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# ON THE ROAD ...



Vol. 18, No. 2

The official newsletter of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association

June 2006

## Getting their kicks on the big screen

*Oklahoma Route 66 personalities Dawn Welch, Michael Wallis, others featured in Pixar film 'Cars'*

BY EMILY PRIDDY

Late one evening five years ago, a team from Pixar Animation Studios descended on the Rock Café in Stroud.

The crew, led by director John Lasseter and Route 66 historian Michael Wallis, sampled one of everything on the menu ... but their favorite treat was the restaurant's proprietor, Dawn Welch, who served them stories, laughter, and inspiration for several hours.

Welch's hospitality to the group — and to subsequent visitors from Pixar — earned her a place on the silver screen.

On June 9, Pixar's latest film, *Cars*, opened nationwide. One of the movie's main characters — Sally Carrera, a feisty 2002 Porsche 911 — is based, in large part, on Welch.

The computer-animated film tells the story of Lightning McQueen, a self-absorbed racecar who takes a wrong turn on the way to a race and finds himself in Radiator Springs, a fictional Route 66 town populated entirely by automobiles.

The town — and many of its residents — are patterned after real people and places on Route 66.

Mater, a rusty but reliable tow truck voiced by Larry the Cable Guy, was inspired partly by Har-



Disney/Pixar

Tulsan Michael Wallis, a member of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association, provides the voice for the Sheriff of Radiator Springs in the movie *Cars*.

ley and Annabelle Russell (of Sandhills Curiosity Shop fame) and partly by Dean Walker, president of the Kansas Route 66 Association.

Sally, who runs a motel with rooms shaped like traffic cones (inspired by the tepee-shaped rooms at the Wigwam Motels in Arizona and California), is based primarily on Welch.

Fillmore, a Volkswagen Microbus with a taste for organic fuel, was inspired by Route 66 artist Bob Waldmire of Illinois.

And Wallis — who lives in Tulsa — lends his unmistakable growl to the Sheriff, a 1949 Mercury police cruiser who arrests the speeding McQueen.

Wallis originally was hired as

a consultant for Pixar, but when Lasseter heard his distinctive voice, he asked Wallis to voice a character as well.

Route 66 is critical to the plot of the movie, which deals with the impact of the interstate on the businesses and residents of Radiator Springs.

The movie and its multimillion-dollar advertising campaign and merchandising tie-ins — which include Happy Meal toys, prizes in boxes of Kellogg's cereal, and a host of children's books, stickers, toys, clothes and games — should provide a major boost to Route 66 businesses as they raise public awareness of the road and introduce the road to a new generation of travelers.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

*The 2007 National Route 66 Festival will be held June 21-24, 2007, in Clinton. Watch your newsletter for details as we get them! More information will be available soon at [www.Route66festival2007.com](http://www.Route66festival2007.com)*

# IN BRIEF

## MERCEDES CLUB TO CRUISE MOTHER ROAD

The Mercedes-Benz Club of America will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a Sept. 17-30 cruise from Chicago to L.A. For more, visit [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org).

## NEW GARDEN IN CHANDLER HONORS BOMBING VICTIM

Friends and family of the late Susan Ferrell dedicated a new garden and pavilion this spring at the Pioneer History Museum on Route 66 in Chandler.

The "Discovery Garden and Pavilion" was created to honor Ferrell, who was among the 168 people killed in the 1995 attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Building in Oklahoma City.

The garden is open to the alley behind the museum. Visitors can park and picnic in the shade even when the museum is not open.

Ferrell was a supporter of the museum's children's program.

## ROUTE 66 FESTIVAL TO BE HELD JUNE 23-25 IN ALBUQUERQUE

The International Route 66 Festival will take place June 23-25 in Albuquerque. For more information, visit [www.2006route66festival.com](http://www.2006route66festival.com).

## TEXAS ASSOCIATION PLANS SELF-GUIDED 66 CRUISE

The Old Route 66 Association of Texas will hold "Cruisin' to Albuquerque — Ultimate Road Trip" through June 23. Pick up a passport for \$5 at the U-Drop Inn in Shamrock; Devil's Rope Museum in McLean; Big Texan Steak Ranch, Cattlemen's Café, or Blue Gator in Amarillo; Oldham County Chamber of Commerce in Vega; or MidPoint Café in Adrian. For more, call (806) 267-2828 or (806) 658-4796.

## LEBANON, MO., TO HOLD ROUTE 66 FESTIVAL

The Lebanon/Laclede County Route 66 Society will hold

a Route 66 festival Sept. 29-30 in Lebanon, Mo. The event will include a showing of Shellee Graham's documentary *Built for Speed: Coral Court Motel* and Bill Wheeler's "Windshield Tour" of Route 66 through Laclede County; a car and motorcycle show; a swap meet; music; kids' games; and more.

For more information, call (417) 532-4642 or send e-mail to [laclede66news@tds.net](mailto:laclede66news@tds.net).

## ILLINOIS COMMUNITY PLANS

### CLASSIC CAR FESTIVAL

Litchfield, Ill., will hold its "Cruisin' Route 66 to Litchfield" classic car festival. For more information, call (217) 324-5253, ext. 145, or e-mail [tourism@litchfieldil.com](mailto:tourism@litchfieldil.com).

### SPRING POKER RUN

#### WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Randy Chevrier won first place — a set of Frankoma pottery — in the Oklahoma Route

66 Association's April poker run, which began at Ollie's Station Restaurant in Tulsa and ended at StableRidge Winery in Stroud.

Second place, a gift certificate from Freddie's in Sapulpa, went to Donald McCall.

Carol Quary won third place, which was a clock.

## OKLAHOMA ROUTE 66 LOGO

### CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED


The Oklahoma Route 66 Association recently held a contest to select a logo celebrating the 80th anniversary of Route 66.

Thirteen initial submissions were narrowed down to five, and a winner was chosen by the board of directors at its April 22 meeting.

Winners were: Frances Jones of Claremore, first place; Carolina Yibirin from the University of Tulsa, second place; and Kenneth Hudson from Newalla, third place.

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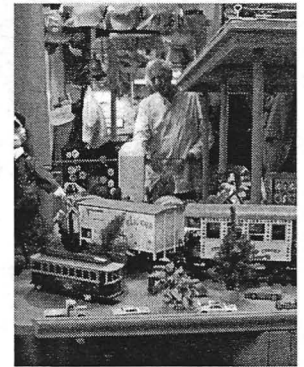
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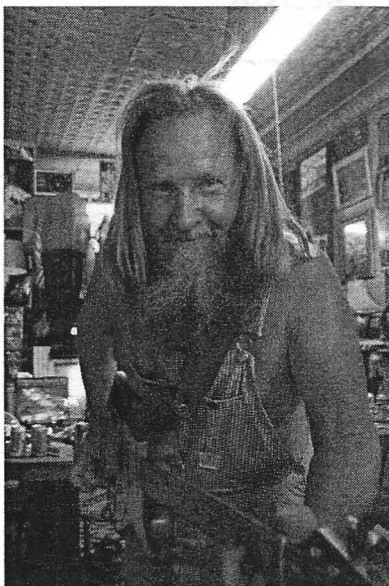
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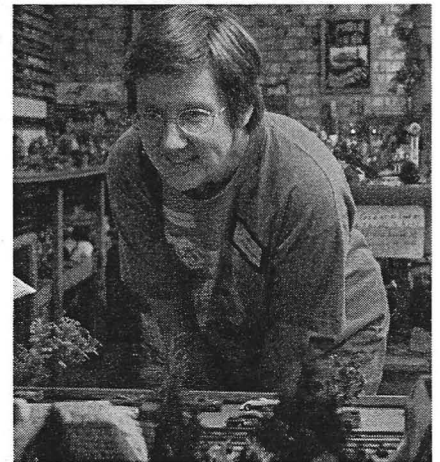
Board member Cletus Simpson reacts as Harley Russell dances for her at the Sandhills Curiosity Shop in Erick, top photo. Above, left to right: Harley gets friendly with a traveler who wandered into the Sandhills Curiosity shop while he and his wife, Annabelle, were performing; Carol Duncan admires the trains at the R S & K Railroad Museum in Sayre; Ray Killian shows off his collection at the R S & K Museum.



## Mother Roding out West

The Oklahoma Route 66 Association held its western minicruise June 10. The event, which celebrated the 80th anniversary of Route 66, began at the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum in Clinton and proceeded to the Sandhills Curiosity Shop in Erick, with stops along the way at the National Route 66 Museum in Elk City, R S & K Railroad Museum in Sayre, and Roger Miller Museum in Erick. Participants received discounts on admission to the museums.

The next Oklahoma Route 66 Association cruise will be July 22 and will end at our quarterly board meeting in Clinton. Details to be announced; mark your calendar and watch your mailbox for more information!



Above: Kathy Anderson watches the trains go by at the R S & K Railroad Museum in Sayre. Far left: Harley Russell plays his guitar at the Sandhills Curiosity Shop in Erick.

# Preservation Oklahoma lists 66 among Most Endangered Places

Preservation Oklahoma and the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office unveiled the 2006 Most Endangered Historic Places list earlier this year. The designation is intended as a tool to raise awareness and resources for preservation.

Route 66 across Oklahoma was among the 13 entities statewide to receive the designation. Also on the list were downtown Tulsa, which is home to many Art Deco buildings, and mid-century architecture across the state.

In its April newsletter, Preservation Oklahoma also reported that one of the buildings at Fort Reno underwent exterior restoration, which was completed in February, with the help of a 2004 Save America's Treasures grant. The Officers Duplex underwent the first phase of restoration. Historic Fort Reno Inc. is raising matching funds so it can use the rest of its grant to renovate the Commander's Quarters. To learn more, visit [www.fortreno.org](http://www.fortreno.org).



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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

To join the Association or renew an existing membership, please fill out this form, include your check or money order (in U.S. funds, on a U.S.-based bank), and mail to the address below. NOTE: A \$20 recovery fee will be charged for bad checks.

### Type of annual membership (check one)

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[www.oklahomaroute66.com](http://www.oklahomaroute66.com)  
(405) 258-0008

# OK Route 66 Association board meeting minutes

The Oklahoma Route 66 Association board of directors met April 22 at StableRidge Winery in Stroud. Highlights included:

- Treasurer Kim Evans reported income of \$7,688.15 and expenses of \$8,762.83 since the last Association meeting. The checking account balance is \$13,018.06.

- Dawn Welch, owner of the Rock Café in Stroud, spoke to the board about the Pixar movie *Cars*, which is set on Route 66.

- The board considered the possibility of selling the Trip Guide to travelers but ultimately voted to continue to distribute it for free this year. There was a lengthy discussion

- The board voted to survey the Association's business members about various issues concerning the Trip Guide and other Association matters.

- Pam Lewis from OU and Scenic Byways shared her ideas about the new Route 66 Park at

Lake Overholser.

- The board voted on logo contest entries. There were 12 total entries. A committee narrowed the group to five, and the board was given copies of these to vote on.

- The board discussed the upcoming Route 66 Festival in Albuquerque. It was decided that Mike Hickey, Kim Evans, Cleatus Simpson, and Marilyn Emde will represent the Association at the festival and at the Route 66 Summit associated with the event. The Association will cover up to \$1,000 in expenses for the group to attend the festival.

- Cruise committee Chairman Pam Reeder discussed the lack of communication on the April 22 poker run. She shared the list of proposed events for the current year. She said the committee thought it would be good to promote the road year round with several small cruises rather than once a year with a

large cruise. The board voted to change the date of the western minicruise from June 17 to June 10 to avoid conflicts with other events.

- The board set dates of July 22 and Oct. 22 for upcoming poker runs.

- Emily Priddy resigned from the cruise committee, effective immediately. Jeanne Miller joined the committee in her place.

- The board moved to sell "Friends don't let friends drive on I-44" T-shirts through Cafe-press.com. We would decide what to sell, and they would handle everything else and send us a check for the profit when items sold.

- Richard Andrews from ODOT advised the board to send a letter to ODOT asking for help getting Route 66 signs installed along the road. He and Pam Lewis also gave an update on the Corridor Management

Plan for Scenic Byways.

- Pam Lewis gave several suggestions to the board. She would like to help market and promote the Trip Guide and set up a travel study program. She thinks there may be grant money available to help with the administrator's salary.

- Richard Andrews told the board that Jennifer Kalkman from Oklahoma Tourism has suggested a Route 66 theme for one of the new Tourist Information Centers.

- The board voted not to place an advertisement in *American Road* magazine using tourism tax funds because of problems getting the ad approved in time to get it in the magazine.


- Marilyn Emde read a letter from David Jostes, a traveler who had a bad experience in Arcadia. The board directed Marilyn to send letters to Mr. Jostes, the mayor of Arcadia, and the Arcadia Police chief.



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- Lincoln Motel**  
 740 E. 1st St.  
 Chandler, OK 74834  
 (405) 258-0200
- Subway**  
 916 Manvel Ave.  
 Chandler, OK 74834  
 (405) 258-9966
- WARWICK**  
**Seaba Station**  
 Mailing address:  
 R.R. 1 Box 7891  
 Chandler, OK 74834  
 (405) 258-6700
- ARCADIA**  
**Arcadia Tag & Title**  
 P.O. Box 253  
 Arcadia, OK 73007  
 (405) 396-0824
- Arcadia Historical & Preservation Society**  
 Box 134  
 Arcadia, OK 73007  
 (405) 396-2761
- Ghost Town Press**  
 13100 E. Old Highway 66  
 Arcadia, OK 73007  
 (405) 396-2166
- EDMOND**  
**Edmond Historical Society**  
 431 S. Boulevard  
 Edmond, OK 74034  
 (405) 340-0078
- Anderson Productions**  
 P.O. Box 3461  
 Edmond, OK 73083  
 (405) 341-1646
- OKLAHOMA CITY**  
**66 Bowl**  
 3810 NW 39th Exp.  
 Oklahoma City, OK  
 73112  
 (405) 946-3966
- Collision Clinic**

# OKLAHOMA ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Please patronize our business members. When you do, let them know that you are also a member of the Association.

608 NW 63rd  
P.O. Box 54405  
Oklahoma City, OK  
73154  
(405) 848-7035

**Ann's Chicken Fry House**  
4106 NW 39th Express-  
way  
Oklahoma City, OK  
73122  
(405) 943-8915

**Voorhees & Voorhees,  
PC**  
7701 S. Western Ave.,  
Ste. 201  
Oklahoma City, OK  
73139  
(405) 682-5800

**Western Trail Trading  
Post**  
9100 N. Western  
Oklahoma City, OK  
73114  
(405) 842-8306

**WARR ACRES**  
Freeways to Success  
5833 W. Norman Road  
Warr Acres, OK 73122

**BETHANY**  
**Bethany Business  
Association**  
6700 NW 36th St.  
Bethany, OK 73008  
(405) 789-5005

**Native America Gallery  
& Gifts**  
3823 N. College  
Bethany, OK 73008  
(405) 787-0288

**YUKON**  
**Great Experiences  
Oklahoma**  
3201 N. Richland Road  
Yukon, OK 73099  
(405) 350-3366

**EL RENO**  
**Fort Reno Visitors  
Center**  
7107 W. Cheyenne St.  
El Reno, OK 73036  
(405) 262-3987

**Golf Car Center Inc.**  
3612 S. Hwy. 81  
El Reno, OK 73036  
(405) 262-2221

**Bill & Clara's Home &  
Ranch**  
2701 W. 10th  
El Reno, OK 73036  
(405) 262-6656

**CALUMET**  
**Bethany Kars**  
24825 W. Hwy 66  
Calumet, OK 73014  
(405) 884-2538

**Calumet Chamber of  
Commerce**  
P.O. Box 241  
118 W. 2nd St.  
Calumet, OK 73014  
(405) 893-2323

**HYDRO**  
**Mema's, Momma's &  
Mine**  
RR 1 Box 42A  
Hydro, OK 73048  
(405) 663-2983

Route 66 Soda Fountain

125 W. Main  
Hydro, OK 73048  
(405) 663-2371

**WEATHERFORD**  
**The Coffee Cup**  
103 W. Main  
Weatherford, OK 73096  
(580) 774-2644

**Doc's Trading Post**  
1511 E. Main  
Weatherford, OK 73096  
(580) 772-2277

**Downtown Diner**  
123 W. Main  
Weatherford, OK 73096  
(580) 774-1234

**Rick Koch Oil Co.**  
P.O. Box 685  
Weatherford, OK 73096  
(580) 772-6076

**Route 66 Thunderbirds**  
2121 E. Main  
Weatherford, OK 73096  
(580) 772-6666

**Comfort Inn & Suites**  
1311 E. Main  
Weatherford, OK 73096  
(580) 772-4100

**CLINTON**  
**Cherokee Trading Post**  
6101 NE Service Rd.  
Clinton, OK 73601  
(580) 323-0001

**Clinton Chamber of  
Commerce**  
101 S. 4th St.  
Clinton, OK 73601  
(580) 323-2222

**Oklahoma Route 66  
Museum**  
2229 W. Gary Blvd.  
Clinton, OK 73601  
(580) 323-7866

**ELK CITY**  
**National Route 66  
Museum**  
2717 W. Third  
Elk City, OK 73644  
(580) 928-3386

**KOA Campgrounds**  
I-40, Exit 50  
Elk City, OK 73644  
(580) 592-4409

**SAYRE**  
**Sayre Chamber of Com-  
merce**  
P.O. Box 474  
Sayre, OK 73662  
(580) 928-3386

**Sayre Main Street Inc.**  
P.O. Box 364  
Sayre, OK 73662  
(580) 928-2514

**ERICK**  
**Sandhills Curiosity  
Shop**  
201 S. Sheb Wooley Ave.  
Erick, OK 73645  
(580) 526-3738

**Roger Miller Museum**  
P.O. Box 464  
101 E. Roger Miller Blvd.  
(Route 66)  
Erick, OK 73645  
(580) 526-3833

OTHER ROUTE 66

**ASSOCIATION  
SUPPORTERS:**

**Image Everywhere**  
1423 E. Concord Place  
Broken Arrow, OK 74012  
(918) 355-1731

**Vic's**  
123 N. 2nd St.  
Guthrie, OK 73044  
(405) 282-5586

**The Canyon Inn**  
P.O. Box 507  
Hinton, OK 73047  
(405) 542-6614

**Postmarkart**  
10524 Goldenrod Lane  
Midwest City, OK 73130  
(405) 737-3739

**66films.com/PACCOM,  
Inc.**  
P.O. Box 7  
Philipsburg, MT 59858

**Custom Business Video**  
416 University Ave. NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55413  
(800) 379-2336

**Cozy Dog Drive-In**  
2935 S. 6th St.  
(Route 66)  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 525-1992  
[www.cozydogdrivein.com](http://www.cozydogdrivein.com)

**Ester Lee Motel**  
3803 SW Hwy. 101  
Lincoln City, OR 97367  
(541) 996-3606

Montiac Motor Sports

2630 Myrtle Springs  
Ste. 400  
Dallas, TX 75230

University of Utah,  
Marriot Library  
295 S. 1500 East  
Salt Lake City, UT  
84112-0860  
(801) 581-7744

**PAST DUE BUSI-  
NESS MEMBERSHIPS  
WILL NO LONGER  
BE LISTED AFTER 6  
MONTHS AND WILL  
BE DROPPED FROM  
THE WEB LISTINGS  
AS WELL.**

**IF YOU ARE NOT  
LISTED, AND YOUR  
BUSINESS MEMBER-  
SHIP IS CURRENT,  
PLEASE PHOTO-  
COPY A CANCELED  
CHECK FOR YOUR  
MOST RECENT  
MEMBERSHIP DUES  
OR YOUR MEMBER-  
SHIP CARD AND  
MAIL IT TO THE  
OKLAHOMA ROUTE  
66 ASSOCIATION  
OFFICE AT P.O. BOX  
446, CHANDLER, OK  
74834.**

## Support our sister organizations in other areas!

### ARIZONA

**Historic Route 66 Assoc. of Arizona**  
Tom Spear, President  
P.O. Box 66  
Kingman, AZ  
[azrt66@route66web.com](mailto:azrt66@route66web.com)  
(928) 753-5001

### CALIFORNIA

**Calif. Historic Route 66 Association**  
Kevin Hansel, President  
P.O. Box 1359  
Rialto, CA 92377  
(909) 874-9448  
[kickinon66@msn.com](mailto:kickinon66@msn.com)

### CANADA

**Canadian Route 66 Association**  
Bonnie Game, President

P.O. Box 81123  
Burnaby, BC V5H 4K2  
CANADA  
(604) 434-1818  
[route66kicks@mac.com](mailto:route66kicks@mac.com)

### ILLINOIS

**Route 66 Association of Illinois**  
Johnny Miller, President  
2743 Veterans Parkway #166  
Springfield, IL 62704

### KANSAS

**Route 66 Association of Kansas**  
Scott Nelson, President  
P.O. Box 66  
Riverton, KS 66770  
(316) 848-3330  
[route66@kans.com](mailto:route66@kans.com)

**Kansas Route 66 Association**  
Dean Walker, President  
P.O. Box 66  
Baxter Springs, KS 66713  
(620) 856-2385  
[heritagectr@4state.com](mailto:heritagectr@4state.com)

### MISSOURI

**Route 66 Association of Missouri**  
Tommy Pike, President  
1602 East Dale Street  
Springfield, MO 65803  
(417) 865-1318  
[furyon66@earthlink.net](mailto:furyon66@earthlink.net)

**Friends of the Mother Road**  
3947 Russell  
St. Louis, MO 63110  
[sundayjohn66@mac.com](mailto:sundayjohn66@mac.com)

### NEW MEXICO

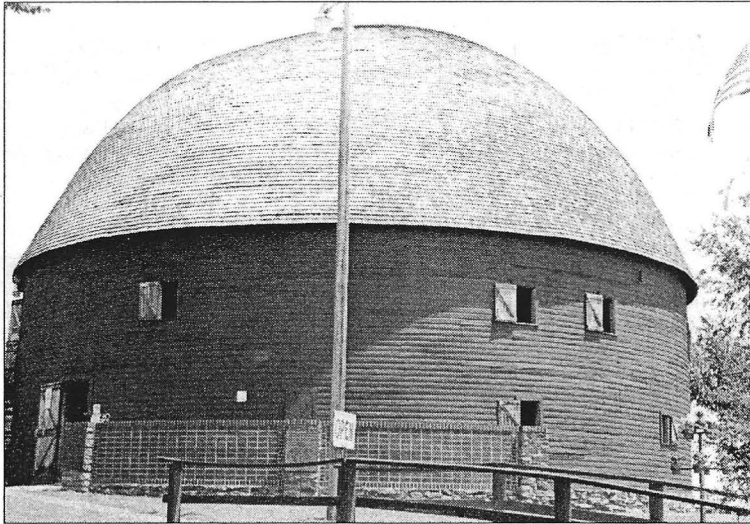
**New Mexico Route 66 Assoc.**  
Richard Delgado, President  
1415 Central Ave. NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87106  
[info@rt66nm.org](mailto:info@rt66nm.org)

### TEXAS

**Old Route 66 Assoc. of Texas**  
Bob Lile, President  
Box 66, McLean, Texas 79057  
(806) 779-2225

Got news? E-mail  
[sundayjohn66@mac.com](mailto:sundayjohn66@mac.com)  
Deadline is August 15.

# COME VISIT US AT THE ROUND BARN!



Free Admission

Oklahoma Route 66 Museum  
Satellite Exhibit

Barn & Gift Shop  
Open 10 am - 5 pm  
Monday - Sunday

For Barn Loft Rental  
(405) 396-0824

**From Oklahoma City: Take I-35 north to the Edmond 2nd Street/SH 66 exit.  
Go east 5.5 miles to Arcadia.**



Oklahoma Route 66 Association  
P.O. Box 446  
Chandler, OK 74834

June 2006 issue

BULK RATE  
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CHANDLER, OK 74834-3851  
PERMIT #66

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EXPIRATION DATE!

If it is highlighted, your  
membership has expired  
or is getting ready to.  
Please renew now!



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