pasta
Free, delucapasta.com

December

1 Hot Wheels Garage kids' event

Sat. 10am-1pm
The Automobile Driving
Museum
Admission varies, theadm.org

1 Video Art + Film Festival: MATRIARCHS

Sat. 2-4:30pm
ESMoA
Free, esmoa.org

6 El Segundo Holiday Tree Lighting Event

Thurs. 3-7pm
Main Street, Downtown E.S.
Free, 310-524-2362



Photo by Robin Smith

**Dates subject to change;
contact event organizer to
confirm.**



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ALL-FEMALE GMC PICK-UP RESTORATION

The museum has an all-woman restoration project on a 1955 GMC truck named "Jimmi". The volunteer group meets at the museum, working together to restore this amazing vehicle. We welcome women who are interested in learning and donating their time.



HIGH SCHOOL AMPHICAR RESTORATION

Students from local high schools will be restoring an Amphicar in this amazing hands-on project! Amphicar is the only non-military amphibious vehicle ever put into commercial production.

Volunteer docents will supervise students as they truly learn everything from the basics to the most advanced processes of completely rebuilding and restoring this collector car.



CHILDREN'S "SUPER SERVICE CENTER"

Little mechanics can step into a pretend auto shop equipped with all the tools they need to perform maintenance on a kid-sized car mounted on a lift. The exhibit's hands-on activities encourage cooperative play and stimulate the development of fundamentals skills in young children. Kids will have fun sorting, matching and problem solving as they select tools, replace parts and fill work orders. Working with other mechanics encourages positive social skills, and the exhibit's activities will help enhance fine and gross motor skills.



Come visit the Automobile Driving Museum and consider sponsoring, volunteering, or donating towards our special projects. You'll be enriching the lives of veterans, women, high school students, and children!

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Throwback

Recollections of a childhood spent in El Segundo. This month: Ice cream at Leonard's Department Store. By Mitchell Mahony

Before there was WalMart or Target or even Two Guys, there was Leonard's in El Segundo, on the northeast corner of Sepulveda (now PCH) and Mariposa. Leonard's was a different kind of department store. If they didn't have it, you probably didn't need it. I know I'm going to miss a couple, but a few of the departments at Leonard's were Clothing, Grocery, Pet, Camera, Toys, and even a dry cleaner.

Leonard's also had a snack bar. One day when I was about eight years old (in the late 1960s) and leaving Leonard's with my mom, she looked over at the snack bar, which was roughly in the middle of

the store, and asked, "How about an ice cream cone?" A small, plain cone was 6 cents with tax. My mom literally scraped the bottom of her purse to come up with six pennies. She handed them to me and told me to meet her at the car. "And get plenty of napkins!"

With my treat in hand, I headed toward the exit. There was something wrong with the door, and it only opened about six inches and then slammed back into my hand. The ice cream cone hit the ground, of course, and I was on the verge of tears. Mom jumped out of the car and said, "It's all right, it's all right. We'll get another one." Now

remember, Mom had to dig six cents out of the bottom of her purse, so I was a little confused. But Mom led me back into Leonard's to the service desk. She got out her checkbook and wrote a check for \$1, which the cashier happily cashed. Mom handed me the dollar and told me to get a large dipped cone this time! I did—and afterward, I made sure to go out the other door.



Mitchell Mahony

Save the Date

Join your neighbors outdoors for **Small Town Christmas and Holiday Open House** on November 29.

We want to show off El Segundo's small-town charm," says local gallery and shop owner Holly Socrates of the city's upcoming Small Town Christmas and Holiday Open House. The evening event, scheduled for Thursday, November 29, from 5-8pm, will showcase El Segundo's holiday spirit and serve as a celebratory and welcoming night out for the community.

Spread throughout Downtown El Segundo and produced by the El Segundo Chamber of Commerce, Small Town Christmas and Holiday Open House will have local businesses opening their doors, spreading cheer, and serving refreshments. The evening will include live music and carolers, an Elf on the Shelf scavenger hunt, gingerbread-house decorating, and more.

The Chamber of Commerce and participating businesses welcome you to take advantage of El Segundo's highly walkable downtown and mild winter weather by celebrating the holidays small-town style on the evening of the 29th. As of late October, the following Main Street businesses were confirmed participants: Holly Socrates, The Jewelry Source, Brewport, Tavern on Main, Bike-O-Rama, and Create & Express.



Downtown El Segundo's Small Town Christmas and Holiday Open House

Thursday, November 29, 5-8pm, Downtown El Segundo

For more information, contact El Segundo Chamber of Commerce: 310-322-1220

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Where Can I Find *The El Segundo Scene*?

The El Segundo Scene is published monthly and available for free to the El Segundo community and its neighbors. Look for print issues during the first week of every month at the following locations:

Accounting Breeze, Aloft W XYZ Lounge, Automobile Driving Museum, Blue Butterfly Coffee Co., Chase Bank, Create & Express, Davis & DeRosa Physical Therapy, Deluca Pasta, El Segundo Animal Hospital, El Segundo Brewing Company, El Segundo Chamber of Commerce, El Segundo Civic Center, El Segundo Clubhouse (Rec Park), El Segundo Optometry, El Segundo Public Library, ESMoA, ESUSD school offices, Flight Path Museum, Gimlen Orthodontics, Happy Baby, Hawthorne Arts Complex, Holly Socrates Gallery, Hometown Market (Virginia St.), Hutchinson Dental, Mariposa Center Spa, Nicol Real Estate, Palm Realty (Gina Hoffman, Main St.), Ralphs (Mariposa Ave.), International Garden Center & Floral Design, The Jewelry Source, The Plunge, Two Guns Kitchen

For back issues, contact Maureen Kingsley or Florence Valladares at editor@theelsegundoscene.com or ads@theelsegundoscene.com

El Segundo Eats

Local personal chef Jenifer Antonelli shares her pro tips for creating an elegant yet virtually stress-free holiday meal.

Home cooks of El Segundo! Does the thought of hosting Thanksgiving this year induce a sense of panic? Relax! These ten easy tips will help you plan for the big day like a pro and take your cooking to the next level:

1 Menu plan in advance. Set deadlines for RSVPs. Print out copies of your recipes and make shopping lists. Figure out which pantry items can be purchased in advance and which perishables need to be bought closer to Thanksgiving. Do you need to order a special turkey or dessert by a certain date?

2 Delegate. Don't be afraid to ask for help! Aunt Rose would love to bring her famous pumpkin pie and your foodie brother would be thrilled to try out that new sweet-recipe. The kids can even get in on the action and help you prep. (Insider tip: If they help prep, your kids will eat foods you never dreamed of getting past their lips because they made it.)

3 Make fridge space. Throw away expired condiments and use up perishables not needed for T-Day. Remember that most turkeys are sold frozen so you'll need room to thaw it in the fridge. Plan on 24 hours for every 4 pounds—that's 3-4 days for a 12-16 pound bird.

4 Just say no to canned cranberry sauce. The fresh stuff is ridiculously easy to make. Really, it's this easy: Bring 2 cups of sugar, 1 1/2 cups of water and 1/2 teaspoon of kosher salt to a boil along with 2 tablespoons of orange zest. Add two 12-ounce bags of rinsed, fresh cranberries, reduce the heat, and simmer until the berries pop and become saucy—about 10 minutes. Cool for an hour then refrigerate up to a week in advance.



5 Go crazy with fresh herbs. Whether you make your stuffing from scratch or buy a box, throw a handful of chopped parsley, rosemary, sage, and thyme into the mix for a huge flavor burst. I also like to make an herb butter to rub under the skin of the turkey before roasting to help keep it moist. Chopped herbs also make gravy super delicious.

6 Prepare as much as you can before the big day. Stuffing, casseroles and gratins can be made the day before, stored in the fridge, then reheated. Decide when you want to eat on Thursday, then work your way backward to create a prep list and timeline so you know when to start each recipe the day of your feast.

7 Maximize your stovetop and oven real estate. Mashed potatoes can be made early in the day then transferred to your slow cooker on low heat. Add some extra cream and butter to your slow cooker then stir every hour to prevent them from drying out.

8 Celebrate Beaujolais Nouveau—the first wine of the season. In France, this wine is released on the third Thursday of November, just weeks after the grapes were harvested, and met with festivals, music and fireworks. It is a fruity red wine that is meant to be drunk young and slightly chilled, so why not pick up a couple of bottles to serve at your feast? *Continues on page 21.*

9 Cook a perfect turkey. To avoid overcooking, remove the pre-inserted timer and use an instant-read thermometer instead. You'll know the turkey is done when the thickest part of the breast registers at 165°F and the thigh is at 175°F. Allow the turkey to rest uncovered for 45 minutes before carving to allow the juices to absorb instead of flowing all over your carving board and drying out the meat. (This also frees up your oven for an hour to cook or reheat all those casseroles you made on Wednesday.)

10 Put the thanks back into Thanksgiving. If you are lucky enough to be a guest at someone else's table this year, remember to show your appreciation to the host. Wine, flowers, and extravagant spa packages are always welcome in my kitchen. Or offer one of the greatest hostess gifts of all and insist on helping with the dinner dishes.

Jenifer Antonelli is the owner of Vino and Viand Personal Chef Services and a member of the El Segundo community. For more meal planning tips, recipes, and information about her private cooking classes, dinner parties, and weekly meal preparation services, please visit www.vinoandviand.com or follow @vinoandviand on Facebook or Instagram.

A photograph of the interior of the El Segundo Brewing Company taproom. The space features a long, dark wooden bar with a blue-painted base. Behind the bar, a large menu board displays various beer options with prices. To the right, a stainless steel wall is equipped with numerous beer taps. The ceiling has exposed wooden beams and industrial-style lighting. A large window in the background looks out onto a green landscape. In the foreground, there are wooden chairs and tables. A blue circular logo for El Segundo Brewing Company is overlaid in the bottom left corner.

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El Segundo
BREWING COMPANY
West Coast Craft

Adjacent

Authentic Argentine specialties and a well-stocked, busy grocery at **El Gaucho Meat Market** make the whole family happy. By Seth Kingsley

Friends, it's time to have "the talk." There comes a time when your body undergoes changes. You begin to have feelings and emotions you've never experienced before. No, not puberty. *Foodberty*. It's when you eat so much of something you start to take on its qualities. Currently, I'm half man, half empanada—a human mashup of herby, garlicky chimichurri, deliciously seasoned ground beef, and tender pastry. So, what led me to this precarious condition? It was a carnivore's paradise called El Gaucho Meat Market in Redondo Beach. I'd been hearing about the Argentine eatery, meat market, and grocery—founded in 1994 by Argentine friends Abel Garcia and Antonio Ferrari—for years, and I finally decided to swing by recently with the wife and kids.

When I opened the doors to the market, my beef-loving body tingled with an unholy ecstasy. You see, I love meat. Like really, *really* love meat. Entering El Gaucho was like facing my personal Mecca of flavor—seasoned chicken, pork, beef, and homemade sausage piled high at a glistening butcher counter. It was a glorious sight to behold. In that moment, we were quickly met with a Sophie's Choice of gluttony: not only were there fresh meats to purchase and take home, the market also had a bustling sandwich shop with an endless array of tasty selections for sit-down dining. Being more of an instant-gratification kind of guy, I chose to go the sandwich route first. I ordered one made with hand-crafted sausage; my son had



their tender steak; my daughter opted for salami; and my wife chose the marinated grilled chicken. All of our choices were crowd-pleasers infused with authenticity. The crispy bread, the fresh veggies, and the aforementioned chimichurri all worked beautifully together.

Oh, but it got better, because El Gaucho's real Prom Queen is its Empanadas Argentinas, which the staff make by hand each day. A lesser man might just order a couple, but I don't mess around—I got a dozen of those suckers in assorted flavors (spinach, chicken, beef). Bite after yummy bite I told myself, "Be still my beating heart." The palpitations may have been from the excitement of a perfect meal—or the warning signs of heart failure from over-eating. Either way, I can now die a happy man after eating empanadas at El Gaucho.

After utterly enjoying our sandwiches and empanadas, my family and I spent a good 30 minutes more ogling the meat counter (and subsequently purchasing some fresh ground beef and marinated chicken thighs at reasonable prices) and strolling through the Latin grocery at the opposite end of the eatery. We packed our cart full of Ibarra Mexican hot chocolate, Goya horchata mix, various Mexican candies, and a jar of that killer chimichurri. After chatting with the friendly manager, Eni, we packed up our grocery purchases and loaded our overstuffed selves into the car to drive home. Lesson learned? A weekend visit to El Gaucho is time well spent outside of El Segundo.



El Gaucho Meat Market
2715 Manhattan Beach Blvd.
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gauchomeatmarket.com



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