

the EISegundo scene



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

June 2018

A professional portrait of a woman with long dark hair, smiling, wearing a white lab coat over a blue and white striped top. The background is a solid grey. A large, stylized circular graphic with orange and blue outlines is positioned on the left side of the image, partially overlapping the woman's portrait.

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What's Inside



Happy summer!

Please send your organization's El Segundo-based summer events to events@theelsegundoscene.com for inclusion in our guide.

We'd love to feature your child's artwork in our Young Artists spread! Email images to kids@theelsegundoscene.com.

Our next issue comes out in early July.



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Muralist, Teacher, Icon

ESHS Hall of Famer and world-renowned artist **John Van Hamersveld** on his influences and creative process. By Maureen Kingsley

El Segundo High School (ESHS) graduate and internationally known cultural icon John Van Hamersveld wears many hats: artist, designer, photographer, teacher, father, former surfer...and a black fedora that is part of his signature sartorial style, along with black-rimmed round eyeglasses. While talking with me in his home studio in Palos Verdes, Van Hamersveld moved nimbly among these various roles of his, describing his eventful childhood, his reverence for the ocean, his design career, his place within the digital revolution, and his grown children.

He also spoke about his most recent and physically largest commissioned artwork to date: the mural encircling the rusted-out water tank on the south side of Grand Avenue in El Segundo.

Inducted in September 2017 into the ESHS Hall of Fame, Van Hamersveld, a 1959 graduate, went on to create such culturally important works as the poster for *The Endless Summer* surf film, the American version of the “Magical Mystery Tour” Beatles’ album cover, and the “Exile on Main Street” album cover for the Rolling Stones. He served as Capitol Records’ art director from 1965 to 1968, and taught at CalArts in the 1980s. He also designed the Fatburger logo, signage, and architecture.

For his El Segundo water-tank project, van Hamersveld drew from what he calls his “lexicon” of graphic iconography and symbolism, created over decades, to produce the colorful, detailed, slightly psychedelic mural that now greets everyone traveling up and down Grand Avenue. Van Hamersveld himself did this drive every school day as a teenager, commuting from his home in Lunada Bay to El Segundo. Visible from the port-side windows of airplanes taking off from LAX, his 32-foot-tall water-tank mural measures 510 feet in circumference and features 15 ocean waves and 34 symbols that fans of van Hamersveld will recognize from his other murals around Southern California and elsewhere, including one in Hermosa Beach.

He described his latest artwork as “universes of things all collected up and layered, floating.” He pointed out how these compositions, which deliberately lack perspective, are reflective of the massive switch from analog to digital that occurred during the 1990s and early 2000s in design,



driven by the advent of personal computing. “The whole world in 2000 started becoming miniaturized into icons,” van Hamersveld said, “and the design business really changed tremendously.”

If you were in design then, “you had to evolve,” he said, “or quit.” Van Hamersveld, who worked with Apple founder Steve Jobs in the early 1980s, evolved.

Asked about his creative process for his murals, Van Hamersveld explained that he builds them on his iMac, piecing the components together as he goes. “It’s all spontaneous,” he said. “I have all the elements on a laptop, and then I transport those over onto a larger computer with six screens. And then I build the layers, and sandwich them together” using Adobe software, he added. The final product contains layers of color, shapes, and symbolism. “Your eye goes back and forth among the layers,” he explained, and I found that to be true the morning I stood on the sidewalk on Grand, studying his water-tank mural through an opening in the fence.

Van Hamersveld, who was born in 1941, came of age in Southern California at the height of surf culture. He spoke of the “mystical” Pacific Ocean, and how he learned its geography and behavior experientially through surfing its swells. That reverence for the ocean, combined with the counter-culture of the 1950s and 1960s, the influences of his mother, grandfather, and ESHS art teacher Al Tahti, plus his formal art education from ArtCenter design school in Pasadena, inform van Hamersveld’s creative work today. It’s all evident in his water-tank mural, which is—in addition to being culturally and historically significant—just plain fun to see.

Obsessed

California's only combination distillery, brewery, and speakeasy, the retro **R6 Distillery and Smoky Hollow Tasting + Tap Room**, beckons. By Jenny Gardner

A little smoky but with a sweet touch of maple syrup. A smooth, coffee-tinged finish. For the first time in my life, I'm enjoying whiskey.

This new experience seems ever so fitting, as I'm seated in an intimate room decorated in deep reds and rich brown leather, having quiet conversation with a friend, listening to live music, and petting the oh-so-sweet distillery dog, Jax. Just another evening at the Smoky Hollow Tasting Room speakeasy.

Owner and head distiller Rob Rubens opened the doors to California's only combination distillery,

Rubens' passion for his work is clear. "We focus on grain-to-glass production," he said. The distillery produces several kinds of bourbon and whiskey—all aged at least nine to twelve months—as well as vodka, gin, and rum. Rubens noted one of his most exciting new releases is a unique blue-corn bourbon that's been very well received and is available only in the tasting room. He's also preparing a limited spirit release, the proceeds of which will benefit cancer and pet rescue charities, two causes close to his heart.

The Chicago native said the speakeasy itself was inspired by his family's roots in the theater business in Prohibition-era Joliet, Illinois. Beyond the décor, the space is also a throwback because you won't find Wi-Fi or televisions. Instead, Rubens encourages patrons to enjoy an analog experience. "We offer person-to-person communication and music," he said with a smile, along with a choice of about a dozen cocktails and a hand-

ful of house-brewed beers on tap.

R6 Distillery hosts a variety of events. The speakeasy presents live musicians Wednesday and Saturday evenings, and a night of dueling pianos is in the works. Free poker games occur on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month.



brewery, and speakeasy in 2014, at 909 E. El Segundo Blvd. in the eponymous Smoky Hollow section of town, after an exhaustive nine-month search throughout the LA market.

"El Segundo picked us, so to speak," Rubens said. The site met his production and tasting room needs, and the area's burgeoning creative scene fit with his own vision for his R6 Distillery and its carefully handcrafted spirits.

R6 Distillery
 Wednesday 4:30-9pm
 Thursday 4:30-10pm
 Friday 4:30-11pm
 Saturday 3-11pm
 Sunday 3-8pm
 909 E. El Segundo Blvd.
 424-277-1134
www.r6distillery.com

You can also enjoy monthly comedy shows, trivia nights, and yoga classes. Rubens himself guides distillery tours with tastings on most first and third Fridays each month.

Several special events are on the horizon as well. On Sunday, June 24, the speakeasy will host its second burlesque show with the Dollface Dames. And in July, it hosts a whiskey dinner, a three-course gourmet meal made to pair with R6 spirits, a periodic event they've done in conjunction with Justin Disbrow, chef at Savage/Alchemy.

Through the Lens

Locals take a fresh look at the beach through their cameras.

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It's nice to SEE you!



Clockwise from top left: Sabrina Kozachuk (girl), Eileen Bell (umbrella), Jen Goaring (sign), Linda Marten (foam), Eileen B. (pail), Linda M. (shells), Jessie LeMay (sunset), Linda M. (kelp), Sabrina K. (waves), Jessie L. (pier), Karen Watson (hang gliding).

True Tales of the "Payroll City"

El Segundo

A look at
our city's history
- by N. Von Flue

THEY CAME FOR THE SUN AND STAYED FOR THE MASTODON

The first people came to Southern California some 13,000 years ago after the last ice age, when Mammoths and sloths were still thriving and a fine food source for early man.

The indigenous people of this time are called the Clovis people named for the town in New Mexico where evidence of their existence was first found in the 1920's. But their

unique arrow points have been found all over the Southwest and California coastline, many times in the fossil remains of mammoth and prehistoric animals. Around 7000 years ago trade developed amongst the coastal tribes, trading shells for acorns, or for hard stones in order to make arrow points. In this time tribes began forming throughout the Southern California region; The Chumash, Tongva, Vanyume, Cahuilla and more.



THE TONGVA

According to archaeological records, the Tongva Indians were the inhabitants of the greater Los Angeles area for close to 7000 years. They lived in clusters of thatched huts and were excellent seafarers, using canoes coated with tar that had washed up on shore or was carried from the La Brea Tar Pits. They inhabited the coastline and inland areas and traded with their neighbors, including the Chumash who inhabited the area around the Channel Islands. There were estimated to be 5000 Tongva in the region at the time of European exploration. Now there are close to 1500 members of the Tongva tribe.



Hey Kids- Impress your friends AND learn some history! Use this handy guide to count to ten in *Tongvan*!

1: po-koo 2: wa-hey 3: pa-hey 4: wat-sa 5: mahar
6: pawahe 7: wat-sa-kabiya 8: wa-hish-watchsa
9: mahar-cabearka 10: wa-hish-mar

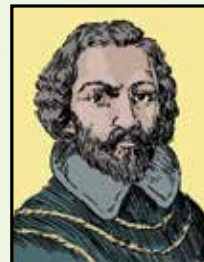
THE SPANISH BEGIN EXPLORING

As the Spanish navigated what they would later call "Alta California" explorers came in contact with the Tongva People. In 1542 Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo explored the California coast and the Tongva were the first people to greet him off the shore of what is now San Pedro. Expedi-

tion logs say that they were welcoming: "*Many Indians came out of the grass and bushes, shouting, dancing, and making signs to come ashore.*"

In 1769, the Tongva people brought the Portola Expedition to the **Kuruvungna Springs**, one of their most sacred sites. The Springs still flow today, releasing 22,000 Gallons of water daily!

The Tongva people were almost lost to history due to their grouping with other tribes under the blanket name "Gabrielino Indians", named for their closest Spanish mission, San Gabriel Arcangel.



☉ NEXT TIME: THE SPANISH RAISE THE MARKET VALUE! ☉

IN THE 1800'S THE KURUVUNGNA SPRINGS, SACRED SITE OF THE TONGVA PEOPLE, SERVED AS THE MAIN WATER SOURCE FOR THE ENTIRE CITY OF SANTA MONICA!



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The Artist's Voice

Local artists take a bow: El Segundo Art Association's "Bucket List" show winners are named. By Natalie Strong



On May 10th, 2018, thirty-two artists turned out in force with over 50 works of art for the El Segundo Art Association spring show, "Bucket List." Since then, the El Segundo Library walls have been covered with their artistic treasures. The Association also saw a rebirth of the Youth category with five entries from talented local kids. Judges Sally Martin of Studio Antiques and Eva Sweeney of ESMoA chose their winners, and for the first time, the members of the El Segundo Art Association also chose their favorite. Congratulations to all the winners and participants on a wonderful spring show. We hope that you, the public, took the opportunity to vote for the new Peoples' Choice award, the winner of which will be announced on *The El Segundo Scene's* website on June 9th. We hope to see you all in November for our fall 2018 show, "Homecomings." In the meantime, we've published photos of some of this show's winning artworks here. Enjoy, and if you would like to be put in touch with any of the artists, please contact me, El Segundo Art Association president Natalie Strong, at alchemy@constantalchemy.com.



First-Place Winners

Digital Art: Robin Young, "Blue Moon" **Wildlife/Animals:** Elizabeth Russell, "Sea Turtles" **Land/City/Seascape:** Vickie Myers, "Jury Rigged" **Still Life/Floral:** Mackie Keenan, "Classic Chevy" **Figurative/Portraiture:** Erica Marshall, "Delicate Friendship" **Abstract/ Modern:** Melissa Liebeskind, "River of Dreams-May It Flow Continuously" **Photography:** Ken Hart, "Depression" **Ceramic/Sculpture:** Wendy Temple, "Ancient Waters" **Youth:** Emilia Thompson, "Rapunzel in the Redwoods" **Bucket List:** Natalie Strong, "Crushed It" **Karen Yee Award:** Natalie Strong, "Crushed It"

Best in Show: Wendy Temple, "Ancient Waters" **Association's Choice:** Chuck Greenwood, "Bruges Canal"

Pictured (clockwise from upper left): "Ancient Waters" (Wendy Temple), "Crushed It" (Natalie Strong), "Rapunzel in the Redwoods" (Emilia Thompson), El Segundo Art Association spring show winners, "Kelp" (Karen Cagle), "Leda and the Swan" (Neal Von Flue), "Bruges Canal" (Chuck Greenwood)



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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.

June 2018

1 ESHS Band Concert

Fri. 7pm
El Segundo PAC (at ESHS)
Free, inquiries@sbmusic.org

1-3 Youth Drama Senior Variety Show

Fri. 7pm, Sat. 7pm, Sun. 2pm
Rec Park Clubhouse
\$20 (includes refreshments),
esydrama@gmail.com

2 Crochet Workshop

Sat. 10am–1pm
Holly Socrates Gallery
\$46, hollysocrates.com

2 El Segundo History Room open

Sat. 1–3pm

ES Public Library
Free, call first 310-364-0117

3 Soap-Making Workshop

Sun. noon–1:30pm
Holly Socrates Gallery
\$36, hollysocrates.com

3 ESCB Spring Chamber Recital

Sun. 3pm
Little Theater at ESHS
Free, sbmusic.org

4 Felt-Stitched Spring Birds DIY

Mon. noon–1pm
ES Public Library



Free, 310-524-2728

6 Cocktails & Chords

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

7 Cruise-In and Food-Truck Rally

Thurs. 6–9pm
Automobile Driving Museum
Free, theadm.org

7 “Grounded” LAX photo exhibit opens

Thurs. 1–8pm
ESMoA
Free, esmoa.org

8-10 Vintage Cartoon Festival (for adults)

Fri. 8:15pm, Sat. 2:30 + 8:15pm, Sun. 2:30pm
Old Town Music Hall
\$8–\$10,

oldtownmusic hall.org

9 British Car Show

Sat. 10am–2pm
Automobile Driving Museum
\$15–\$40, theadm.org

9 Bartz Barbecue at ESBC

Sat. 1–7pm
El Segundo Brewing Co.
Free, elsegundobrewing.com

9 Father's Day Made in the Shade Plant Workshop

Sat. 3–4pm
International Garden Center & Floral Design
Free, 310-615-0353

9 Del Guido Trio

Sat. 7pm
R6 Distillery
Free, r6distillery.com

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10 Candle-Making Workshop

Sun. 1–2:30pm
Holly Socrates Gallery
\$48, hollysocrates.com

10 Comedy Night

Sun. 8pm
R6 Distillery
Tickets online,
r6distillery.com

13 Cocktails & Chords + Poker

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

14 Cruise-In and Food-Truck Rally

Thurs. 6–9pm
Automobile Driving Museum
Free, theadm.org

14 LA Beer Week Kickoff event

Thurs. 4pm
Brewport Tap House
Free, brewporttap-house.com

15 Kids' Summer Reading Program registration begins

Fri. 9am
ES Public Library
Free, 310-524-2722

16 Ron Tanski & Co. live music

Sat. 7pm
R6 Distillery
Free, r6distillery.com

16-17 43rd Annual Ragtime Festival

Sat. + Sun. 2:30pm
Old Town Music Hall
\$20, oldtownmusichall.org

17 Father's Day Rides and Beer

Tasting

Sun. 10am–3pm
Automobile Driving Museum
\$8–\$10, theadm.org

17 Concert in the Park No. 1

Sun. 4:30pm
Library Park
Free, 310-524-2700

18 Marble Magnets DIY

Mon. noon–1pm
ES Public Library
Free, 310-524-2728

18 "Mary Pop-pins" youth drama auditions

Mon. 3–6pm
Rec Park Clubhouse
Registration required,
esydrama@gmail.com

20 Cocktails & Chords

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

21 Kids' Club, "The No Siesta Fiesta"

Thurs. 10am–noon
The Point
Free, thepointsb.com

21 Art Walk No. 1



Thurs. 5–9pm
Downtown ES and Smoky Hollow district
Free, elsegundoart-walk.com

21 Cruise-In and Food-Truck Rally

Thurs. 6–9pm
Automobile Driving Museum
Free, theadm.org

22-24 Road Picture Film Festival

Fri.–Sun., afternoon + evening showtimes
Old Town Music Hall
\$8–\$10, oldtownmusicall.org

23 Yoga & Spirits

Sat. 10:45am
R6 Distillery
\$15–\$35, r6distillery.com

23 Founder's Day Festival

Sat. 3–4pm
International Garden Center & Floral Design
Free, 310-615-0353

23 Reach for the Stars Auxiliary Children's Hospital Benefit

Sat. 4–7pm
The Jewelry Source

Free, 310-322-7110

23 Daddy's Girl Father's Day Dance

Sat. 5–7pm
Happy Baby
\$30/couple, happybabyLA.com

23 Summer Swing Nights

Sat. 7–11pm
Automobile Driving Museum
\$20–\$45, theadm.org

23 Michael Forbes Explosion Band

Sat. 7:30pm
R6 Distillery
Free, r6distillery.com

24 Dollface Dames' Speakeasy burlesque show

Sun. 7:45–10pm
R6 Distillery
\$20, r6distillery.com

25-29 Makers Gonna Make youth camp

Mon.–Fri. 9:30am–12:30pm

Holly Socrates Gallery
\$240/week, hollysocrates.com

27 Summer STEAM Day

Wed. 11am–1pm
Automobile Driving Museum
Free, theadm.org

27 Cocktails & Chords + Poker

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

27 ESPL Evening Book Club, *The Women in the Castle*

Wed. 6:30–7:30pm
ES Public Library
Free, 310-524-2728

28 Cruise-In and Food-Truck Rally

Thurs. 6–9pm
Automobile Driving Museum
Free, theadm.org

30 Cars and Coffee

Sat. 7–9am

The Point
Free, thepointsb.com

30 Jeff Dale, live music

Sat. 7pm
R6 Distillery
Free, r6distillery.com

July 2018

4 El Segundo 4th of July Celebration

Wed., 10am–9pm
Rec Park
Wristbands required for evening field access, 310-524-2700



All event information is as accurate as possible at time of printing. Dates subject to change; contact event organizer to confirm.



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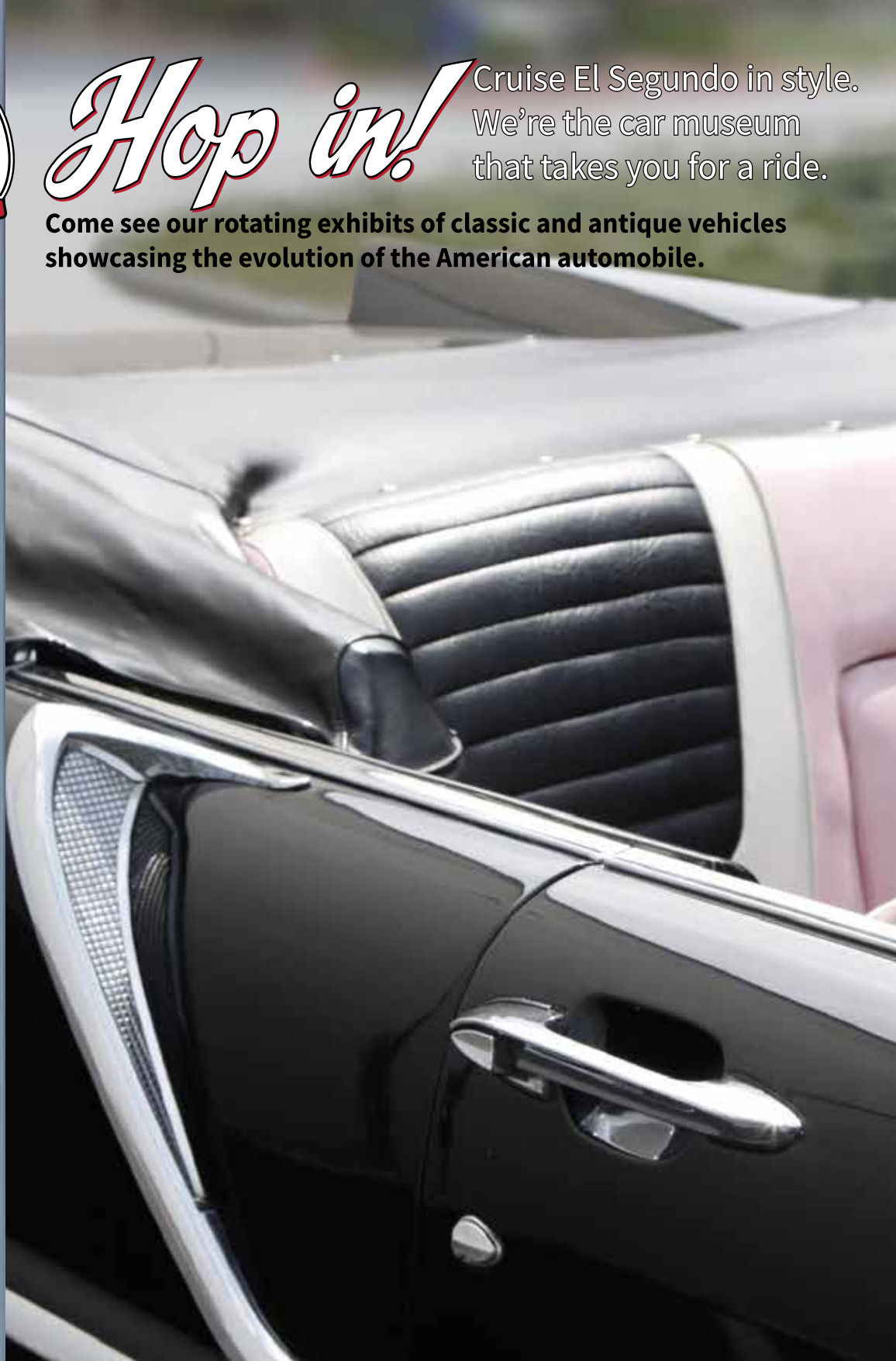
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[TheADMorg](https://www.yelp.com/biz/the-automobile-driving-museum-el-segundo)

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Young Artists of 90245

El Segundo's youngest artists and writers share their creations with the community.

This month's young artists sponsored by



This month's gallery: Flowers, Margot Strong; girl with butterfly, Maya Kingsley; night scene, Ethan Relles; abstract piece, August Liebeskind; "Inner Portrait," Jaden Boudreau; rocks painted by El Segundo Girl Scout troop #2135; tree sketch, Sophie Carpenter; colorful piece, Cecilia Maldonado-Tooley; woman in profile, Ada Valladares.





Kids, we'd love to publish your work!

All young people aged 2 to 18 who are part of the El Segundo community are encouraged to submit original artwork, poetry, and other creative works for publication in this section. The editor will make every effort to publish each submitted work.

To submit, e-mail large, high-resolution images of original artwork, or Word docs of original writing, to kids@theelsegundoscene.com. Please include artist's name and age.



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El Segundo Eats

Rediscover some of El Segundo Farmers' Market's most delicious offerings for your next summer gathering. By Jen Goaring

Whether it be a girls' night in, cocktails with the neighbors, or the appetizers before your dinner party, the El Segundo Farmers' Market has a plethora of items to



Vegetables of all kinds are pickled at Completely Pickled at the farmers' market.

take your snacks to the next level. Purchasing and assembling is easy and affordable, and you can let your guests think you spent a lot more time on preparation than you did.



Unique and delicious dips on offer at Farmers' Market. Ask for samples!



The cucumber-mint agua fresca from Papusas Rita is refreshing and less sweet than conventional lemonade.

First stop: The Completely Pickled stand offers sweet, savory, and spicy flavors, all beautifully jarred. All of the pickled vegetables for pairing with charcuterie are available here. The green beans, crisp and fresh with just a hint of heat, go well with the Mediterranean flavors you'll see coming up.

Next, visit the spread/dip/salad stand typically positioned at the southern end of the market. Sun-dried tomato, pesto, pine nut, and roasted pepper are a few of the cheese-spread varieties offered here. Pick up a couple of these (after receiving samples from the generous staff), and put them in small, cute bowls next to crackers, breads, and vegetables when you are back home preparing for your

gathering. They'll be gone in an instant once your guests arrive.

All of this walking about and sampling and checking out the produce makes you thirsty, so stop for a delicious cucumber-mint agua fresca from Pupusas Rita.

Next up: the hummus stand. It's not just hummus! Tzatziki, tabbouleh, olives, dolmas, and other spreads available here can round out your platters. Pick up the freshly baked pita, too, for cutting into wedges and pairing with your various accoutrements.

Before you go home, stop at any of our amazing produce vendors for some veggies to place alongside



Assemble a beautiful, easy spread with your farmers' market finds!

your other purchases.

Assembly is quick and easy! Any plate, bowl, platter or cutting board will do. Scatter them around each other with napkins, plates, and drinks nearby, and you can't go wrong.

Pro Tip: Stop by Holly Main liquor store to grab your party wines! They have a great selection, and you'll need some for sipping while putting your arrangement together. Cheers!

El Segundo Farmers' Market
Thursdays, 3-7pm
Downtown El Segundo, on Main St.

The El Segundo Scene

www.theelsegundoscene.com

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General inquiries, please contact Maureen Kingsley or Florence Valladares.

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ESMoA, Bob Jackson, Jenny Gardner, Stacey Teicher Morris, Jen Goaring, Natalie Strong, Seth Kingsley, Neal Von Flue, Cesar Valladares, Anne Sikking, Brenda Newman, Melissa Liebeskind, Roz Templin, Marsha Hansen, Linda Johnson, Meredith Petit, John Van Hamersveld, Alida Post, Rob Rubens, Josette Murphy, Nury Gomez.

This issue's cover: Image of John Van Hamersveld and his new water-tank mural on Grand Avenue, photographed by Sebastian Amespi and published with permission.

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Adjacent

Local dad and food enthusiast Seth Kingsley wouldn't normally suggest you buy lunch at a convenience store. But for **ASAP Phorage** in Playa del Rey, he's making an exception.

Hi, I'd like to order one Washugyu Beef Pho, one Jidori Chicken Broken Rice Plate, two Banh Mi Shaking Cheesesteaks, an Imperial Roll, and a pair of Spanx support hose, preferably in a men's size 36.

Okay, so maybe I didn't order the Spanx, but I definitely needed them after grabbing a delicious lunch at ASAP Phorage in Playa Del Rey. If you haven't been, you're missing out! For starters, where else can you buy diapers, malt liquor, and locally sourced modern Vietnamese food all in one place? The answer is, "Probably nowhere."

At ASAP Phorage, the super-tiny food counter is nestled in the back of Gordon's Market on Culver Boulevard—about a 10-minute drive from El Segundo. As always, on the day I visited I wore my most comfortable eating pants because I wanted to be game ready. But this time I also brought along a secret weapon: my foodie daughter, Maya.

As we parked in a side alley, Maya, a master of subtlety, asked, "Where the heck are you taking me?! This place looks weird." And it only got weirder when we entered the convenience store.

nience store.

The restaurant was nowhere in sight. But then, as we emerged from a snack aisle somewhere between the candy and the souvenir postcards, there was hidden our secret Narnia of tastiness: ASAP Phorage.

In preparation for the occasion, I skipped breakfast so I'd have plenty of room in my chow chamber to feast like a king—or at least a Kings-

ley. With haste, Maya and I got down to business, ordering a variety of flavorful dishes.

When the pho arrived, I was tempted to put on a swim cap and dive right in. The aroma was delightful. As I was slurping down the soup, my super-friendly server, Gerard, explained that the broth undergoes a 12- to 16-hour prep. Full transparency: I'm no pho snob, but it tasted great to me.

Also great was the Banh Mi Shaking Cheesesteak: chopped beef, garlic, red onion, four cheeses, and some crunchy vegetables layered onto a toasted baguette. Truth be told, I had an emotional affair with its pure scrumptiousness.

In the immortal words of my favorite Austrian poet, "I'll be back." But seating is limited, so here's a friendly tip: consider takeout on the way home from work or delivery services like Uber Eats. And check out the full-size Phorage on Overland Avenue in Palms sometime.

Now, if you don't mind, I'm gonna stress-eat the leftovers in the privacy of my car. Don't judge me.

Seth Kingsley lives in El Segundo, is married to The El Segundo Scene's editor, and writes comedy pieces for E! News.



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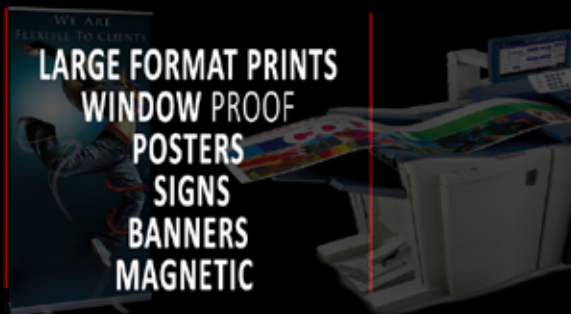
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