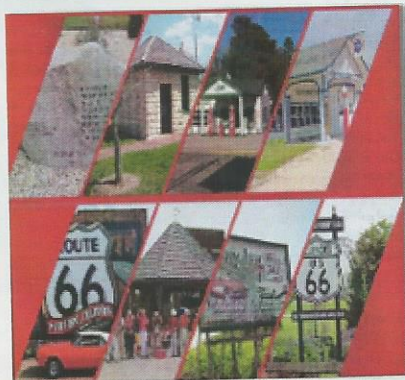


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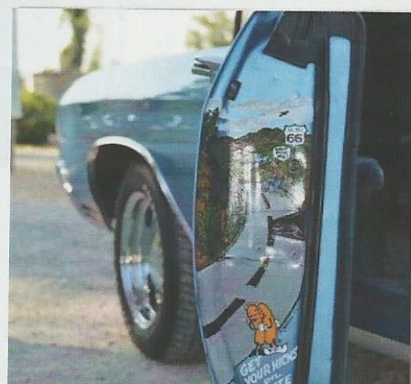
2013

THE 66 NEWS



Red Carpet Corridor

*Spring
is in the
Air!*



Motor Tour

Illinois - Where the Road Begins!

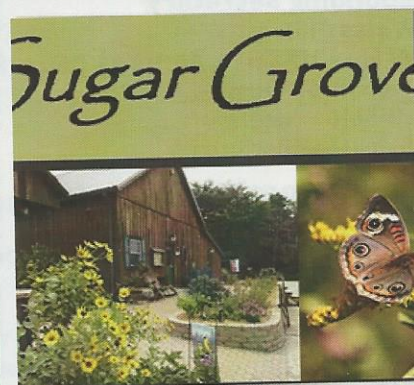
OUR MISSION:
TO PRESERVE, EDUCATE, PROMOTE
AND ENJOY ROUTE 66 IN ILLINOIS!

Spring is here! Route 66 in Illinois is awakening after a long winter's nap! This is the time of year when the attractions and communities along the Mother Road dust off the cobwebs and come to life again for another year of activities and events - '66 style!

In this issue, we bring news of what's going on as we enter tourist season 2013. As is our mission, we're continuing the preservation of several treasured historical sites. In addition, we're sprucing up your favorite destinations and communities are rolling out the red carpet in anticipation of your visit.

There's so much to discover within the pages of this expanded edition of **The 66 News!** We've grown from 24 to 28 exciting pages in order to tell even more of the stories that *have* happened, *are* happening and *will* happen along the road.

Enjoy reading this issue and start planning your 2013 Route 66 adventure today!



Association Picnic

So much to do, including:

- ◆ Red Carpet Corridor Festival
- ◆ 24th Annual Motor Tour
- ◆ Annual Association Picnic

Fun Along the Route!

The Route 66 Association of Illinois

Our Association is governed by an elected group of officers and board members who are responsible for administering our mission and representing the numerous communities through which Route 66 passes in Illinois. They serve to facilitate your involvement with our Association.

Officers

President

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Jerry Law ('13)
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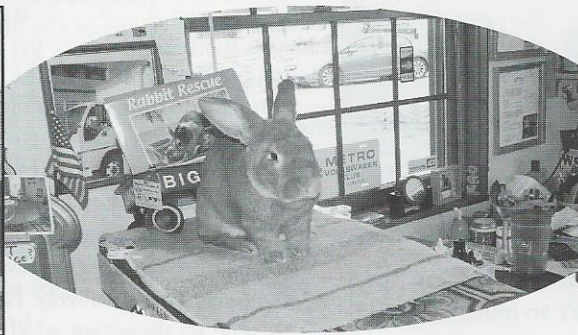
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Gina Blitstein

Website Administrator
www.il66assoc.org
The 66 News Editor
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The 66 News

This publication is distributed to members of the Route 66 Association of Illinois as a membership premium. Its mission is to inform our membership about our Association and its activities, as well as to demonstrate our passion for preservation and to celebrate the Mother Road.



Submit Content to **The 66 News**

We here at the Route 66 Association of Illinois welcome your stories from the road, Route 66 news and events. Here's how to submit your content to us for publication in this, our Quarterly Newsletter, or on our website:

Route 66 Association of Illinois
Attention: Newsletter Editor, Gina Blitstein
P.O. Box 1940
Matteson, IL 60443
gina@writeytidy.com
(708) 374-8439

Deadline for submissions to the Summer 2013 Issue: May 15, 2013

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Advertise in **The 66 News**

Attention, Route 66 Businesses, Attractions and Communities!

This newsletter, **The 66 News**, is mailed quarterly to each and every member of our Association. Can you think of a more targeted group with whom to advertise your business or community?

Our Treasurer, Marty Blitstein, will be happy to help you purchase your advertisement.

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Tinley Park, IL 60487

We offer several affordable advertising options in our Newsletter.

Single Issue Pricing for Advertising in **The 66 News**:

Whole Page - \$125.00

Half Page - \$75.00

Business Card - \$25.00

Special Offer - for 1 year of Whole Page or Half Page ads (all 4 issues)

Buy 3 ads, get the 4th FREE

All ads need not contain the same content.

Ads are in black and white only.

A Message from Association President, Cathie Stevanovich



While we're waiting for winter to finally arrive (or end), it's fun to plan the coming year's calendar. There's so much to do this year and the days are filling in fast! Here are a few dates we'd like you to keep in mind:

Red Carpet Corridor Festival will be Saturday, May 4th and Sunday, May 5th! Ninety miles of fun from Joliet to Towa-da! There are activities planned in most of the 13 participating communities along the road both days. - New this year for the Red Carpet Corridor Festival - each community is offering its own, very cool, "Collectable Trading Card." Come out, have fun and support our 13 Red Carpet Corridor communities!

There will be a **Pre-War Festival** with music and a car show on May 25th in Pontiac. This is The Pontiac-Oakland Museum's official event - if you love classic cars and swing music save the date!

New this year - Craig Parrish is running a **Car Cruise** from Michigan down to Joliet and then a cruise from Joliet to Pontiac on Friday, June 1 followed by a car show and music on the square on Saturday, June 2. This will be a fundraiser for the Betty Estes/Lenore Weiss Cancer Foundation. Craig has been running the Old 27 car cruises for a while and helped start many of the festivals in Illinois (Springfield and Litchfield). Craig will be doing the music on Saturday for the car show - come join the fun!

Our 24th Annual Motor Tour starts Friday, June 7th, with an opening night registration at a private collection "Just Off 66." The Association's Board is working hard to provide new places and new faces as we launch this year's "Back to Our Routes" tour. We start North this year, and our overnight will be in Lincoln. Our Hall of Fame Dinner will be at Lincoln College on Saturday night. We'll end with a party on Sunday at the new Litchfield Welcoming Center!

Our Association has teamed up with the Route 66 Association of Missouri for the National Parks Program, asking for funds to relight the Vic Suyling sign in Litchfield. This original neon sign is the hallmark "street sign" for the new museum in Litchfield! We were successful in getting funding for the Luna Café and it's again glowing neon along the Mother Road! We're so fortunate that Jim Thole, head of the Missouri Neon Preservation Com-

mittee, and a member of our Association, is keen on working toward preservation of these important classic signs and works so hard in getting the right paperwork and letters of support. If you have any memorabilia that you would like to loan or donate to the new museum/welcoming center in Litchfield, information is available online at the litchfieldmuseum.org website.

It's been a strange winter and so cabin fever hasn't been as bad this year for most. The museum in Pontiac has been steady with Illinois visitors as we gear up for the start of the "official" Tourist Season around mid-March. There's lots to do to prepare for the Red Carpet Corridor and the Motor Tour! We'd really appreciate your help at one of our museum work days! Work is also underway for the new Preservation Exhibit in the museum complex's main hallway. No sneak peaks but we're excited to be able to showcase what preservation is about and how everyone can do Preservation!

We need your cookbook recipes! We did not go to print as scheduled because we didn't receive enough recipes that are NOT already in our other cookbooks. So look through your special family favorites and share a few. The cookbook fundraiser helps with our preservation projects.

We continue to sell our 100% Made In America cotton Bob Waldmire original T-shirts as a fundraiser to help preserve Bob's bus. See pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter to see where you can get yours. Subjected to the sun and weather, Bob's Road Yacht is taking a beating. Over 23,000 people have toured his amazing home on wheels, and we're working with local companies to find the right way to shelter the bus without taking away its unique street appeal. Monies raised will be used to make sure the Waldmire Road Yacht remains as Bob left it.

The Illiana Toll Road is still in meetings, a compromise has been found for parts of the route. The High Speed Rail is being worked on. The roads in downtown Joliet should be ready for summer travel (Ruby Street Bridge).

We're grateful to our members for their support, and your response to our newsletter, website, and facebook page. We continue to look back and reflect on our past, preserve what we can, help where asked, and support those businesses and services that populate the Mother Road in Illinois. Whether stopping by Lydia's "New To U Thrift Store" or indoor Flea Market in Gardner, or taking a Sunday drive to Funk's Grove for fresh maple sirup, or restocking your "Route 66 Red" at the Springer's Creek Winery in Edwardsville, it's time to dust off your traveling shoes and do a little "local" motion.

Looking forward to an interesting spring and a great June Motor Tour with you!

For more information on these events:

www.il66redcarpetcorridor.org

www.old27tour.com under "Pontiac, Illinois Route 66 Car Show."

What's Happening?

Thanks to all there is to see and do along the Road, we can't fit it all into a quarterly publication.

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT THE STORIES WE'VE INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE OF THE 66 NEWS ON OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.IL66ASSOC.ORG/THE66NEWS

Also, follow these stories that we've provided on our website. We strive to keep you informed about events and Route 66 events as they happen.

Here are some of the recent stories on our website:

- "Journey Stories," a Smithsonian Exhibit is on display in Pontiac, IL
- A new exhibit honoring Preservation will be featured at our Hall of Fame and Museum in Pontiac, IL
- 2013 Hall of Fame inductees to be announced
- Sculptor Jack Barker's Art to be displayed in Wilmington

KEEP UP
WITH US ON
THE WEB

www.il66assoc.org



VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

Association Meeting Calendar

Spring Quarterly Meeting

Sunday April 21, 2013

Carlinville Magnuson Grand Hotel
I-55 & Illinois Route 108

Summer Quarterly Meeting

Sunday, July 21, 2013

The Silver Dollar Restaurant
422 Mississippi Ave
Elwood, IL

Fall Quarterly Meeting

Sunday, October 20, 2013

Bloomington, IL

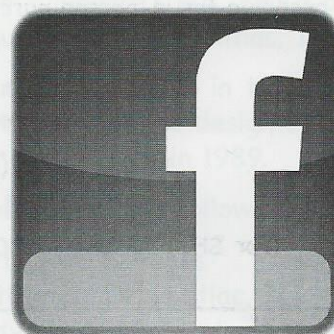
This meeting will include our annual Association election.

Meeting times for all Quarterly Meetings are the same:

Board Meeting - 10:00 AM

Lunch - 12:00 PM (on your own)

General Meeting - 1:00 PM



WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/IL66ASSOC



WWW.TWITTER.COM/ILRT66

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT!

We offer several outstanding Route 66 promotional items as premiums for your generous donation. These items not only show the world that you're a fan of the Mother Road but all proceeds go to support our ongoing preservation efforts.

Get these items in person on Saturdays only at the Museum

- or mail check and request to:

Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum
110 W Howard St, Pontiac, IL 61764

Please allow 3 weeks for delivery.

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An original design created by

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\$5.00

Also available for in-person purchase at the following locations:

City Hall Shoppes

321 North Main St, Pontiac, IL
(Tuesdays through Sundays)

Funk's Grove (Open 3/1/13)
5257 Old Route 66, Shirley, IL

(For Shipping add \$2.00 for 1-9 pins ordered)



EZ66 Guide for Travelers

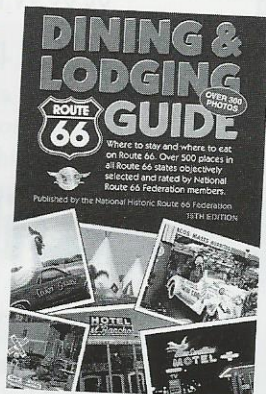
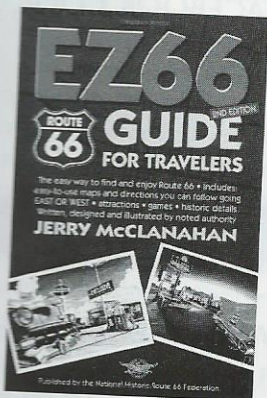
\$20 (+\$5 shipping)

The ultimate Route 66 guidebook, East to West or West to East includes attractions, games and historic details.

Route 66 Dining and Lodging Guide

\$20 (+\$5 shipping)

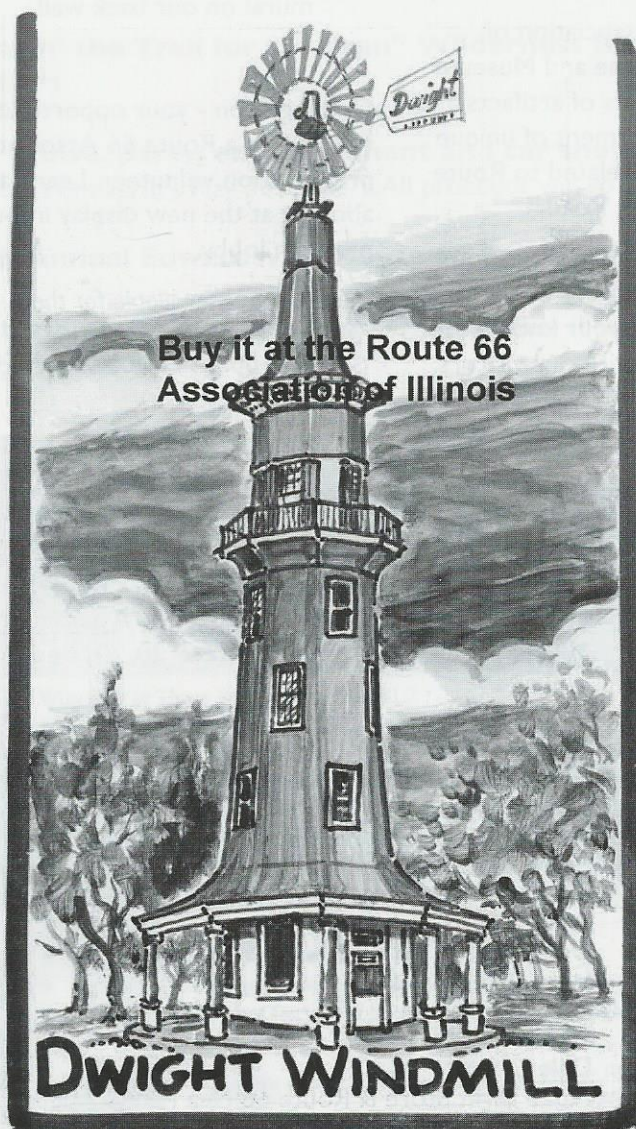
Dining and lodging guide to help you find the best places to stay and eat in all 8 states along the Route. Includes price ranges, amenities, credit cards accepted, must-stops and other specialty features.



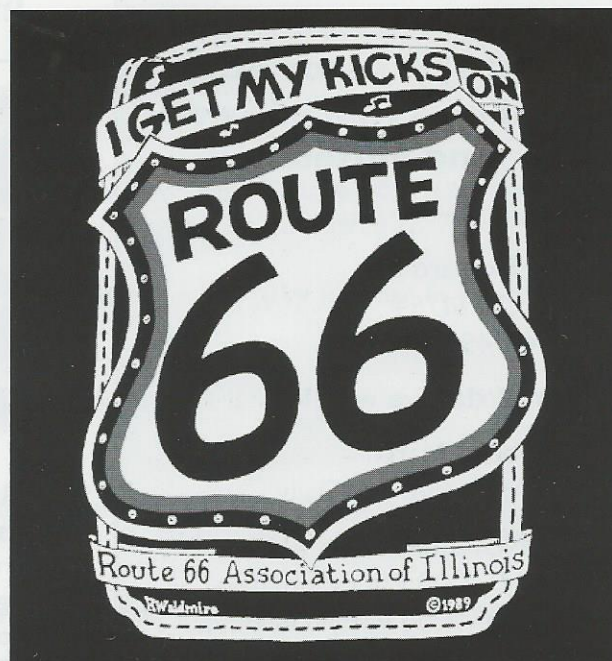
Waldmire Art Prints

Twelve 8 1/2" x 11" prints depict iconic Route 66 locations, illustrated in Bob's distinctive style.

\$5.00 each or 3 for \$12.00



Buy it at the Route 66
Association of Illinois



BOB WALDMIRE T-SHIRT

Help preserve Bob Waldmire's bus, which can be toured at our museum in Pontiac, IL.

Made of American-grown cotton in the good old USA. Bob Waldmire created this design specifically for our Association in 1989.

Also available in-person at the following locations:

City Hall Shoppes
321 North Main St, Pontiac, IL
(Tuesdays through Sundays)

Log Cabin Restaurant
18700 Old Route 66, Pontiac, IL

Funk's Grove (Open 3/1/13)
5257 Old Route 66, Shirley, IL

Pontiac Oakland Museum
205 N Mill St, Pontiac, IL

Sizes S-XL - \$15.00

Size 2XL - \$16.00

Size 3 XL - \$17.00

Size 4 XL - \$18.00

Mail orders add \$4.00 Shipping Charge per T-shirt.

Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum

Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum

110 W Howard St
Pontiac, IL 61764
815-844-4566

Open 7 days a week!

December - March
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Daily

April- November
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM (Weekdays)
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Weekends)

Admission is FREE!

Begin your Route 66 adventure here!



The Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum features thousands of artifacts and a delightful assortment of unique memorabilia, all related to Route 66 - The "Mother Road."

We invite all of our Association members to volunteer at the museum, sharing your knowledge and enthusiasm with our visitors.

Our Museum boasts:

- Friendly and knowledgeable guides
- Route 66 memorabilia from Hall of Fame members
- Route 66 Artist and Icon, Bob Waldmire's bus and van
- Travel resources to enhance your Route 66 journey
- Photo op! Largest Route 66 mural on our back wall

Coming soon - your opportunity to become a Route 66 Association preservation volunteer. Learn all about it at the new display in our museum lobby.

(An elevator is available for the convenience of our visitors.)

Welcome New Members!

Association President Cathie Stevanovich, Membership Chairman, Marty Blitstein, and the entire Route 66 Association would like to extend a sincere welcome to our new members who have joined us between November 20, 2012 and February 26, 2013.

We hope your experience as a member of our Association brings you great satisfaction and a deeper appreciation of Route 66!

- | | |
|--|---|
| › William Buonincontro | › Signlink - Vernon Boyce |
| › Richard Parent | › Route 66 Window Tinting, LLC - William Sminchak |
| › Eileen & George Ewan | › Station 343 - Cathy Ferguson |
| › Brian Norkett | › Steve Smith |
| › Thomas Norwick | › Debbie Ken Tillou |
| › Thomas Grisham | › Joyce Attebery |
| › Bob Frey | › Sharon Arteman |
| › Lincoln Printers, Inc. - Noah Atkinson | › Walter Dlotkowski |
| › Larry A. Widner | › Dale Larson |
| › Leon Harris | › Nu2u thrift Store & Route 66 Flea Mkt. & Auction - Lydia Nino |
| › Jerry Holmes | › Martin Moody |
| › Crossroads Route 66 Diner - Starla & Mike Angers | › Beth Walters & Richard Castro |
| › Edwin W. Perry | › Karen's Resale & Consignment - Karen Thacker |
| › Sharon & Mike Wood | |

Events Coming Your Way

Please check our website for additional information about these upcoming events:

Now open! The Smithsonian exhibit "Journey Stories" - Pontiac Courthouse, 112 W Madison St, Pontiac, IL
Monday - Friday until April 6, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

In conjunction with the Smithsonian exhibit, Route 66 Historian, John Weiss, will present **"Route 66 Then and Now"** and **"Stories From the Road"** - Pontiac City Hall, 115 W Howard St, Pontiac, IL - March 28, 7:30 PM

Museum Cleanup Day - Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum, 110 W Howard St, Pontiac, IL - April 6, 10:00 AM

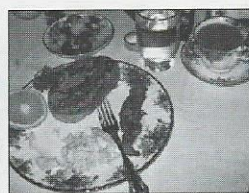
Route 66 Cruisers Cruise - Rock 'N Roll Hardees, 2501 Stevenson Dr, Springfield, IL - April 14, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 14, October 27, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

"Blazin' the Trail for Children" Wilderness Run - Humiston Woods Nature Center, Pontiac, IL - April 20, 10:00 AM

Car cruise, party, entertainment and car show in honor of Lenore Weiss and Betty Estes, between Joliet & Pontiac, IL - May 30 - June 1. All proceeds will go to a special cancer fund.

16th Annual Edwardsville Route 66 Festival - City Park, downtown Edwardsville, IL - June 7-8

Historic Route 66 Car Show - Ogden Avenue (between Oak Park Avenue and Ridgeland Avenue), Berwyn, IL - September 7, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM



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From one of our guests:

"Our golf game was rained out but we certainly were not at a loss for activities. We spent a goodly amount of time at the Route 66 Museum. As the skies cleared, we took a long walk around the square, town park, library and courthouse. Our room was well equipped and quiet. Our skillet breakfast was stick-to-the ribs-all-day delicious. We highly recommend Three Roses to anyone staying a night or more in Pontiac."



Red Carpet Corridor Festival

Spring is here and with it comes the 7th annual Red Carpet Corridor Festival, on May 4 and 5! Get ready for family fun along the "Red Carpet Corridor," a 90-mile stretch of Route 66 in Illinois from Joliet to Towanda.

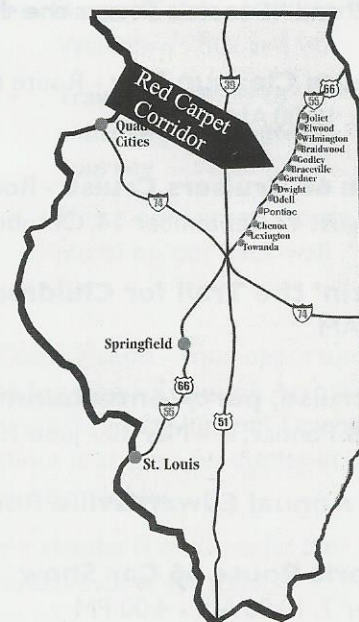
The 13 participating communities pull out all the stops, offering flea markets, carnivals, live bands, entertainment and special events. The weekend is sure to provide a nostalgic and authentic Route 66 experience as you explore these communities and attractions that are the heart and soul of the Mother Road.

Visit the towns along the corridor over the weekend at your leisure. Festival hours are Saturday, May 4, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Sunday, May 5, from 8:00 AM to 3 PM.

To add to the fun this year, each community is offering a collectable trading card, commemorating the event, which will be available while supplies last. Get your trading card at a specific location in each town; trading card distribution sites are listed on the official event brochure.

More information and the downloadable brochure available on the Red Carpet Corridor website:

www.il66redcarpetcorridor.org



www.il66redcarpetcorridor.org
815-844-5847

Enjoy the Real Rt. 66 in Braidwood, Illinois



www.braidwood.us

Fun Around Town
 Red Carpet Corridor Festival
 City wide garage sales
 Snow Angels lighted parade
 Rt. 66 Cruisin' (Car Show)
 Braidwood Summerfest
 Fishin' for a Cure





Visit our new Rt.66 attraction, The Braidwood Zoo
 Featuring the folk art created by local artist, Jack Barker



**Go back into time at the classic Rt.66 drive-in diner,
The Polk-A-Dot**

Preservation Report

Our Preservation Chairman, John Weiss, reports the goings-on along Route 66 in Illinois:

Project updates:

The Mining Museum building in Godley that we started for them in 2011 is progressing nicely. A lot of major improvements have been accomplished, but there is still more to be done. We will be ready to assist if needed.

The Sprague Super Service building in Normal is also moving right along. Terri Ryburn has requested our help again and I agreed without hesitation, since she is so determined and dedicated to complete this elaborate project.

The Mill in Lincoln is still moving along, too. Major projects like the three mentioned here often take years to complete when it's being done with limited funds and volunteers. But that's what makes it all so worthwhile. There are those who don't have the vision to look ahead, saying we are foolish to even try. Folks, people like that are not on our Preservation Committee and will never know the joy of accomplishment that we all experience.

New Project!

There is a very exciting project taking place at the Route 66 Museum in Pontiac. The main entrance lobby room is being converted into a Preservation projects display area. This permanent display will honor all who have worked so hard to save pieces of Route 66 history. I have a committee that has come up with some fantastic and unique ideas. Over 30,000 people visit the museum every year. The goal is to present a very special display that tourists will enjoy and that will help them understand the importance of Preservation. We need to show what we do, along with how we do it. This will provide insight into why there are still sites on the historic road where travelers can relive and experience the magic of Route 66. We also want this display to compliment the main part of the Route 66 Museum.

All are welcome to help at these Preservation Events (rain or shine!):

March 30 – 9:30 AM: Every year we have a special freshen-up work day at the Odell Gas Station. Basic cleaning and organizing is needed as well as some painting and minor repairs. Tens of thousands of people come to visit this little station every year. We can use all the help we can get to get it in shape for this year's enormous volume of visitors! As usual, Marty Blitstein & Cathie Stevanovich will be providing lunch.

April 27th – 9:30 AM: Work day at Sprague Super Service (305 E Pine St., Normal, IL). The Sprague station is a massive project. Owner Terri Ryburn has received another Matching Funds Grant. When we help on this project several things happen. First we help physically in moving this project forward toward completion. Second is that every workers time is recorded and each is credited with so much per hour of, "In-Kind Labor" which go toward her requirement to match the grant funds. Terri will be furnishing lunch.

Please let me know if you will be helping on one or both of these work days. Please call me, John Weiss at 815-458-6616. I look forward to seeing you and working on these projects together.

Long live 66 and those who continue her preservation and protection.

-- Bob Waldmire



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Fri. & Sat. 5 a.m. - 10 p.m.**

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FOR ANY OCCASION**

It's Motor Tour Time!

We hope you participate in our annual Motor Tour - or are at least familiar with our signature event. In case you're not familiar, however, here's the anatomy of a Motor Tour:

Our Motor Tour is an annual three-day event sponsored by the Route 66 Association of Illinois (that's us). Since 1989 the event has been scheduled for the second weekend of June. The Motor Tour provides an opportunity to drive and appreciate the attractions along our stretch of Route 66.

So each year we plan a trek down the road, inviting all to come along for the ride. Although we'd love you to join our Association, you need not be a member to join in on the Motor Tour.

The Motor Tour kicks off on Friday evening of the weekend with on-site registration at a local restaurant. We eat a wonderful meal, then meet and greet our fellow Route 66 enthusiasts.

We meet Saturday morning at a location at one end of the road. (We alternate between a South start and a North start every other year.) Registered participants receive a dashboard plaque (to identify your vehicle as a Motor Tour participant), a decal and an informational guidebook, or "passport," as they check in. When the appointed time comes, we get in our cool cars, new cars, vintage cars (or on our motorcycles, bicycles, roller skates or whatever rolls you down the road) and form a procession along Route 66. Thus begins the Motor Tour. We drive along Route 66 at a leisurely pace, enjoying the sights and attractions as we "tour." Our guidebooks will show and tell us the way as we drive along the Mother Road, as well as inform and entertain us with stories of the people and places that made Route 66 beloved. Whether it's your first ride along the road or your thousandth, you'll discover the "hidden history" of Old 66.



Along the way, there will be "passport stops" which are featured attractions at which you are encouraged to stop and explore. At each passport stop, Association members will be waiting to stamp the passport page in your guidebook, signifying your arrival at the attraction. Bear in mind that the Motor Tour is just that - a tour - and not a race. The guidebook provides an itinerary and approximate window of time when volunteers will expect vehicles to arrive at the passport stops. The times are not engraved in stone, however, so do travel at your own pace so you can have an authentic Route 66 experience. While we begin the tour as a group, each vehicle travels independently and is free to join or leave the tour at any time.

At noontime, the group stops to enjoy a lunch break at a predetermined destination. After lunch, the band of merry travelers continue along the Mother Road with more attractions to be enjoyed.

Come Saturday evening, it's time for the Hall of Fame Banquet. This event is held at a banquet facility near where the Tour stops for the night. Tickets to the Hall of Fame Banquet must be purchased separately from your Motor Tour registration if you wish to attend. The Hall of Fame Banquet honors those who have served Route 66 through their contributions to its character or their preservation efforts.

Sunday brings the final leg of the journey along the Mother Road. At the final stop we bid our fellow Roadies a fond farewell and a hearty, "See you on the Road, Friends!"

The Motor Tour is the highlight of our Route 66 year. People from all over the world join us for this celebration of the people and places that make the Mother Road our special treasure.

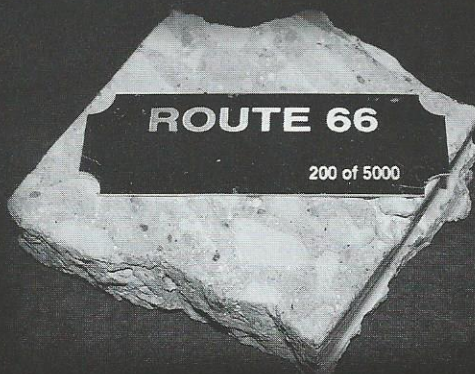
You're cordially invited to join us on a journey along a nostalgic slice of Americana every June. We think of the Motor Tour as a "Scenic Sampler" of the attractions that make Route 66 special and worth preserving. We hope that after experiencing a "taste" of the Mother Road that you'll come back for a second - and third - helping!

The Motor Tour makes a great family vacation! We guarantee you'll meet wonderful folks and make new memories while experiencing some old-time charm. We look forward to seeing you on the Road!

The enclosed Motor Tour flyer and registration form provides the specific details of this year's Motor Tour. We hope you'll join us June 7, 8 and 9!

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On Historic Route 66

Dippold's Drug Store: Gillespie's Corner Drug Store for a Century

By Cheryl Eichar Jett

Gillespie's corner drug store – Dippold Drug Store - saw Route 66 come through its town from 1926-1930, and if that alignment of the famous highway had lasted longer, their histories would have been further entwined. Although Route 66 travelers only had those four years to avail themselves of the services and merchandise of Dippold Drug Store, the Dippold establishment was there, ready and waiting, from 1919 until 1988, when it finally changed hands. The corner location still remains a pharmacy and has, under its chain of owners, been a drug store for approximately 100 years.

At the time Route 66 began its four-year history via SBI Route 4 through Macoupin County, Gillespie was a thriving mining community with a busy main street and a population of over 4,000. Several coal mines, a railroad repair operation, and a young work force combined to boost the local economy. The soda fountain and confectionery within Dippold Drug Store served as a local meeting place as well as a refreshing stop for travelers.



Dippold Drug Store on South Macoupin Street/Route 66 in the 1920s after Robert Dippold purchased the second half-interest in it from Billy Behrens in 1922. The World War I Memorial statue was removed from the intersection when traffic increased.

Across the country, the absence of legal saloons during the Prohibition decade moved men's gatherings to confectioneries and soda fountains, where it was socially acceptable for both genders to meet. Soda pop supplanted liquor in public social outings. Whiskey was sold in many drug stores classed as "medicinal" while the drug store soda fountain offered the new "soft drinks," which were "not medicinal, won't cure anything...isn't intoxicating or habit forming" and were "just flavory, fruity, snappy, sparkling, delicious," according to Jacob Bauer, founder of the Liquid Carbonic Company.

Gillespie "old-timers" remembered single school teachers meeting up at the soda fountain during the 1920s. On any given day, locals mixed with travelers at the soda fountain. During that time period, one young customer might have been a school-age Howard Keel (then known as Harold Keel), who was born in

Gillespie and reared there until the age of 11. After Keel's father died in 1930, he moved with his mother to California. Keel later became famous for his rich baritone voice in MGM movie musicals such as "Showboat" and became known later in life in his role as Clayton Farlow on the TV show "Dallas."

During the Route 66 years, Gillespie's corner drug store was owned and operated by Robert Dippold. Locally, his name would become synonymous with the phrase "drug store" over three-quarters of a century.

Robert Dippold was born in Edwardsville in 1891 to Edward and Elizabeth Bayer Dippold. Edward and his brothers, John and Fred, owned the Dippold Brothers Elevator in Edwardsville. When Edward died in 1915, the remaining brothers sold the business to John's son Arthur and Edward's son Robert. Arthur and Robert continued this partnership until 1919, when Robert sold his share to Jerry Stubbs. It was an eventful decade for Robert, as he also studied at and graduated from the St. Louis College of Pharmacy, served in the 133rd Infantry of the Army National Guard, and worked in the Frey Drug Store in Gillespie.

Meanwhile, the village of Gillespie was busy recovering from a devastating fire in 1905, "which entirely wiped

out the business section,” according to Charles A. Walker in *History of Macoupin County, Illinois: Biographical and Pictorial*. Before 1905, the corner on which Dippold would conduct his 75-year drugstore reign was the home of the F.E. Schmidt Hardware store in a wood frame building. As Gillespie rebuilt its downtown retail neighborhood along Macoupin Street (the eventual Route 66), handsome brick structures replaced the burned-out frame buildings. Gillespie native Billy Behrens was in the drug business for many years and owned the drug store previously known as Frey Drug Store, where Robert Dippold worked. Behrens then established his drugstore in a new brick building on the corner of South Macoupin and West Chestnut Streets previously occupied by F. E. Schmidt Hardware, but Behrens found that “on account of the constantly increasing trade that it was too confining,” according to an article in the October 15, 1919 Gillespie News.

In October 1919, Billy Behrens sold a half-interest in his drug store to Robert Dippold, who was favorably remembered from his employment at the Frey Drugstore. A registered pharmacist with a degree from the St. Louis College of Pharmacy, he was known as a “genial, sociable young man who makes friends wherever he goes,” according to the Gillespie News. A few weeks after the two men became business partners, the first “Behrens & Dippold – the corner Drug Store” newspaper ad appeared in the local newspaper. The ad promoted the “best and largest line of drugs in this section” and “Fancy Stationery” and concluded with “You are always welcome at our store. Come in.”

Billy Behrens must have continued to feel the business to be too confining, because less than three years later, he sold his other half-interest in the drug store to Robert Dippold. The weekly Gillespie News again touted Dippold’s good reputation with the statement, “Bob is a first class young man, a good druggist and has a host of friends in Gillespie who will be glad to know that he has purchased the store and will conduct the same in the future.” And so, in 1922, Robert Dippold, at age 30, was a registered pharmacist, had military service behind him, and was the proud owner of Gillespie’s “Corner Drug Store.” He was poised to enjoy the business that the new decade would bring. The 1920s were kind to Gillespie with its newly built downtown and plentiful employment. And soon the traffic of Route 66 would flow right by its doors for a few years. The Route 66 traveler needed medicines, toiletries, and refreshments, just as the local citizens did, and both mingled at the counters and soda fountain of Dippold’s.

In 1930, with Frank Thomas Sheets at the helm of the Illinois Division of Highways, Route 66 was routed from Springfield south to Hamel through Litchfield, abandoning as its official route the SBI Route 4 road through Gillespie. But the Gillespie area continued to patronize the Dippold Drug Store as it transitioned into the new decade.

Dippold married Vevia Worley of Gillespie in 1924. He continued to operate the business until his retirement in 1959. Robert’s son Edward then ran the drug store until his retirement in 1988. Jim Verton purchased the store in 1988 but maintained the Dippold name. In 2009 Michelle Dyer, who had bought the historic Fritz Drug Store in Carlinville, also purchased the Dippold Drug Store in Gillespie. Both the Fritz and Dippold stores are now known as Michelle’s Pharmacy, and Michelle Dyer and her staff pride themselves on continuing the same quality service and products that the Dippold family offered. Thanks to Michelle Dyer’s preservation of this pharmacy legend, Route 66 fans who choose to travel the old 1926-1930 alignment can still stop at Gillespie’s Corner Drug Store.

Cheryl is the author of four books on Illinois history for Arcadia Publishing – Alton, Edwardsville, Route 66 in Madison County, and Route 66 in Springfield, which are available on Amazon and in area book stores. She was a founding board member of the Illinois Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association and now serves on Edwardsville’s Historic Preservation Commission. Cheryl grew up in the Illinois Route 66 cities of Springfield and Litchfield and now calls Edwardsville home. She can be reached at cheryl.jett@hotmail.com.

Tucumcari Tonight!

By Marcia Gascho

In 2011 my husband Bruce and I made a Route 66 trip from St. Louis to Amarillo, Texas. It was a lot of fun but we had to cut it short and turn back due to work commitments. In 2012 we set the goal of going to Tucumcari, NM. I'd heard a lot about that town for years and really wanted to see it. We love the Southwest, so we were really looking forward to returning to "The Land of Enchantment."

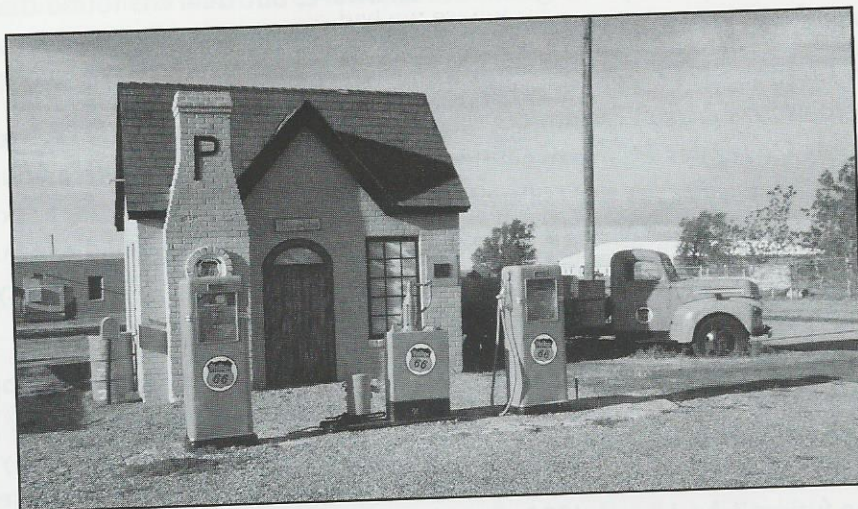
We departed on a warm day in April. It had been an odd, warm winter with very little snow. Spring was weeks ahead of schedule. I brought both my small traveling gnome and larger Travelocity gnome again this year. I have an extensive wardrobe of Route 66 shirts that I wore throughout our journey.


On this trip we saw some new Route 66 sights and revisited old favorites. The last time we'd passed through Pacific, Missouri, massive road construction prevented us from seeing much of the town. This time we drove around quite a bit and found the Red Cedar Inn (now closed) and old silica mines.

Outside Rolla, we found the Trail of Tears monument. We revisited the Gay Parita gas station. Be sure to allow extra time if Gary Turner is there. You can not stop at that place for just a few minutes because he is quite a talker! A British couple had also stopped there in their cool Camaro convertible.

We headed down the road to Galena, Kansas, to see our old friend Tow Tater at 4 Women on the Route. We'd planned to eat lunch in their little grill but it was closed. We were able to have a brief visit with Melba after a documentary film crew left.

In Arcadia, Oklahoma, we revisited the Round Barn to see Mr. Sam. He said he remembered me from the prior year! As sharp as that old guy is, I believe him. A woman was setting up for a birthday party in the big room upstairs. What a cool place to have a party! The Barn was about to celebrate its 20th anniversary since restoration. We ate dinner at Pops and saw the giant 66 foot tall pop bottle lit up at night for the first time. There were some amazing lighting effects. The huge selection of soda pop there is mind-boggling! A thunderstorm rolled through the area that night and the temperatures cooled off a lot for the rest of the trip. We wore our Route 66 sweatshirts quite a bit. At Elk City we visited the Route 66 museum and were surprised to see the same British couple from Gay Parita. There were many interesting exhibits including a separate ranch museum. We found out the Route 66 Museum at Clinton was closed so we were happy we'd seen it the previous year.






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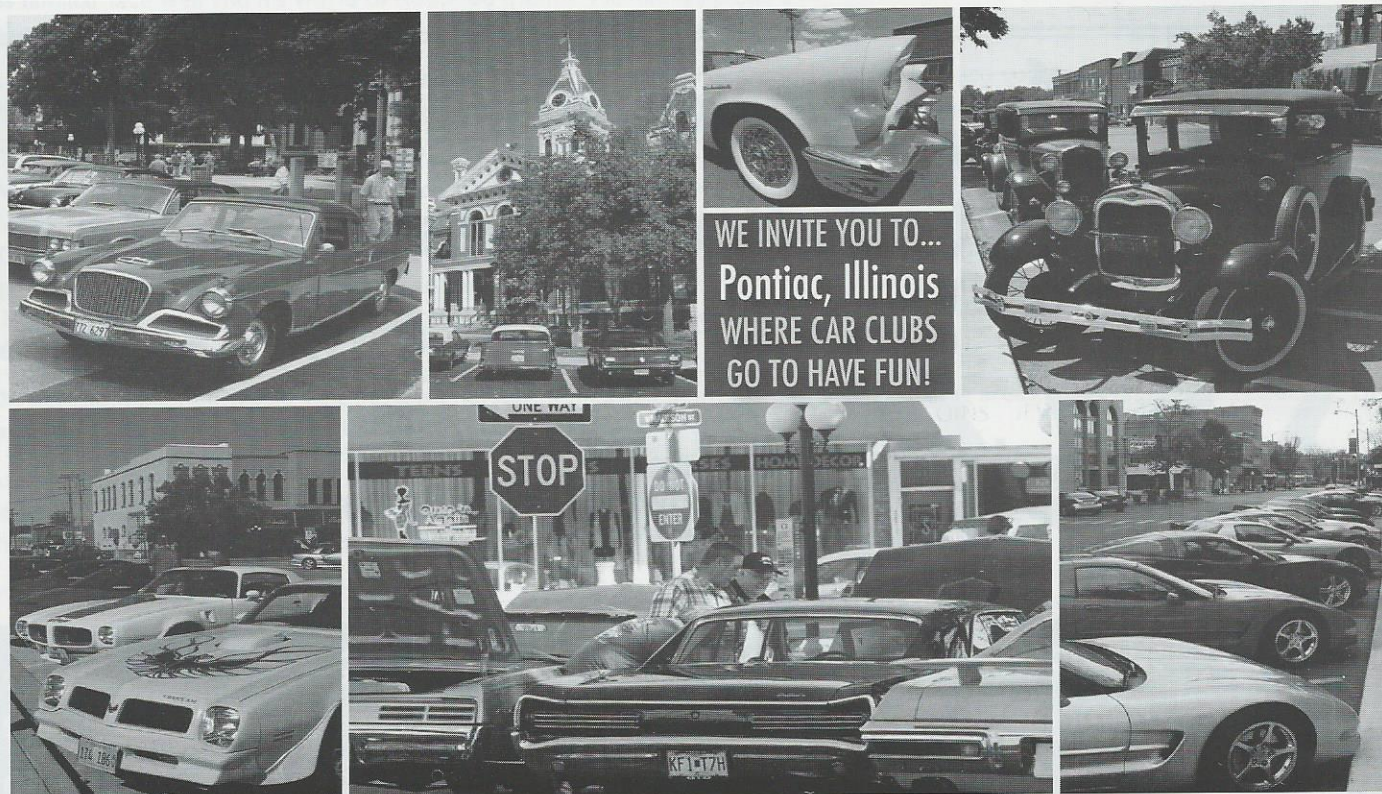
In Texas we spent the night in Shamrock. Bruce had discovered Big Vern's Steakhouse in 2011. Of course we had to eat dinner there again. He loves their beef BBQ sandwich and beer muffins. We visited the famous Conoco station at night to admire the neon. We love old gas stations and this art deco place is wonderful. There's also a restored Magnolia station in Shamrock. We saw several other restored gas stations in McLean and Vega, Texas. At Amarillo we headed south to drive around Palo Duro Canyon. It was a beautiful place with stunning and colorful rock formations. We'd love to stay in one of their cabins someday. We ate lunch at the Big Texan and were again disappointed no one was taking the 72 oz steak challenge. We passed through the sad ghost town of Glenrio (a victim of the interstate) and crossed the border into New Mexico.

At last we reached Tucumcari where we had reservations at the famous Blue Swallow Motel. New owners Kevin and Nancy were doing a lot of work restoring it to its former glory. We visited Teepee Curios, ate dinner at La Cita Mexican restaurant and drove around a lot. Tucumcari had been a wonderful town in its day with many motel rooms for Route 66 travelers. Now a lot of the motels are closed or derelict. Downtown has a number of sad boarded-up buildings. Their Spanish style train station had been recently been restored so that was a hopeful sign. It's always great to discover murals in Route 66 towns. Tucumcari did not disappoint with some large beautiful ones. We decided to see a movie downtown that evening. Afterwards, we were dismayed that no neon was turned on around town. Even the Blue Swallow had turned their sign off for the night but turned it back on just for us!

The next morning we began our journey back home. First we stopped at the Midpoint Café in Adrian, Texas, for a wonderful breakfast. We said goodbye to Route 66 and sadly got on the superslab to zoom back home.

Along the way on this trip, I talked to various people who fondly remembered Bob Waldmire. His postcards were for sale in several stores. I bought a t-shirt featuring his artwork at the Teepee Curio store in Tucumcari.

This was the longest road trip we had ever taken in a car. We had a memorable and enjoyable time. Years ago we used to fly to Arizona and drive on Route 66. This year we plan to drive all the way to Arizona. We'll be visiting stretches of New Mexico Route 66 we've never seen before. It'll be great to be back in the Grand Canyon state after a long absence. Of course we will not neglect to visit our beloved Illinois Route 66 sometime this year too.



815-844-5847 · visitpontiac.org · tourism@pontiac.org

Annual Association Picnic

For the third consecutive year, we are proud to announce that our annual Association Picnic will be held at Sugar Grove Nature Center! This year's picnic is scheduled for Sunday, August 18, from 10:30 A.M - 6:00 P.M. Lunch will be served around noon. As always, our Association supplies and pays for all food and soft drinks. Please be advised that no alcohol is permitted at the Nature Center. If you would, however, like to bring a dish to share, we would welcome your contribution to our spread!

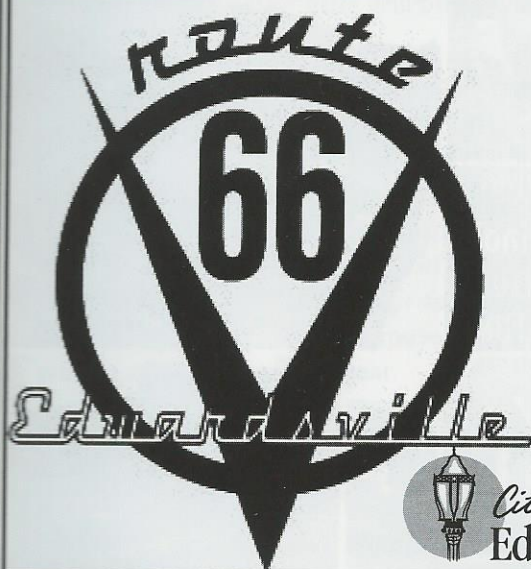
Sugar Grove Nature Center

In beautiful, historic Funks Grove, Illinois



While we would love you to join our Association, you need not be a member to attend the picnic; just bring your appetite for Route 66 and tasty picnic fare. Come and rub elbows with fellow roadies and you'll see our passion in action! Please R.S.V.P. to Marty Blitstein (708) 444-1312 or blitz66@earthlink.net so he can ensure there's plenty of food to enjoy!

Sugar Grove Nature Center - 4532 N 725 East Road 61254 (right off Route 66), McLean, IL



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Friday & Saturday

June 7th & 8th

at Edwardsville City Park

City of
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The Passing of a Gentle Giant

Last year on December 20th, a big heartache struck at Henry's Ra66it Ranch in Staunton, Illinois. Good friend and Route 66 greeter, Big Red, unexpectedly passed away. Big Red was loved by all who knew him, and will be sorely missed by travelers and locals alike.

Big Red was the successor to Queen Montana. She had reigned as the official greeter for several years before she passed away in 2008. For two years, Henry's Ra66it Ranch lacked a greeter, till the day in April, 2010 when Big Red appeared on the scene.

He was the complete opposite of Montana, not only in looks and size, but in personality. Montana was very outgoing and rambunctious. Big Red, on the other hand, was easy going and laid back. Probably being from the Missouri Ozarks made him that way.

In February, 2010, due to deplorable conditions, the St Louis Humane Society obtained a court order to confiscate Big Red, 132 other bunnies and other miscellaneous animals from a breeder. The rest was good news, especially for Big Red, who, through an open house held end of March, 2010, found his way to Henry's Ra66it Ranch.

He settled into his new home and status overnight, literally. From day two he was a natural, not being intimidated by anyone who wanted to make his acquaintance and pet him. This friendly countenance continued until the day before his passing.

Big Red made several accomplishments during his short time. Most recently, last October, he competed in Staunton's First National Bank's "Cutest Pet in Town" contest. He received first place honors for the number of votes he received. His support came from both Henry's local customers who knew his familiar face well and his world of Route 66 friends. He had his picture taken in their Staunton bank lobby receiving his first place prize check.



A short time later in November, the National Historic Route 66 Federation started a photo contest for a picture of something about Route 66. A different photo of Big Red was submitted. For most of the contest, Big Red ran a distant second place, falling further behind the first place contestant every day. He didn't really care how he placed, though, because it was a fun thing to do.

When news of Big Red's passing was circulated among his Route 66 and family and friends via both Facebook and e-mail, something incredible started to happen. First Henry's received an overwhelming outpouring of sympathy concerning Big Red, the "Gentle Giant's" passing. Then, his vote tally in the National Historic Route 66 Federation contest started increasing. He caught up, then surpassed his competition; by contest's end on December 31st, he was far ahead in first place. Red's first place prize of \$100.00 is being donated to the St Louis, MO, House Rabbit Society. It will be a memorial to Big Red on behalf of both his Route 66 and local friends.

On occasion, Big Red would visit the local nursing homes in Staunton and the surrounding areas, entertaining the residents. They loved the opportunity to see and pet him.

As with Montana and the others who have passed away at Henry's Ra66it Ranch, Big Red will be missed by all who knew him. May he be remembered for his postcard autographing as well as for his gentle and friendly presence while greeting visitors from all over the world at Henry's. May he Rest in Peace and be there for us when our time comes.

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New Business Member Spotlight

Nu 2 U Thrift Store & Rt. 66 Flea Market & Auction Gardner, Illinois

In today's tough economy – What better way to spend your time and hard earned money but at thrift stores and flea markets? Not only will you find one-of-a-kind items, but pay hundreds of dollars less for those items. It is by the Grace of God that Nu 2 U Thrift Store has had the opportunity to open their doors in the small Village of Gardner, Illinois and since then - Gardner's little secret has reached hundreds of people. Nu 2 U is located right on Old Route 66 and offers everything a thrift store has to offer including gently used clothing, knick knacks, music, antiques, home décor, accessories and much, much more at amazing prices....You just never know what you will find during your treasure hunt at Nu 2 U Thrift Store.

As an added bonus – every Saturday and Sunday – you can have double the pleasure of bargain shopping by walking right across the street from Nu 2 U Thrift Store and enjoy Rt. 66 Indoor Flea Market & Auction. Rt. 66 Flea Market & Auction will be open every weekend all year long. Our vendors have amazing items for sale and are always looking for new vendors/crafters/hobbyists to join our team - So you can bet your last dollar there will always be something for everyone. There is always a pleasure in seeing our guests find treasures, make deals, and leave happy with their new discoveries. There has been lots of hustle and bustle of activity with deals hard to find anywhere else since we opened our doors in January, 2013.

Please visit us soon and sign our guest book during your Route 66 expedition. Hopefully it will be a regular trip you look forward to making!!

Happy Treasure Hunting & Hope to See You Soon!!



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YUM!

Horseshoe Sandwich Update

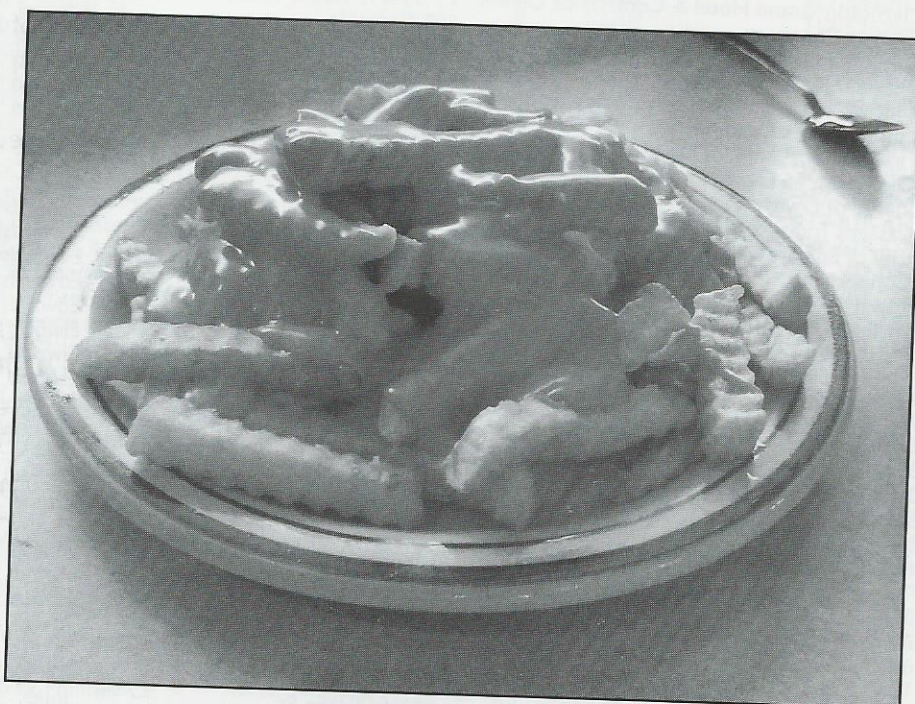
By John Weiss

In the Spring 2012 edition of the 66 News I wrote about the Horseshoe Sandwich. I also asked for locations where some of you have tried a Horse or Pony Shoe Sandwich. Following is a list that has evolved from responses by many of you. Some places received high praise and others were only so-so comments. I decided to not provide that information. It's more fun for you to go try out these places and draw your own conclusions and decide for yourself. I will say that D'Arcy's Pint in Springfield appears to have the biggest variety to choose from. I also know that both Charlie Parker's and the 66 Hotel have breakfast Shoes.

Of course the most popular area for the Shoe sandwich is in Springfield. That is not surprising since it was invented there and has been around since 1928.

The individual who will be receiving the bathroom scale I promised for consuming the most Horseshoes is Josh Friedrich, of Springfield, Illinois.

Honest Abes – Morris
D'Arcy's Pint – Springfield
Dublin Pub – Springfield
Johnny's - Springfield
Parkway Café – Springfield
Dixie Truckers Home – McLean
Route 66 Family Restaurant – Dwight
Delong's – Pontiac
Ray's Ranch House – Essex
Raymond's – Carlinville
Hallie's on the Square – Lincoln
Route 66 Hotel – Springfield
Charlie Parkers – Springfield
Maid Rite – Springfield
The Ariston – Litchfield
Country Aire – Atlanta
The Palm Café – Atlanta
Fairgrounds – Bloomington



Some of these locations are not on 66. All are in Illinois. I'm very sure there are many, many more. Try out these restaurants, and if they are not members of the Route 66 Association please encourage them to join up.

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Route 66 Association of Illinois Business Member Directory

These businesses and organizations have joined our Association. Their membership demonstrates their dedication to Route 66. Please demonstrate your appreciation to them by patronizing their businesses whenever you can.

VFN Fiberglass	330 W. Factory Road	Addison	IL	60101	630-543-0232
Atlanta Public Library	100 SE Race St.	Atlanta	IL	61723	217-648-2112
Berwyn Development Corp.	3322 S. Oak Park Ave., 2nd Floor	Berwyn	IL	60402-3407	708-788-8100
Berwyn Route 66 Museum	7003 Ogden	Berwyn	IL	60402	708-484-9349
Abe on 66 Inc.	608 W. Chestnut St.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-846-4306
Bloomington - Normal Convention Bureau	3201 Cira Dr., Suite 201	Bloomington	IL	61704	309-665-0033
Bloomington Public Library	205 E. Olive St., P.O. Box 3308	Bloomington	IL	61702-3308	309-828-6091
Brown's Wrecker Service	302 Brown St.	Bloomington	IL	61704	309-828-3753
Casey's Garden Shop	1505 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-828-7529
Casey's Garden Shop, Inc.	1505 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-828-1424
Chuck's Harley-Davidson, Inc.	2027 Ireland Grove Road	Bloomington	IL	61704-7103	309-662-1648
Clay Dooley Tire & Auto	307 E. Grove St.	Bloomington	IL	61701-5231	309-828-5037
Grosso's Garage, Inc.	1301 S. Morris Ave.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-846-3615
Quinn's Shell Station	802 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-827-9188
State Farm Insurance	2702 Ireland Grove Road	Bloomington	IL	61709	309-622-6588
Village of Bolingbrook	375 W. Briarcliff Road	Bolingbrook	IL	60440	630-226-8412
Village of Godley	150 S. Kankakee St., P.O. Box 89	Braceville	IL	60407	815-458-2222
Polk-A-Dot Drive In	222 N. Front St.	Braidwood	IL	60408	815-458-3377
Carlin Villa Motel	18891 Route 4 South	Carlinville	IL	62626	217-854-3201
Magnuson Grand Hotel & Conference Center	1 - 55 & IL Route 108., P.O. Box 377	Carlinville	IL	62626	217-324-2100
Chenoa Pharmacy	209 Green St.	Chenoa	IL	61726	309-747-3002
City of Chenoa	P.O. Box 167	Chenoa	IL	61726	815-945-7619
Berghoff Restaurant	17 West Adams St.	Chicago	IL	60603	312-427-3170
Chicago Historic Route 66 Classic Car Show	1909 S. Avers Ave.	Chicago	IL	60623	773-592-4718
Lou Mitchell's Restaurant	565 W. Jackson Blvd.	Chicago	IL	60661	312-939-3111
First National Bank of Dwight	122 W. Main St., P.O. Box 10	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-1212
Old Route 66 Family Restaurant	105 S. Old Route 66	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-2920
Village of Dwight	209 S. Prairie Ave.	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-3077
Cassens Transport Co.	145 N. Kansas St.	Edwardsville	IL	62025	618-656-3006
City of Edwardsville	118 Hillsboro Ave	Edwardsville	IL	62025-0407	618-692-7531
Comfort Inn	3080 S. SR 157	Edwardsville	IL	62025	618-656-4900
Edwardsville Preservation Comm.	118 Hillsboro Ave.	Edwardsville	IL	62025	
Springer's Creek Winery	817 Hillsboro Ave	Edwardsville	IL	62025	618-307-5110
Mr. B's Bar & Grill on Rt. 66	23956 State Rt. 53	Elwood	IL	60421	815-727-7070
Silver Dollar Restaurant	422 Mississippi Ave.	Elwood	IL	60421	815-423-6700
Village of Elwood	401 E. Mississippi Ave, P.O. Box 435	Elwood	IL	60421	815-423-5011
Big Fella's Eatery, Inc.	116 Depot St., P.O. Box 385	Gardner	IL	60424	815-237-8335
Village Of Gardner	302 N. Center St., P.O. Box 545	Gardner	IL	60424	
Doc's Soda Fountain	133 S. Second St.	Girard	IL	62640	217-627-3491
Historic Route 66 Flea Market	3117 W. Chain of Rocks Road	Granite City	IL	62240	618-797-7900
Route 66 Auto Body	P.O. Box 385	Hamel	IL	62046	
Route 66 Ridez	230 N. Old Route 66., P.O. Box 410	Hamel	IL	62046	618-633-2339
Rt. 66 Beauty & Tanning	11 Old U.S. Rt. 66., P.O. Box 306	Hamel	IL	62046	618-633-2166
Village of Hamel	111 S. Old Route 66., P.O. Box 345	Hamel	IL	62046	618-633-2484
Weezy's Route 66	108 S. Old Rt. 66., P.O. Box 128	Hamel	IL	62046	618-633-2228
City of Joliet Tourism	150 W. Jefferson St.	Joliet	IL	60432	815-724-9045
Jim Hannah - Heating & Air Conditioning	208 Elm St.	Joliet	IL	60433	815-651-6556
Joliet Area Historical Museum	204 N. Ottawa St.	Joliet	IL	60432-4007	815-723-5201
Joliet Route 66 Diner	22 W. Clinton St	Joliet	IL	60432	815-723-3865
Rialto Theater	15 E. Van Buren St.	Joliet	IL	60432	
Abraham Lincoln Tourism	1555 - 5th St.	Lincoln	IL	62656	217-732-8687
Hampton Inn of Lincoln	1019 N. Heitmann Drive	Lincoln	IL	62656	217-732-6729
Ariston Cafe	413 N. Old Route 66., P.O. Box 453	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-2023
City of Litchfield	120 East Ryder	Litchfield	IL		217-324-5253
Hampton Inn of Litchfield	11 Thunderbird Circle	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-4441
Jubelt's Bakery & Restaurant	303 N. Old Route 66	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-5314
Niehaus Cycle Sales, Inc.	718 North Old Route 66	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-6565
Wooden Nickel Winery & Saloon	3225 Honey Bend Ave.	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-4446
Pink Elephant Antique Mall Corp.	908 Vetrans Memorial Drive	Livingston	IL	62058	618-637-2366
H.V.E. Vending Machine Specialists	153 Eisenhower Lane N.	Lombard	IL	60148	630-792-0033
Steak N Egger	8408 Joliet Rd	McCook	IL	60525	708-853-9240
Luna Cafe	201 E. Chain of Rocks Road	Mitchell	IL	62040	618-931-3152
City of Mt. Olive	200 E. Main St.	Mt. Olive	IL	62069	217-999-4261
Bob Green Auto Service	1847 New Salam Church Road	New Berlin	IL	62670	217-546-5846
Vertical Geosolutions, Inc.	130 Sawgrass Lane	O'Fallon	IL	62269	618-670-4259
Pour Richards Tap & Dining	210 Tremont	Odell	IL	60460	815-998-2556
Standard Station of Odell	314 E. George St., P.O. Box 175	Odell	IL	60460	

Bernardi's II, Inc.	123 N. Mill St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-842-1198
Café Fontana	1024 W. Reynolds St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-419-2011
City of Pontiac	115 W. Howard	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-844-5847
Livingston County Historical Society	115 W. Howard St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-842-2744
Lydia's Loft	107 1/2 W. Madison St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	309-824-2490
McSherry Agency	209 W. Madison St.	Pontiac	IL	61764-0738	815-844-3183
Old Log Cabin Inn	18700 N. Aurora St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-842-2908
Pontiac Area Chamber of Commerce	210 N. Plum St., P.O. Box 534	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-844-5131
Pontiac Family Kitchen	904 Custer Ave.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-844-3155
Three Roses Bed & Breakfast	209 E. Howard	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-844-3404
White Fence Farm	1376 Joliet Road	Romeoville	IL	60446	630-739-1720
WRLR 98.3	P.O. Box 98	Round Lake IL	IL	60073	847-546-9757
Funk's Grove Pure Maple Sirup	5257 Old Route 66	Shirley	IL	61772	307-874-3220
Amoco Fence Co.	2919 S. MacArthur Blvd.	Springfield	IL	62704	217-787-2921
Branham's Paint & Body	4125 N. Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-528-9654
Burris & Son Trucking	2831 S. Whittier Ave.	Springfield	IL	62704	217-528-7741
C & A Custom Kitchens	3500 E. Clear Lake Ave.	Springfield	IL	62702	217-523-0170
Champion Garage, Inc.	820 Black Ave.	Springfield	IL	62702	217-522-4114
Cozy Dog Drive In	2935 S. Sixth St.	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-1992
Crowne Plaza	3000 S. Dirksen Parkway	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-7777
Curve Inn	3219 S. Sixth St.	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-5806
Curve Inn, Inc.	3219 S. 6th St. Road	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-5806
Holiday Inn Express	3050 S. Dirksen Parkway	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-7771
Illini Bank	2120 Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-544-0139
Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway	700 E. Adams St.	Springfield	IL	62701	217-525-9308
Illinois State Library/ Serials Section	300 S. 2nd St.	Springfield	IL	62701	217-785-4127
Lindsey Electric, Inc.	3260 Terminal Ave.	Springfield	IL	62707	217-544-6789
Maverick Steak House	1023 W. Dorlan Ave., Suite C	Springfield	IL	62702-2346	217-732-7169
Mid Illinois Caliper	2803 N. Dirksen	Springfield	IL	62702	
Midwest Truckers Association	2727 N. Dirksen Pkwy	Springfield	IL	62702	217-525-0310
Moscardelli Moving & Storage	709 N. Lincoln	Springfield	IL	62702	217-787-4043
Oldhan Graphic Supply	2056 Republic	Springfield	IL	62702	217-528-4649
Route 66 Cruisers	2148 Cincinnati Ave.	Springfield	IL	62702-4216	217-836-4105
Route 66 Hotel & Conference Center	625 E. Saint Joseph St.	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-6626
Shea's Finest Truck Covers	2075 Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-522-0475
Springfield Overhead Doors, Inc.	421 N. Lincoln	Springfield	IL	62702	217-787-2602
IL State Police Heritage Foundation	4000 N. Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702-1033	217-525-9222
Vic's Pizza & Pub	2025 Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-522-2464
City of Staunton	304 W. Main St.	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-2233
Country Classic Cars L.L.C.	2149 E. Frontage Road	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-7056
Decamp Junction	8767 State Route 4 South	Staunton	IL	62088	618-637-2951
Henry's Ra66it Ranch	1107 Historic Old Route 66	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-5655
Henrys Ra66it Ranch	1107 Historic Old Route 66	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-5655
Kicks Bar & Grill	19578 N. 1960 East Rd.	Towanda	IL	61776	309-728-2060
Patterson Bros. Oil & Gas, Inc.	P.O. Box 139	Williamsville	IL	62693	217-566-3328
Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket	645 Joliet Road	Willowbrook	IL	60521	630-325-0780
Angelo's Ben Franklin	706 W. Baltimore St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-9091
City of Wilmington	1165 S. Water St	Wilmington	IL	60481	
Hog Nuts Motorcycle Repair & Supply	205 N. First St	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-7600
Launching Pad Drive In	810 E. Baltimore St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-6535
Milltown Market	508 N. Kankakee St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-0386
Wilmington Chamber of Commerce	111 S. Water St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-5991
Original Route 66 Accessories	15700 W. Huntley Ct.	Surprise	AZ	85374	708-246-1543
National Route 66 Federation	P.O. Box 1848	Lake Arrowhead	CA	92352-1848	909-336-6131
Gionanni Tours	626 Westchester Lane	Newbury Park	CA	91320	805-375-1324
Marcia Scrapbooking	9005 Deer Run	Indianapolis	IN	46256	317-842-1164
Greg's Motor Sales	1021 W. Mishawaka	Mishawaka	IN	46545	574-255-0771
GayParita	21118 Old 66	Ash Grove	MO	65604	417-234-4943
Boots Motel	107 S. Garrison Ave	Carthage	MO	64836	417-310-2989
Route 66 Root Beer & Soda	P.O. Box 766	Lebanon	MO	65536-0766	417-588-4466
Blue Swallow Motel	815 E. Route 66 Blvd.	Tucumcari	NM	77401	575-461-9849
Afton Station & Route 66 Packards	12 S.E. 1 St.	Afton	OK	74331	918-257-4044
Claremore Convention & Visitors Bureau	400 Veterans Pkwy	Claremore	OK	74017	918-341-8688
Miami Ok Convention & Visitors Bureau	101 N. Main St.	Miami	OK	74354	918-542-4435
Fading Nostalgia	3119 S. Lenox St.	Milwaukee	WI	53207	262-909-9540

Join our Association as a business member to be listed among these fine businesses and organizations.

This publication has existed as long as our Association, since 1989. In that time, **The 66 News** has evolved hand-in-hand with our Association. As time, technology and we ourselves move forward, we certainly want to remember the history - not only of Route 66 - but of this newsletter and the important stories it has told throughout the years. That's why we proudly present, From **The 66 News Archives**, a feature which pays homage to the history of **The 66 News**.

We're reprinting an article from 1990 which was historical even when it was written. The subject of the piece, however, is still a fixture along the Mother Road in Illinois with an illustrious - and delicious - history: Funk's Grove. We're proud to count it's current owners, Steve and Glaida Funk among our Association's Hall of Fame Members.

Enjoy our first installment of, From **The 66 News Archives**!

Sugar weather comes to Funks Grove

Editor's note: This is a portion of an article written by Hazel Funk Holmes for the 1955 Centennial History of McLean, Ill.

"Sugar Weather" comes to Funks Grove about the time of Lincoln's birthday.

Then travelers along Route 66 will notice shiny tin buckets hanging on the trunks of the tall maple trees and the white steam coming out of the ventilator of the sap house where they are boiling.

Sap has been made in Funks Grove off and on from the time the Indians lived there. My grandfather, Isaac Funk, who came to Funks Grove in 1824, tapped trees with wooden "spiles" and with his sons made sirup and maple sugar for home consumption.

My first memory goes back to my girlhood when my cousins, Lawrence and Arthur Funk, made and sold sirup from Funks Grove over 50 years ago.

The sap house they made and used can now be recognized in the little peaked cabin which I acquired from Lawrence and moved to my timber and remodeled into a guest house, long after it had been abandoned as a sap house.

Sirup is now being made every year in my timber with modern equipment of every kind. We hang about 1200 to 1500 buckets year; we gather sap with a tractor; tap trees with a power tapper; wash the buckets with an electric bucket washer, and cut fire with a chain saw. In another season or two we will boil the sap over heat furnished by oil or gas. Alas for progress! No more will the pungent smell of wood smoke mingle with the sweet fragrance



of boiling sap. Our sirup evaporator bought from a Vermont factory is the best of its kind and turns out as much as twenty to thirty gallons of sirup a day.

This is a far cry from the first season we made it, about 1924. The new "hard road" which was put in right through the center of my land by the railroad, offered access to my timber for the sirup venture..

Funks Grove Pure Maple Sirup is the name of the business. It is not a company. There are no officers. I am merely the owner of the land on which the trees grow. The sirup maker is usually the tenant who farms the land that joins the timber.

Continued

After Jim Moran moved, Sam Spaulding came to the North Farm adjoining the timber. He, with his brother, Arthur and son, Everett, ran the Sirup camp, interrupted only by the second World War, until Sam moved over to the South Farm.

Then as the clock of time moved around the calendar and years, the sons of Arthur and Lawrence Funk made the sirup. They are Duncan and Stephen. Steve, as he is best known (Lawrence's son) has continued to make sirup for me and has had various partners. One needs a lot of help for the sirup making. . .

It is not easy work even when we are as mechanized as we are. It is a young man's job. Many a night when the sap has been running fast the boys work in shifts straight through until daylight. I am proud of our organization. It could not have grown as it has without the cooperation furnished by Steve and his partners and the know-how they have acquired from long experience.

The sirup is sold at the place or by mail order as far as California and Washington. The register we ask customers to sign, if they care to, contains names of almost every state in the Union. Route 66 is a much traveled road. . .

OUR MIX INCLUDES ROUTE 66!

ILLINOIS
U S
66

The Mother Road lives on in Litchfield, where visitors still enjoy our original Route 66 era restaurants and drive-in theatre. With 250+ modern hotel rooms, Litchfield is an ideal overnight choice for Route 66 travelers.



ARISTON



LITCHFIELD

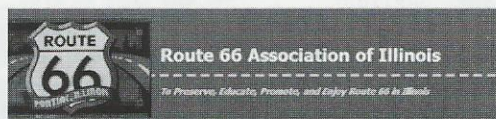
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Route 66 news and events
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Route 66 Association of Illinois
DayTripper e-Announcement

Red Carpet Corridor 2012 Edition

Saturday, May 5 and Sunday, May 6, 2012

ick off "Route 66 Season" with this annual event
sted by 13 Illinois communities along a 90-mile
retch of the Mother Road, from Joliet to
zwanda. We offer this special edition of our e-
nnouncement as your guide to Red Carpet
orridor Festivities. Enjoy this first opportunity to
at some 2012 Kicks on Route 66!

earn all about the Red Carpet Corridor, Illinois
oute 66 Red Carpet Corridor Is Calling!



Photo Credits:

Marcia Gascho - McLean, TX, pg. 16; Blue
Swallow Motel, back cover

Rich Henry - Big Red, pg.3 & back cover; Rich &
Big Red pg. 19

Cheryl Eichar Jett - Dippold Drug, pg. 3 & F.E.
Schmidt Hardware Store, pg. 14

Don Johnsen - Car art at Motor Tour, cover;
Historic 66 sign, pg. 3; car at Antique Mall & Motor
Tour music, pg. 12

Geoff Ladd - The Mill, back cover

Lydia Nino - Nu2U Thrift Shop, pg. 20; Flea
Market, back cover

Eugene Pincsak - Route 66 shield, pg. 25

John Weiss - Horseshoe Sandwich, pg. 21

Those extra pages also afford me the opportunity to honor the history of this publication by reprinting a story From **The 66 News** Archives. Many talented and dedicated folks have written for **The 66 News** over the years. Now current read-

Thanks so much for the feedback I continually receive about my job here as editor. I welcome any and all comments - I aim to please, inform and interest you, the readers. Don't hesitate to let me know what you'd like to see, what's working - and what's not. Find my contact information on page 3 of this publication.

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This and That

Route 66 Trivia

(Questions provided by Association member Eugene Pincsak)

1. Where along Route 66 was the billboard featuring the Coppertone girl wearing nothing but a smile located?
2. Where was this photo taken?



Questions of the Quarter

We believe you're never too young to care about the Mother Road! We have tried to implement a FREE Junior Membership for the younger set under the age of 18 but have noticed a general lack of interest. That's why we pose the following questions:

Do you think a Junior Membership is a good idea?

If so, what kinds of things would make it interesting to the kids you know? A newsletter? Photo/coloring/drawing contests? Geocaching?

Answers to the previous Question of the Quarter:

What is your favorite piece of memorabilia at our Hall of Fame and Museum in Pontiac, IL?

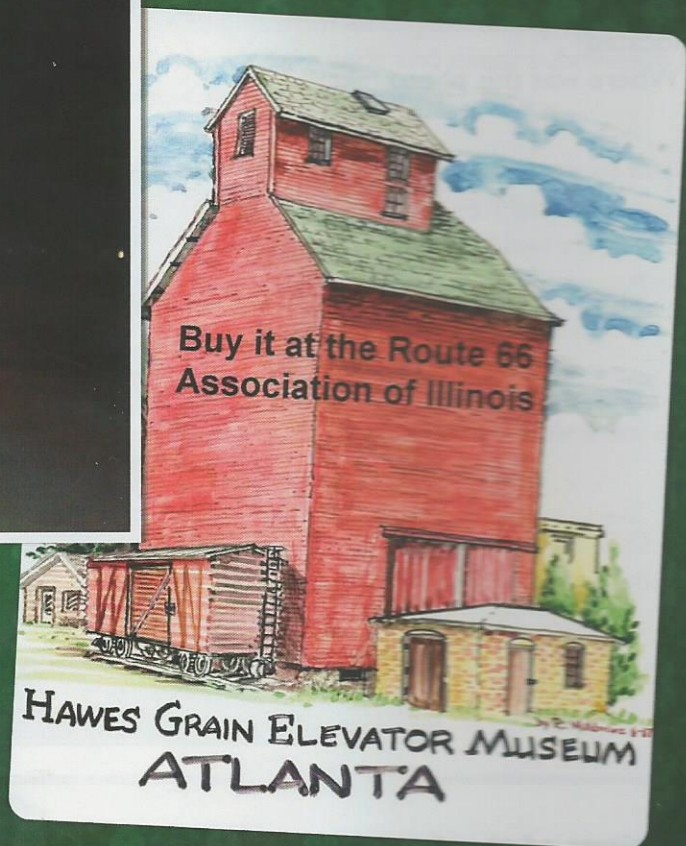
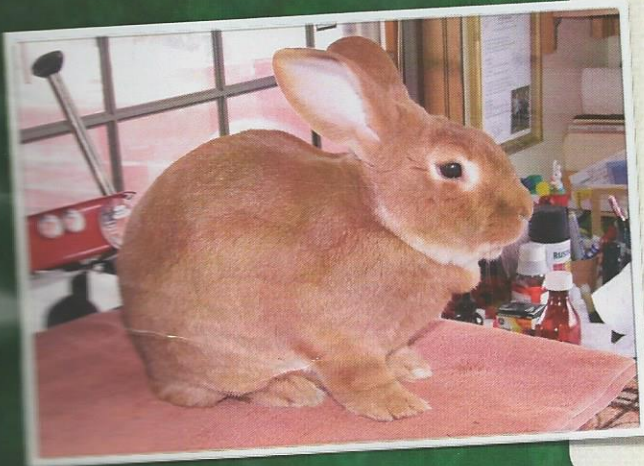
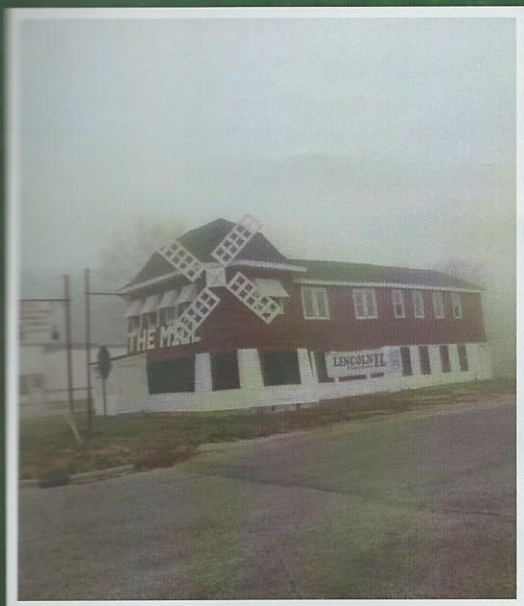
Wendy Friedrich - The Michael Campanelli Art Exhibit

Josh Friedrich - Bob Waldmire's VW Minibus

Charlie Friedrich - Bob Waldmire's Road Yacht

As always, we welcome your suggestions and comments about our Association and about The 66 News. Please submit them and your answers to the above questions to Editor Gina. Find my contact information on page 3 of this publication.

MORE PHOTOS FROM THIS ISSUE



DON'T MISS AN ISSUE OF THE 66 NEWS!
UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS TO:
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN, MARTY BLITSTEIN
9280 DRUMMOND
TINLEY PARK, IL 60487
(708) 444-1312
BLITZ66@EARTHLINK.NET

THE 66 NEWS

Hall of Fame Issue 2013



Route 66
Hall of Fame of Illinois



Wilbur and Ruth Fawns Sr. Family
Owners and Operators
Service Stations and Route 66 Cafe
Williamsville, Sherman, IL
1938-

Inducted June 8, 2013
Route 66 Association of Illinois



Route 66
Hall of Fame of Illinois

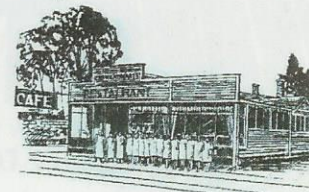


The Palms Grill Cafe, originally opened in 1934
and now lovingly restored to its full glory,
lets visitors step back into 1935-40
when entering its front door.

Inducted June 8, 2013
Route 66 Association of Illinois



Route 66
Hall of Fame of Illinois



George Cathcart's Cafe (1924-1952) and
adjoining Cathcart's Tourist Inn (1922-1931)
on Vandalia Street in Edwardsville were
popular stops along Route 66.

Inducted June 8, 2013
Route 66 Association of Illinois

OUR MISSION:
TO PRESERVE, EDUCATE, PROMOTE
AND ENJOY ROUTE 66 IN ILLINOIS!

Illinois - Where the Road Begins!

Summer is the season when many travelers hit the road to experience their Route 66 adventure. We here at the Route 66 Association of Illinois cordially welcome you to spend some time on our leg of this historic Main Street of America. There's a lot to do here in Illinois where Route 66 begins and we've been busy bees getting our communities and attractions ready for your visit.

In this issue of **The 66 News**, our members-only newsletter, we're proud to share the stories of the newest group of inductees to our Association's Hall of Fame. They are some hearty folks who've left their mark indelibly etched in the pavement and history of Route 66 and who are more than worthy of our appreciation and recognition.

It's a busy time of year along the Mother Road and there's lots to report on. We're always excited for the opportunity this publication provides us to deliver details about events and news as well as delightful '66 features and travelogues straight to your mailbox.

As you enjoy perusing this issue, celebrating the sights, sounds and tastes of Route 66, we hope you're inspired to plan a trip of your own. We look forward to welcoming you to our Hall of Fame and Museum in Pontiac, IL. The numerous communities and attractions along our nostalgic miles eagerly anticipate your visit, offering hospitality and an unforgettable experience of Americana at its very best.

Wishing you a summer adventure to remember!

The 66 News

This publication is distributed to members of the Route 66 Association of Illinois as a membership premium. Its mission is to inform our membership about our Association and its activities, as well as to demonstrate our passion for preservation and to celebrate the Mother Road.



Submit Content to *The 66 News*

We here at the Route 66 Association of Illinois welcome your stories from the road, Route 66 news and events. Here's how to submit your content to us for publication in this, our Quarterly Newsletter, or on our website:

Route 66 Association of Illinois
Attention: Newsletter Editor, Gina Blitstein
P.O. Box 1940
Matteson, IL 60443
gina@writeytidy.com
(708) 374-8439

Deadline for submissions to the Fall 2013 Issue: August 15, 2013

IN THIS ISSUE

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Advertise in *The 66 News*

Attention, Route 66 Businesses, Attractions and Communities!

This newsletter, *The 66 News*, is mailed quarterly to each and every member of our Association. Can you think of a more targeted group with whom to advertise your business or community?

Our Treasurer, Marty Blitstein, will be happy to help you purchase your advertisement.

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We offer several affordable advertising options in our Newsletter.

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Whole Page - \$125.00

Half Page - \$75.00

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Special Offer - for 1 year of Whole Page or Half Page ads (all 4 issues)

Buy 3 ads, get the 4th FREE

All ads need not contain the same content.

Ads are in black and white only.

A Message from Association President, Cathie Stevanovich



I remember that we used to experience seasons that had a kind of rhythm: fall, winter, spring, summer. The times they are a'changing and with it the weather. My heart goes out to the people and places who have experienced flooding, tornados, and other "natural" disasters these past few months. We're a resilient people, and we pick up where we left off and assemble our lives back into some semblance of order. Natural disasters, sickness, financial problems, its all part of life. It's always been the side story of the Mother Road.

Speaking of weather, the Red Carpet Corridor festival was a little weather-challenged but we had a great turnout at the Museum and on the Waldmire bus. International buses are pulling into Pontiac almost daily, and the number of families making visits to local museums their weekend vacation is huge. From Chicago to St. Louis there are tons of opportunities for weekend travel and festivals, fairs and concerts.

The Illiana Toll Road will have a limited impact (at this time) on the Route 53/Route 66 section of road between Joliet and Wilmington. The next public meeting will be in Peotone. Details will be posted on our website and Facebook page. Right now it looks like the tollroad will be elevated over Route 66. Our Association is blessed to have a guardian angel in the form of Anne Haacker with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency who is looking out for our part of the Mother Road. Anne, along with other staff members, have also personally attended our Board meeting on their own time in order to keep us up to date with what is happening with the high speed rail, which is still ongoing.

Regarding the Indiana-Illinois toll road, we are the guardians of some very significant pavement. Our roads are on the National Historic Register so they need to be treated carefully. A study was just done on the actual composition and construction of the original Route 66 in hopes that future construction will use the same formulas on any changes on or around Route 66.

The 2013 Motor Tour has just wrapped up and was an amazing opportunity to cruise with old and new friends and celebrate the Mother Road and our three New Hall of Fame members. As we embark on "travel season," we look forward to good weather and (hopefully) affordable gas so we can get our wanderlust sated. Concerts in Joliet, parades, corn festivals and concerts in the park lie ahead of us. Check our website calendar for events and if you know of something in your town, email the details to our editor for posting.

The birds are chirping and there's road construction everywhere (Illinois' 5th season) so it's time to get out on the road again. I am ever-grateful for the Route 66 roadies and their support of the communities along our beloved Route 66. If you haven't visited the Hall of Fame and Museum in Pontiac, or any of the other four free museums there, it's time to come home and visit. I wish all of you a healthy, safe, and enjoyable summer.

See you on the road!

Cathie Stevanovich

Association Meeting Calendar

Board Meeting - 10:00 AM / Lunch - 12:00 PM (on your own) / General Meeting - 1:00 PM

Summer Quarterly Meeting

Sunday, July 21, 2013

The Silver Dollar Restaurant
422 Mississippi Ave
Elwood, IL

Fall Quarterly Meeting

Sunday, October 20, 2013

115 West Howard St (City Hall Annex)
Pontiac, IL

This meeting will include our annual Association election.

Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum

Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum

110 W Howard St
Pontiac, IL 61764
815-844-4566

Open 7 days a week!

December - March
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Daily

April- November
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM (Weekdays)
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Weekends)

Admission is FREE!

Begin your Route 66 adventure here!



The Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum features thousands of artifacts and a delightful assortment of unique memorabilia, all related to Route 66 - The "Mother Road."

We invite all of our Association members to volunteer at the museum, sharing your knowledge and enthusiasm with our visitors.

Our Museum boasts:

- Friendly and knowledgeable guides
- Route 66 memorabilia from Hall of Fame members
- Route 66 Artist and Icon, Bob Waldmire's bus and van
- Travel resources to enhance your Route 66 journey
- Photo op! Largest Route 66 mural on our back wall
- Preservation Display recognizing the dedicated efforts of Route 66 volunteers

(An elevator is available for the convenience of our visitors.)

Welcome New Members!

Association President Cathie Stevanovich, Membership Chairman, Marty Blitstein, and the entire Route 66 Association would like to extend a sincere welcome to our new members who have joined us between February 26, 2013 and May 27, 2013

We hope your experience as a member of our Association brings you great satisfaction and a deeper appreciation of Route 66!

- ▶ Chad O'Leary
- ▶ Dan Hamilton
- ▶ Don Larker
- ▶ Caryn & Sean Boyle
- ▶ Ronald & George Begole
- ▶ William C. Mann
- ▶ Curtis Gobeli
- ▶ Ron Geiling
- ▶ Deborah Dale

- ▶ Boyd Matson
- ▶ Douglas Morris
- ▶ Judith C. & Dr. Charles L. Geigier
- ▶ Joseph Chamberlain
- ▶ Brian Gregory
- ▶ City of Braidwood - Mayor Bill Rulien
- ▶ Carlinville Associates - Central Realty
- ▶ James Race & Family
- ▶ Stowe Auto Body - Kathy & Tom Stowe

Do you want to join or renew your
annual Association membership?
You can now pay your dues online!

www.il66assoc.org

Events Coming Your Way

Please check our website - il66assoc.org/calendar-date/ for additional information about these and other upcoming events along Route 66:

Magnuson Grand Hotel Car Cruises - Classic car, truck, and motorcycle cruise on the lawn of The Magnuson Grand Hotel, 19067 W Frontage Rd, Raymond, IL, every Sunday from May 5th through September 29th, 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Call 217-324-2100 for more information.

The Mother Road Tour - A chartered bus trip from Bloomington, IL to Broadwell, IL, conducted by Ed Kozak. Saturday, June 29, departing from 53rd & Major in Bloomington at 8:00 AM and returning at approximately 7:30 PM. \$40.00 per person. To reserve your spot and for more information, contact Ed Kozak at 773-585-0624, evenings.

8th Annual Ride for the Relay - A benefit for cancer research. Begins at Navy Pier, Chicago, IL, August 24, 8:00 AM. www.ridefortherelay.org. Call 217-473-1525 for more information.

2013 National Jordan Motor Car Tour - Passing through Springfield and touring Route 66 between August 25 and 31 and they'd love to meet up with some roadies! For more information call 815-351-6655 or fohrmanbd@gmail.com.

Historic Route 66 Car Show - Stand on Historic Route 66 and see over 500 vintage and custom cars, trucks and motorcycles. Berwyn, IL, Saturday, September 7, 2013, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. The event is free to spectators. For those interested in displaying their vehicles, visit <http://whyberwyn.com/event/22nd-annual-historic-route-66-car-show-sponsored-by-weather-tech/> for registration information.



Annual Association Picnic - For the third consecutive year, we are proud to announce that our annual Association Picnic will be held at Sugar Grove Nature Center! This year's picnic is scheduled for **Sunday, August 18, from 10:30 A.M. - 6:00 PM**. Lunch will be served around noon. As always, our Association supplies and pays for all food and soft drinks. Please be advised that no alcohol is permitted at the Nature Center. If you would, however, like to bring a dish to share, we would welcome your contribution to our spread!

While we would love you to join our Association, you need not be a member to attend the picnic; just bring your appetite for Route 66 and tasty picnic fare. Come and rub elbows with fellow roadies and you'll see our passion in action! Please R.S.V.P. to Marty Blitstein (708) 444-1312 or blitz66@earthlink.net so he can ensure there's plenty of food to enjoy!

Sugar Grove Nature Center - 4532 N 725 East Road 61254 (right off Route 66), McLean, IL



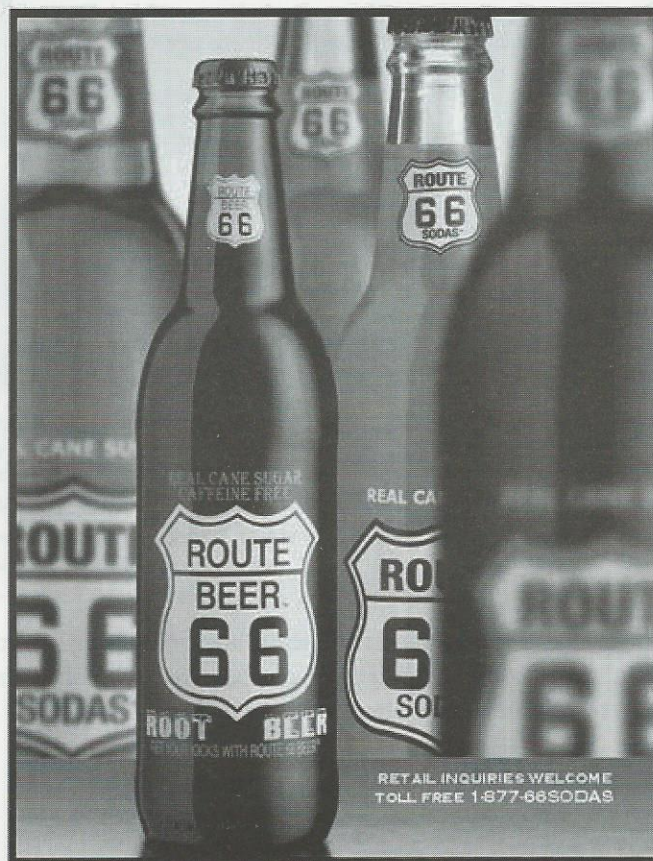
Here I am again - editing my second summer issue of **The 66 News** for you. I'm happy to report that I find myself eagerly looking forward to "newsletter time" every three months. I try to look at each issue of the newsletter with fresh eyes and approach its compilation in new yet familiar ways in order to keep it interesting to its audience.

You'll see that I've "mixed it up" a little this time, moving pages around to create and maintain a compelling flow, while keeping information easy to find. As always, I look forward to hearing your feedback about any and all aspects of the newsletter. My contact information is on Page 2 of this publication and I've always got my ears on.

I want to personally thank everyone who has generously contributed photos and stories for inclusion in **The 66 News**. As editor here, I have a standing request to all who travel Route 66: Please, send your photos and stories to me so I can share them with readers here or, in my capacity as website editor, on our Association website. A trip not shared is a lonely journey. (I just made that up, but it's true, isn't it?)

Have a super summer - keep making those memories and snapping those photos!

WANTED! YOUR MOTOR TOUR PHOTOS AND STORIES FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF
THE 66 NEWS. HELP TELL THE STORY OF THIS GREAT EVENT!
FIND SUBMISSION INFORMATION ON PAGE 2.



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Route 66 Association of Illinois Online!

Thanks to all there is to see and do along the Road, we can't fit it all into a quarterly publication.

We strive to keep you informed about Route 66 events as they happen.

Submit your Route 66 news to:

<http://il66assoc.org/content/submit-your-news/>

Also, look for these regular features on our website, providing a travel and educational Route 66 resource:

- **Towns** - a list of all the Illinois communities through which Route 66 passes
- **Map** - a Google map which pinpoints the locations of Illinois Route 66 attractions
- **Web Links** - an ever-expanding list of websites offering useful and enjoyable information about Route 66
- **Business Members** - a guide to our Association's supporting business members whom we hope you'll patronize as you travel the Mother Road

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Route 66 Association of Illinois

To Preserve, Educate, Promote, and Enjoy Route 66 in Illinois

DayTripper
Motor Tour 2013 Edition

MOTOR TOUR 2013: BACK TO OUR "ROUTES"

OUR ANNUAL MOTOR TOUR IS A GRAND OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL THE MOTHER ROAD, VISIT SOME OF HER ATTRACTIONS AND MEET OTHER FINE FOLKS WHO ARE LIKEWISE INCLINED TO SEEK OUT AMERICANA, NOSTALGIA AND FUN ALONG '66. WE CORDIALLY INVITE EVERYONE TO JOIN US AS WE "MOTOR TOUR" ALONG ROUTE 66 IN ILLINOIS.



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DISCOVER MORE ABOUT THE STORIES WE'VE
INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE OF THE 66 NEWS ON
OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.IL66ASSOC.ORG/THE66NEWS

Preservation Report

Our Preservation Chairman, John Weiss, reports the goings-on along Route 66 in Illinois:

Annual Cleanup Day at Odell Standard Oil Station

Fourteen members of the Preservation Committee came together at the Odell Standard Oil Station on March 30, 2013 to prepare it for yet another season of Route 66 tourists. Because of the huge number of visitors who stop by the little station, a yearly cleanup day is very important to ensure a fresh face and pleasant photo opportunity for all these wonderful travelers. This enhances the entire experience for all who travel in Illinois. This cleanup day we were thrilled to greet folks from three different countries and several surrounding states, and the season hadn't even begun yet.

Station manager Hermie Fearman made all of the arrangements to have some new concrete poured at the station. The village of Odell along with some local professional volunteers did this beautiful work.

Kent Heiland took on the responsibility of refurbishing the visible Gravity Flow gas pump. It needed a new hose and some special fittings which he was fortunately able to find and install. While there, he also did some touch-up painting that was needed due to the new concrete. All this is so important because virtually every photo taken at the station has the gas pump in it. A sound system has been installed this year, playing music inside and out and providing nice bouncy, pleasant atmosphere.



The Preservation Committee's motto is, "We work for food," and no one was disappointed this day. A great meal donated by Cathie Stevanovich and Marty Blitstein was delivered from the Route 66 Family Restaurant in Dwight.

Our well-fed, hard-working volunteers were: Mike Cummings, Kent Heiland, Lou Vargo, Phil Scully, Jamie Anderson, Vic Zezelic, Bob Killackey, Lori Killackey, Cathie Stevanovich, Jeff Geisler, Glen Adams and John Weiss.

Long live 66 and those who continue her preservation and protection.

-- Bob Waldmire

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A Workday at the Sprague Service Station

Terri Ryburn admits to feeling overwhelmed by the sheer magnitude of the massive restoration project she's undertaken at the Sprague Service Station. But it's people like Terri who do their best to save pieces of Route 66 for future generations - and their efforts should be applauded.




With this in mind, a group of nine individuals came to the Sprague Station to help out on April 27th. According to volunteer Josh Friedrich, "We split up into multiple groups to tackle the various projects. The exterior work consisted of cleaning up the parking area and yard, repairing a downspout and filling a few holes in the masonry. On the inside, a toilet was repaired, two small bathrooms were gutted, and new framing for walls was built." While a lot was accomplished that day, there's still much to be done. Terri will be needing more help in the future and remember, volunteering makes you feel good!

A special shout-out to Preservation volunteer Bill Kelley who can always be counted on to help, even though he lives hundreds of miles away in a suburb of Detroit, Michigan. We also want to thank would-be volunteer, Stacey, who didn't work but wanted to. A misprint of the work date that temporarily appeared on the Association website misinformed her and she showed up on the wrong day with the best of intentions. (Sorry about the misprint, Stacey ~ Signed, All-too-human website editor Gina.)




The food was furnished by Terri Ryburn from Avanti's in Bloomington. The hearty group who worked so hard that day were: Bill Kelley, Josh Friedrich, Phil Scully, Jamie Anderson, Damon Sholtey, Glen Adams, Steve Spieker, Laurie Hayes and John Weiss.

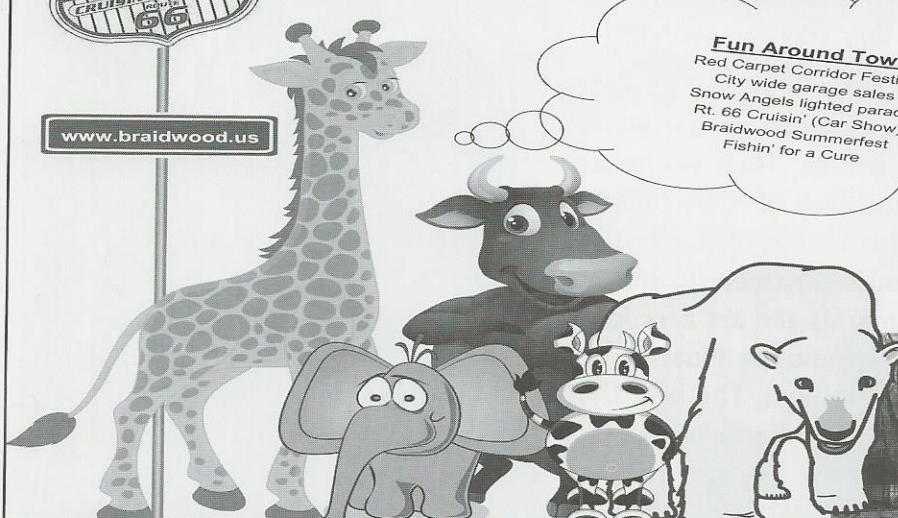
Enjoy the Real Rt. 66 in Braidwood, Illinois



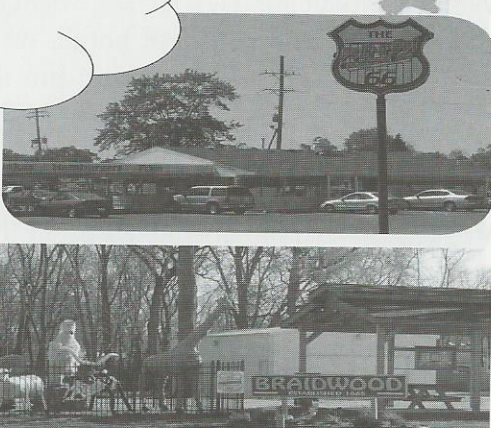
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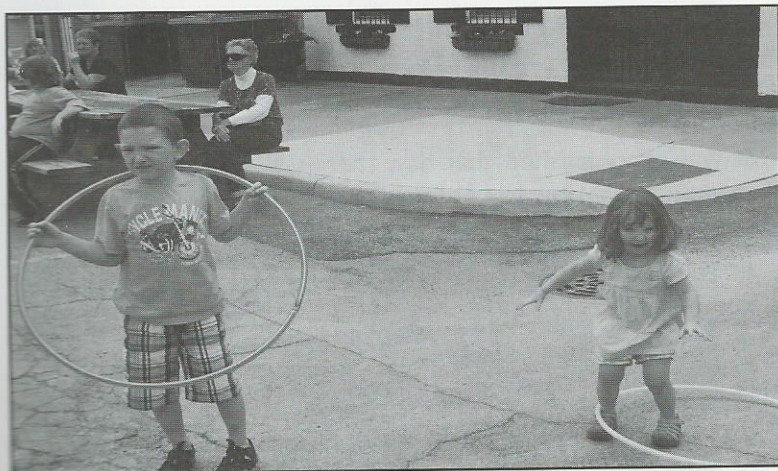


**Go back into time at the classic Rt.66 drive-in diner,
The Polk-A-Dot**

Friedrich Family Red Carpet Corridor Adventure

Submitted by Josh Friedrich

On May 4, the Friedrich family hit the road. Our first stop of the day was the Joliet Historical Museum on Route 66 and the beginning of the annual Red Carpet Corridor Festival. The 90-mile long event takes place in 13 communities along the shoulders of the Mother Road. This year we were striving to collect a trading card from each town highlighting a piece of their history and community. I highly recommend the Joliet Museum to delve into road culture, astronauts, interesting photo ops, and a great gift shop.

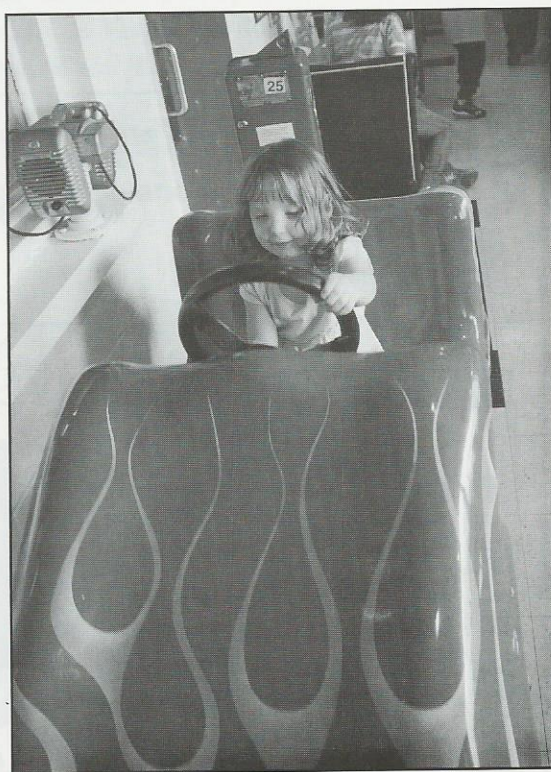


Further down the road we stopped in Elwood, which has a great children's park. We then rocketed to Wilmington and an awesome photo op of the Gemini Giant at the Launching Pad Drive In. We met a nice couple from the UK traveling 66. Next up was Braidwood and the colorful Polka-Dot Drive-In where we enjoyed classic road food complete with a tabletop jukebox. With our bellies full we made a quick stop at the K Mine Museum of Godley. We dropped in at Braceville's town hall for our trading card and a brief history on a gas station. As we continued on our trip we arrived in Gardner and their 2-Cell Jail built in

1906 along with the Riviera 1920's dining car. Both are unique pieces of history and great places for a snapshot. Unfortunately, the volunteers had already left and we couldn't get our trading card.

We now set our sights on Dwight's restored Ambler-Becker Texaco Gas Station. After that, we cruised over to Odell's Visitor Center in a restored 1932 Standard Gas Station. It was now late afternoon and we headed to Pontiac and the Best Western Hotel to check in. We relaxed a bit and then headed over to Mario's Pizza. The service was good, the decor was Route 66/automotive themed, and they have a game room. We loved their mozzarella-filled breadsticks. With our bellies full once again, we went to see a music review, "At The Hop," by the Vermillion Players and attend an ice cream social. We all had a great time, especially the kids. I met Ellie Alexander, the Pontiac Tourism Director, who did a splendid job with all our reservations for the night. We headed back to the hotel and thoroughly enjoyed the indoor pool. Our stay was wonderful.

We headed out Sunday morning bright and early. Since we had plenty of time to cruise Route 66 home, we backtracked to Gardner to get our trading card we missed the day before. Then we headed over to the Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame Museum and Livingston County War Museum. This is one of our favorite places in Pontiac and has the largest Route 66 shield in the US. We walked around checking out all the murals and art cars found along the way to the Pontiac Oakland Automobile Museum and the International Walldog Mural and Sign Museum. The best thing about all the museums is that they're free and educational. We now headed to Chenoa and I was hoping to see the vintage Pharmacy located downtown but was closed; maybe next time...

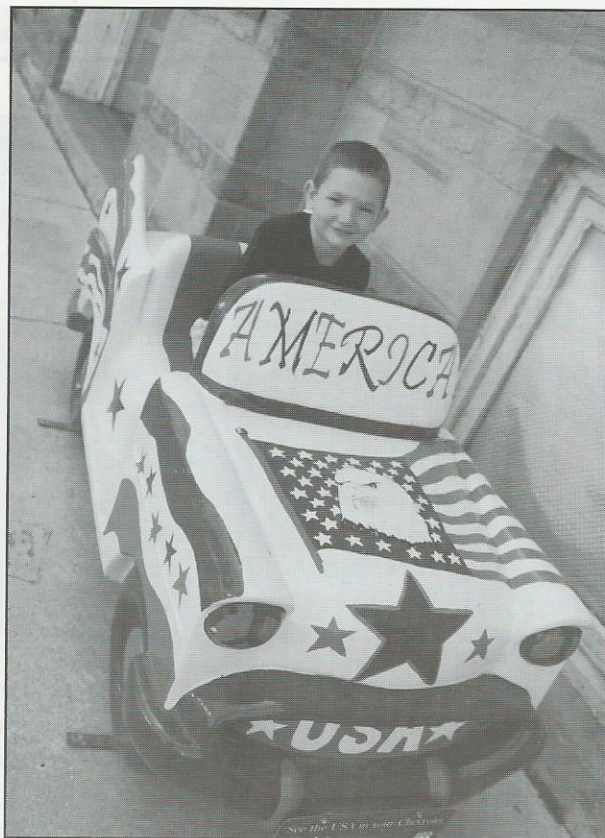


Next on our checklist was Lexington which has a red neon sign with the town name pointing the way from the highway. We also slowly made our way along Memory Lane, an original alignment of 66 with vintage advertising billboards and Burma Shave signs. After that, we slipped into Towanda and the last stop on the RCC tour. Be sure to check out their walking Route 66 Geographical Journey and Dead Man's Curve.

We now had completed our collection of trading cards, but there was still more 66 to go. As you can tell, there are people, places, and things to see in even the sleepest little town and stories to hear along the Main Street of America. While heading back to home we made one more stop on Route 66 in the small town of Atlanta. This town has a muffler man named the Bunyon Giant, a smiley face water tower, the Palms Grill Cafe, J. H. Hawes Elevator museum, murals, and so much more all within a few blocks. This is a must-stop for a weary traveler to slow down and take a break.

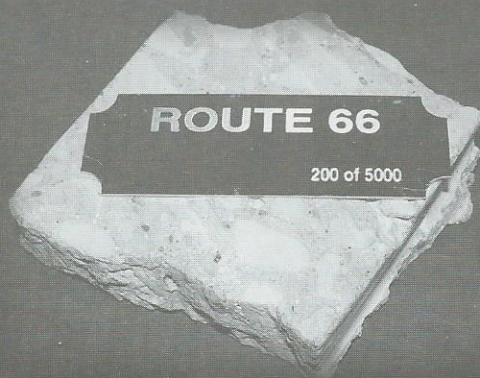
Each and every time I travel Route 66 I find something I have not seen before it is forever changing, yet is still the same.

Thank you for coming along on our journey and I hope you enjoyed the ride. Until next time be sure to take the scenic route, slow down, and enjoy the view out your windshield.



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On Historic Route 66

Edwardsville Dedicates Illinois Scenic Byway Experience Hub

By Cheryl Eichar Jett

Route 66 fans, Edwardsville citizens, local dignitaries, and William Kelly, director of Illinois Scenic Byway, gathered on Saturday, April 20, at the intersection of West and Schwarz Streets to dedicate the new Illinois Scenic Byway Experience Hub. The interactive kiosk is located at the former site of the Idlewood Tourist Camp on Edwardsville's segment of Route 66.

A crowd of about 50 people gathered to hear remarks from officials and witness the unveiling of the Experience Hub. Some brought their vintage vehicles that may have travelled Route 66 "back in the day." A steady stream of visitors continued to stop throughout the day to inspect the Experience Hub, take photos, or make a rubbing of the Madison County Centennial Monument from the tactile station included on each unit. Later that night, the changing colors of the illuminated "Edwardsville, Illinois" lettering made an interesting sight for evening motorists.

For several weeks previous to the event, motorists passing through that intersection wondered what mysterious structure was under the big blue tarp and what all the activity was about. City workers installed concrete sidewalks and planted grass. Electricians wired the kiosk for sound and lights. It was worth the wait that Saturday morning as visitors read the text, viewed the photos and maps, and pushed the button on the hub to hear Bobby Troup's "Get Your Kicks on Route 66" play.

The Route 66 Experience Hub is one of only 13 in Illinois, and Edwardsville is the sixth city along the route to install their exhibit. The design of the structure was influenced by the fins of 1950s era automobiles. Attached to the "fin" are three panels, a large map showing the path of Route 66 through Illinois, and two smaller panels showing local and regional attractions and Route 66 history.



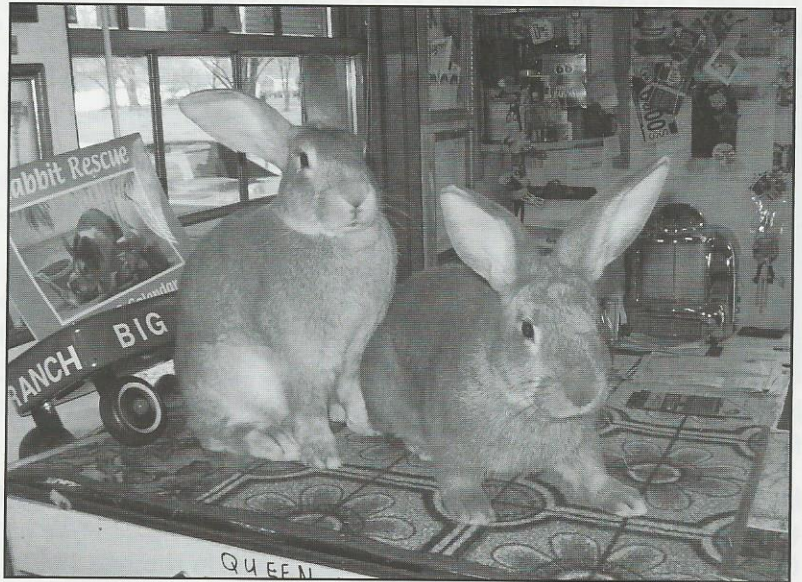
(L to R) Edwardsville City Planner Scott Hanson, Illinois Scenic Byway Director William Kelly, (partially hidden) Historic Preservation Commission Chair William Krause, and Edwardsville Mayor Gary Niebur unveil the Experience Hub after the ribbon-cutting. Photo by Cindy Reinhardt.

Edwardsville's new Illinois Scenic Byway Experience Hub. Photo by Cheryl Eichar Jett

New Ra66its at the Ranch - Meet Phoenix and Little Red!

We recently made a big announcement on our website on behalf of Henry's Ra66it Ranch in Staunton, Illinois: There are some new bunnies on the Ranch and, following in the large footsteps of their predecessors, Queen Montana and Big Red, they're ready, willing and able to take on the job as official greeters.

Since the sad day in December, 2012 when Big Red passed away, the Ra66it Ranch had been without a rabbit greeter. Then, along hopped a bunny named Phoenix in January, who bore a strong resemblance to Big Red. Just as Phoenix was settling in to life on the Ranch, yet another Big Red lookalike was adopted in March, named Little Red.



The two new bunnies became fast friends and are looking forward to meeting and greeting you at Henry's Ra66it Ranch!

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2013 Hall of Fame Inductees

We are extremely proud to present the very special group of honorees who were inducted into our Hall of Fame on June 8th, 2013 at our annual Hall of Fame Banquet.

The Palms Grill Café, Atlanta, IL

Information for this article provided by Bill Thomas.

The Palms Grill was opened in 1934 and declared it was, "in the center of Atlanta on U.S. Route 66. Dancing Every Night. Special Chicken and Steak Dinners. We Specialize in Club Parties."

The original owner, Robert Adams, was a native of Atlanta who had moved to Los Angeles, California. It was decorated to resemble an eatery near where Adams lived in California. Ray Thompson of Atlanta had been hired to oversee the restaurant and hire and oversee managers for the absent owner.

In its early years, businessmen, tourists, and even celebrities, frequented the Palms Grill Café. Beginning in 1940, it was also the designated Greyhound bus stop in Atlanta for many years. In the late 1940s and 1950s, the Grill continued to serve as a popular gathering spot, especially for the students of Atlanta High School. Many students held their first real job at the Palms Grill.

After the Grill closed in the late 1960s, the building remained empty for nearly 20 years. John Hawkins purchased it in 1982, and upon his death in 2002, his family donated the building to the Atlanta Public Library and Museum. In 2003, the Atlanta Library began the restoration project that has now culminated in the rebirth of the Palms Grill Café.

It is now a well known, highly-praised restaurant that beckons all to stop and dine, and go back in time. Blue plate specials, spam sandwiches and definitely the pie attract tourists to stop and make the Palms Grill Café once again the center of Atlanta.

George B. Cathcart, Cathcart's Café, Edwardsville, IL

By Cheryl Eichar Jett

George B. Cathcart arrived in Edwardsville, Illinois, in 1921 at the age of 39, with a strong work ethic, two decades' worth of coal mining experience, and his wife, Clara. By the time he died in 1952, Cathcart had helped to save the path of Route 66 through Edwardsville's business district and built a restaurant business that anchored the community's Route 66 trade while also serving its many local customers.

Cathcart started out as a coal miner in Texas; a career he continued upon relocating to Edwardsville. In 1922, he put a down payment on a house selling for \$9,000, with plans to turn the residence into a "first class and up-to-date boarding house." Thus, Clara Cathcart was set up with a business to run – the Cathcart Tourist Inn.

George continued mining, and, in 1924 with a \$20 down payment, bought enough lumber to build an 11-square-foot hamburger stand next to his Tourist Inn. In 1926, Route 66 began its 30 year lifespan right outside of Cathcart's door. By 1933, the building was 36' x 80' and sat 32 guests at the counter and another 56 at the tables. At the rear of the building he added a meat market and grocery.

Even though there were personal troubles and misunderstandings with the law, George always believed in hard work and self-promotion. He stayed active in city politics, especially regarding Route 66 (There was talk for a long time about Route 66 bypassing Edwardsville.)

George Cathcart died in 1952. Although his restaurant has been razed, his Tourist Inn still stands.



Wilbur Fawns Sr. Family, Service Stations, Williamsville, IL and Sherman, IL

By Josh Friedrich

Wilbur Fawns Sr.'s working relationship with U.S. 66 began in 1937 at the age of 29 when he started working at Charles Sutton's Garage at 141 W. Main St./Route 66 in Williamsville, Illinois as an auto mechanic. In 1943, when Mr. Sutton auctioned his equipment and enlisted in the Air Force, Wilbur took over the garage. During this time, Wilbur's sons Bill (age 14), Wilbur, Jr. (age 12) and George (age 10), began helping their father by learning to pump gas, change oil, and lube bearings.

In 1954, Wilbur, Sr. bought the Standard Oil Station at 500 S. Oak/Route 66 from Frank Fink. Business was going very well since they were on 66 and between Chicago and St. Louis. Many well-known sports players, newscasters, and musical acts would stop in at the station to fill up. The distinctive signage on top of the building featuring individual letters spelling S-T-A-N-D-A-R-D that lit up one letter at a time and then all at once, could be seen for miles around, a beacon on the highway.



Of the three sons, only Wilbur, Jr. and George went on to pursue the service station business full time. Bill pursued a career with the GM&O Railroad, then as a custodian and bus driver for Williamsville and Sherman School district. He even was a Williamsville police officer.

George worked at a Standard Station in Springfield at the corner of 5th Street (Old Route 4) and Sangamon Avenue from 1958-1965. He took over for Wilbur Jr. at the Williamsville Standard Station in 1965, the year Wilbur Sr. decided to semi-retire. George eventually took full ownership of the station and worked at that location until 1976. In 1976, when I-55 caused the cutoff of 66, George took over a new Amoco station closer to Interstate exit on the 2nd alignment of 66. He continued to operate both stations until 1984.

George purchased the Standard Station on Business 55 (Route 66) and Andrew Road in Sherman, which he called, George's Amoco, and ran it for it for 31 years, with his son, Patrick and his trusted mechanic, Louis Thompson. In 1996, George retired after 38 years. Patrick, a 3rd generation Route 66 service station owner, took over the station, and eventually closed down the pumps. Now he just does repairs at the old station in Sherman.

Wilbur Jr. had worked for Frank Keys at his brand new Standard Station from 1950-1951. In 1952 Wilbur Jr. was drafted and served in the Korean War until 1954. Upon returning stateside he returned to work at the Standard Station from 1954-1965. In 1965, he went across the hard road to the Shell Station and leased it from Patterson Bros. Oil Co. This led to some complications, causing the Standard Company and Shell Company to agree to allow the same family to run opposing businesses in town. Junior ran that Shell station until 1976 when the new Shell Station was built, once again across the road from the Standard station, closer to the I-55 exit ramp. Junior ran this station until his retirement in 1993 after 43 years with Shell and Standard.

In 1960, Wilbur Sr.'s wife, Ruth, ran the Route 66 Café that they built just east of the Standard Station. As this was a family business, Ruth employed four of her granddaughters: Mickey and Jody (George's daughters) and Sherry and Linda (Bill's daughters). On February 12, 1984, the Route 66 Café was demolished after 24 years of memories.

For 75 years the Fawns family had been on route 66 in Williamsville and Sherman fixing vehicles, pumping gas, and slinging hash for travelers, truckers, and local families. They've been a well known and trusted family to do business with these many years. Their businesses were some of the longest-running service stations in Williamsville and Sherman. As a bonus all of the buildings except one can be found on today's Route 66.

*Special thanks to Wilbur, Jr. & Sharon Fawns and the entire Fawns family, Mr. and Mrs. Benner at the Williamsville Historical Museum, and the Illinois State Historical Library and Keith A Sculle.

The Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame recognizes "those people and places along Route 66 whose blend of hardy individualism and grassroots community spirit gave the road such special character."

To qualify for election to the Hall of Fame, nominees must have made significant contributions to the character or history of the Illinois portion of Route 66 from 1926 to 1977 while it was an official United States highway in the State of Illinois.

Traveling the Mother Road - A Boyhood Dream Come True

The following travelogue and photos were provided by Bob Welborn of Fredericksburg, Virginia who was kind enough to relate his own Route 66 adventure to us.

As a young boy I watched the TV show Route 66 and dreamed that one day I would drive the country in a Corvette like Tod and Buz from the show. Well, I am now 62 years old and retired and in mid-May, 2013, I lived out that dream, traveling to the Route 66 Museum in Clinton, Oklahoma - that's where these photos were taken. I loved the trip (except for dodging tornados during my time in Oklahoma).

The local paper here in Fredericksburg, Virginia did a great story on the trip as a boyhood fantasy that came true after more than 50 years. My wife and I will continue our journey down Route 66 in June as we come your way into Illinois and travel the road south.

If my health holds up, my brother and I will finish the trip next spring covering the road from Clinton, Oklahoma to Santa Monica, California.

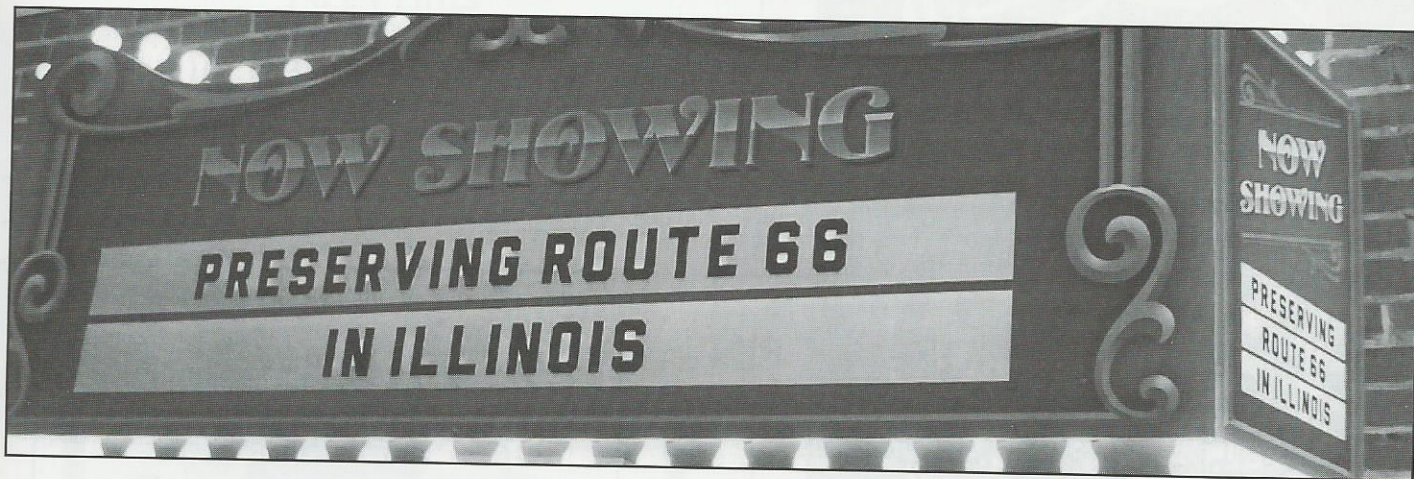


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Announcing Our New Preservation Display

By John Weiss

The Route 66 Hall of Fame and Museum in Pontiac has a new permanent exhibit, entitled, "Preservation: Before and After." This new display has been assembled to honor all the fantastic, dedicated people who, throughout the years, have given of their time, talents and funds to save pieces of history.



Route 66 in Illinois is one of the most significant tourist destinations in the state. Without the efforts of the Preservation volunteers, however, there wouldn't be much to see or experience along the Mother Road in Illinois. Because of the Preservation of iconic sites, numerous new attractions and places have risen, bringing increased visitors to small towns along the route. Millions of tourist dollars are spent in Illinois, many in small communities and mom-and-pop businesses along the road. Last year 30,000 people from around the world visited the Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum; and the visitor count grows yearly.

Now the first thing those visitors will experience as they enter our museum is the magic of Preservation. The exhibit includes a video with three different segments produced by Scott McCoy Productions and a flip rack with significant photos showing the involvement of a multitude of volunteers since 1996. An 8' x 8' mural by artist Tang Dongbai portrays in words and pictures the heart and soul of Preservation. There is so much to see and of which to be proud.

To all who ever helped with Preservation, this is for you. For all others, come see what your friends and club members have accomplished. Our motto has jokingly always been, "We Work For Food," but we also work to save the history of this great road and country of ours. Come see it for yourself!

It takes a lot of work by many to make such a spectacular exhibit come together. We offer our sincere thanks to:

- Emmy Bates and Damon Sholtey for their display restorations and help
- Cathy Goodman and Michelle Waldoch for their behind-the-scenes assistance
- Our Association for generously providing the new display cabinet, the flip boards, television and additional supplies
- The City of Pontiac, for the use of the space in which the Preservation display resides, the Dongbai mural, the entire video production, the custom-made marquee, poster cabinets, custom posters, the electric and lighting fixtures in addition to all the installation, provided by the city of Pontiac employees

Our hope is that this display will enhance the experience of all who visit our museum and Pontiac itself.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT!

We offer several outstanding Route 66 promotional items as premiums for your generous donation. These items not only show the world that you're a fan of the Mother Road but all proceeds go to support our ongoing preservation efforts.

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EZ66 Guide for Travelers

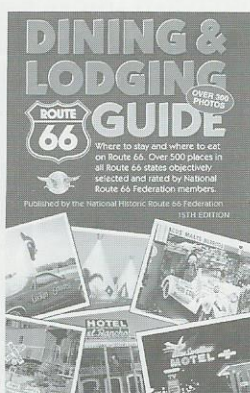
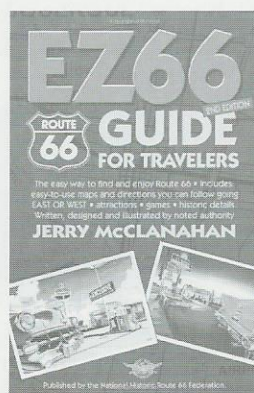
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The ultimate Route 66 guidebook, East to West or West to East includes attractions, games and historic details.

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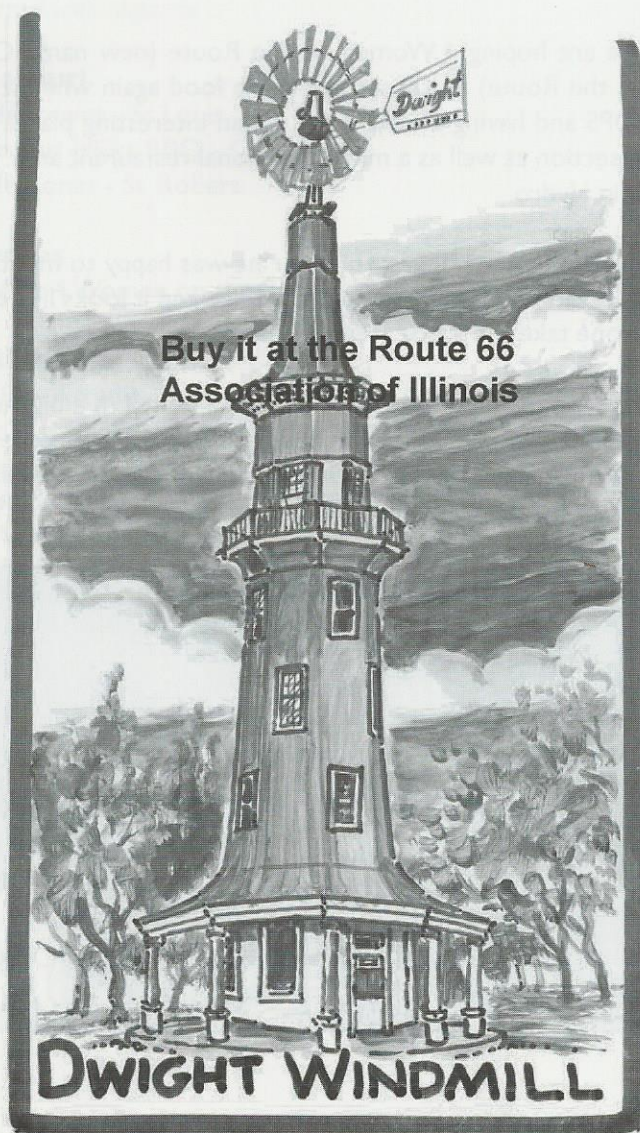


Bob Waldmire Collectible Items

Art Prints

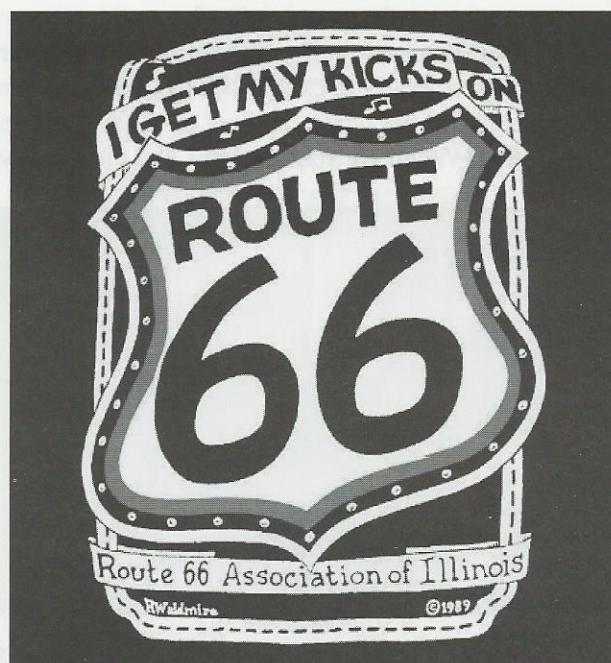
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Log Cabin Restaurant
18700 Old Route 66, Pontiac, IL

Funk's Grove (Open 3/1/13)
5257 Old Route 66, Shirley, IL

Pontiac Oakland Museum
205 N Mill St, Pontiac, IL

Steak 'n Egger
8408 Joliet Rd, McCook, IL

Sizes S-XL - \$15.00

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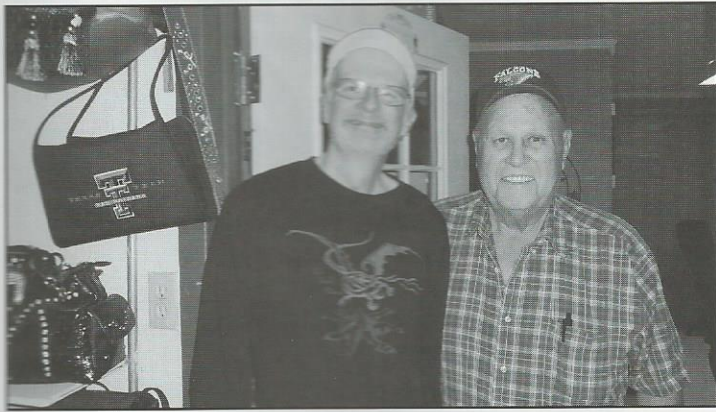
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Eating Our Way Across Route 66

By Marcia Gascho

As veterans of many long and short Route 66 trips, my husband Bruce and I have found a number of great places to eat along the way. We often find ourselves planning our itinerary and overnight stays based on where we want to eat lunch or dinner. We try to avoid the chain places and find local mom-and-pop or well-known spots. The major exception is breakfast. Many motels offer breakfasts and we take advantage of them. At the Best Western in Shamrock, Texas, we enjoyed Texas-shaped waffles! When we stay in places like the Blue Swallow in Tucumcari, we usually eat at local restaurants for breakfast.



On our most recent trip to Arizona, we stopped at many fine dining places. We are big fans of Korean food and have discovered Café Korea outside Ft Leonard Wood, Missouri. They have great food, a friendly staff and very reasonable prices. I requested extra squid in my Soon DuBu soup and it was delicious. We got an order of mandoo (dumplings) to go that we happily snacked on during the trip. The place is always crowded with civilians and military personnel from the Fort.

We are hoping 4 Women on the Route (new name Cars on the Route) in Kansas will serve food again when it re-opens. In Oklahoma, we always enjoy selecting some sodas at POPS and having a meal there. Its an interesting place! We tried out Lucilles this year in Weatherford. They have a cool diner section as well as a more traditional restaurant area. The front of the building recreates the look of Lucilles old gas station in Hydro.

Bruce loves the beef BBQ sandwich and beer muffins at Big Verns in Shamrock, Texas. This year he was happy to meet Big Vern in person! It is always fun to enjoy the atmosphere at the Big Texan in Amarillo. The place is huge and it looks like they are constantly adding to it. Unfortunately, we have never seen anyone take the 72 oz steak challenge.

In Tucumcari, New Mexico, Kevin and Nancy at the Blue Swallow recommended the Pow Wow restaurant. I m a big fan of tamales and ate some great ones there. The walls of the booths have startlingly realistic paintings that look like people are sitting there. In the Lizard Lounge bar area, there are paintings of the staff on the walls. One evening at the Blue Swallow, Kevin and Nancy provided the fixings for s'mores. We used their new grill to roast the marshmallows.

It is fortunate that La Posada in Winslow, Arizona, was saved from the wrecking ball. If you want elegant dining in a beautiful historic location, the Turquoise Room there can't be beat. It's expensive but worth it. We've stopped at the Snow Cap in Seligman many times. We got to meet the late Juan Delgadillo and were the victims of his many practical jokes: small Coke, trick mustard bottle, used straws and napkins, etc. Just walking inside to order a meal like Dead Chicken is an experience. The walls and ceiling are covered with business cards from all over the world. When trying to leave, you are confronted with a door with two door knobs. Many bus tours stop by there.



In Illinois, no Route 66 trip is complete without a stop at the Cozy Dog Drive In and/or the Polka Dot. Both places have a great vintage feel to them. This year we finally had a chance to eat at the famous Ariston restaurant before heading home.

We love our annual trips on the Mother Road. Its great to see old and new places and to anticipate the wonderful food along the way.

The following are some of our favorite places we've discovered over the years. We like to visit them again and again on our trips.

Illinois

Polka-Dot - Braidwood
Cozy Dog Drive In - Springfield
Ariston - Litchfield
Log Cabin - Pontiac
Palms Grill - Atlanta

Missouri

Ted Drewes - St Louis
Missouri Hicks BBQ - Cuba
Café Korea - St. Robert

Kansas

Grill at 4 Women on the Route - Galena

Oklahoma

POPS - Arcadia
Lucilles - Weatherford

Texas


Big Verns - Shamrock
Big Texan - Amarillo
Midpoint Café - Adrian

New Mexico

Pow Wow - Tucumcari
Kix on 66 - Tucumcari
Route 66 Diner - Albuquerque
El Rancho Hotel - Gallup

Arizona

Turquoise Room La Posada - Winslow
Snow Cap - Seligman




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Subject: Cookbook Recipe

or mail to:
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110 W. Howard St
Pontiac, IL 61764

YUM!

Route 66 Association of Illinois Business Member Directory

These businesses and organizations have joined our Association. Their membership demonstrates their dedication to Route 66. Please demonstrate your appreciation to them by patronizing their businesses whenever you can.

VFN Fiberglass	330 W. Factory Road	Addison	IL	60101	630-543-0232
Atlanta Public Library	100 SE Race St.	Atlanta	IL	61723	217-648-2112
Berwyn Development Corp.	3322 S. Oak Park Ave., 2nd Floor	Berwyn	IL	60402-3407	708-788-8100
Berwyn Route 66 Museum	7003 Ogden	Berwyn	IL	60402	708-484-9349
Bloomington - Normal Convention Bureau	3201 Cira Dr., Suite 201	Bloomington	IL	61704	309-665-0033
Bloomington Public Library	205 E. Olive St., P.O. Box 3308	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-828-6091
Brown's Wrecker Service	302 Brown St.	Bloomington	IL	61704	309-828-3753
Casey's Garden Shop	1505 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309828-7529
Casey's Garden Shop, Inc.	1505 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-828-1424
Chuck's Harley-Davidson, Inc.	2027 Ireland Grove Road	Bloomington	IL	61704-7103	309-662-1648
Clay Dooley Tire & Auto	307 E. Grove St.	Bloomington	IL	61701-5231	309-828-5037
Grosso's Garage, Inc.	1301 S. Morris Ave.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-828-3615
McLean County Museum of History	200 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701-3912	309-827-0428
Quinn's Shell Station	802 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-827-9188
State Farm Insurance	2702 Ireland Grove Road	Bloomington	IL	61709	309-622-6588
Village of Bolingbrook	375 W. Briarcliff Road	Bolingbrook	IL	60440	630-226-8412
Village of Godley	150 S. Kankakee St., P.O. Box 89	Braceville	IL	60407	815-458-2222
City of Braidwood	141 W. Main St.	Braidwood	IL	60408	815-458-2333
Karens Resale & Consignment	195 N. Front	Braidwood	IL	60408	815-390-5258
Polk-A-Dot Drive In	222 N. Front St.	Braidwood	IL	60408	815-458-3377
Carlin Villa Motel	18891 Route 4 South	Carlinville	IL	62626	217-854-3201
Magnuson Grand Hotel & Conference Center	I - 55 & IL Route 108., P.O. Box 377	Carlinville	IL	62626	217-324-2100
Chenoa Pharmacy	209 Green St.	Chenoa	IL	61726	309-747-3002
City of Chenoa	P.O. Box 167	Chenoa	IL	61726	815-945-7619
Berghoff Restaurant	17 West Adams St.	Chicago	IL	60603	312-427-3170
Chicago Historic Route 66 Classic Car Show	1909 S. Avers Ave.	Chicago	IL	60623	773-592-4718
Lou Mitchell's Restaurant	565 W. Jackson Blvd.	Chicago	IL	60661	312-939-3111
First National Bank of Dwight	122 W. Main St., P.O. Box 10	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-1212
Old Route 66 Family Restaurant	105 S. Old Route 66	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-2920
Station 343	140 E. Maine St.	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-9343
Village of Dwight	209 S. Prairie Ave.	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-3077
Cassens Transport Co.	145 N. Kansas St.	Edwardsville	IL	62025	618-656-3006
City of Edwardsville	118 Hillsboro Ave	Edwardsville	IL	62025-0407	618-692-7531
Comfort Inn	3080 S. SR 157	Edwardsville	IL	62025	618-656-4900
Edwardsville Preservation Comm.	118 Hillsboro Ave.	Edwardsville	IL	62025	618-307-5110
Springer's Creek Winery	817 Hillsboro Ave	Elwood	IL	60421	815-727-7070
Mr. B's Bar & Grill on Rt. 66	23956 State Rt. 53	Elwood	IL	60421	815-423-6700
Silver Dollar Restaurant	422 Mississippi Ave.	Elwood	IL	60421	815-423-5011
Village of Elwood	401 E. Mississippi Ave, P.O. Box 435	Gardner	IL	60424	815-237-8335
Big Fella's Eatery, Inc.	116 Depot St., P.O. Box 385	Gardner	IL	60424	815-510-7132
Nu2U Thrift Store & Rt. 66 Flea Mkt. & Auction	102 S. Rt. 53 West., P.O. Box 211	Gardner	IL	60424	
Village Of Gardner	302 N. Center St., P.O. Box 545	Girard	IL	62640	217-627-3491
Doc's Soda Fountain	133 S. Second St.	Granite City	IL	62240	618-797-7900
Historic Route 66 Flea Market	3117 W. Chain of Rocks Road	Hamel	IL	62046	
Route 66 Auto Body	P.O. Box 385	Hamel	IL	62046	618-633-2484
Village of Hamel	111 S. Old Route 66., P.O. Box 345	Hamel	IL	62046	618-633-2228
Weezy's Route 66	108 S. Old Rt. 66., P.O. Box 128	Joliet	IL	60432	815-724-9045
City of Joliet Tourism	150 W. Jefferson St.	Joliet	IL	60433	815-651-6556
Jim Hannah - Heating & Air Conditioning	208 Elm St.	Joliet	IL	60432-4007	815-723-5201
Joliet Area Historical Museum	204 N. Ottawa St.	Joliet	IL	60432	815-723-3865
Joliet Route 66 Diner	22 W. Clinton St.	La Grange	IL	60525	708-246-1543
Rialto Theater	15 E. Van Buren St.	Lincoln	IL	62656	217-732-8687
Original Route 66 Accessories	1904 - 60th St.	Lincoln	IL	62656	217-732-6729
Abraham Lincoln Tourism	1555 - 5th St.	Lincoln	IL	62656	217-732-3121
Hampton Inn of Lincoln	1019 N. Heitmann Drive	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-2023
Lincoln Printers, Inc.	711 Broadway St.	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-8147
Ariston Cafe	413 N. Old Route 66., P.O. Box 453	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-4441
City of Litchfield	120 East Ryder	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-5314
Hampton Inn of Litchfield	11 Thunderbird Circle	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-6565
Jubelt's Bakery & Restaurant	303 N. Old Route 66	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-4446
Niehau Cycle Sales, Inc.	718 North Old Route 66	Livingston	IL	62058	618-637-2366
Wooden Nickel Winery & Saloon	3225 Honey Bend Ave.	Lockport	IL	60441	815-838-7084
Pink Elephant Antique Mall Corp.	908 Veterans Memorial Drive	McCook	IL	60525	708-853-9240
Stowe Auto Body	16501 Broadway				
Snack N' Egger	8408 Joliet Rd				

Luna Café	201 E. Chain of Rocks Road	Mitchell	IL	62040	618-931-3152
City of Mt. Olive	200 E. Main St.	Mt. Olive	IL	62069	217-999-4261
Crossroads Route 66 Diner	995 Lakeview	Mt. Olive	IL	62069	217-999-8491
Bob Green Auto Service	1847 New Salam Church Road	New Berlin	IL	62670	217-546-5846
Pour Richards Tap & Dining	210 Tremont	Odell	IL	60460	815-998-2556
Standard Station of Odell	314 E. George St., P.O. Box 175	Odell	IL	60460	
Bernardi's II, Inc.	123 N. Mill St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-842-1198
Café Fontana	1024 W. Reynolds St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-419-2011
City of Pontiac	115 W. Howard	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-844-5847
Livingston County Historical Society	115 W. Howard St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-842-2744
Lydia's Loft	107 1/2 W. Madison St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	309-824-2490
McSherry Agency	209 W. Madison St.	Pontiac	IL	61764-0738	815-844-3183
Old Log Cabin Inn	18700 N. Aurora St	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-842-2908
Pontiac Area Chamber of Commerce	210 N. Plum St., P.O. Box 534	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-844-5131
Pontiac Family Kitchen	904 Custer Ave.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-844-3155
Three Roses Bed & Breakfast	209 E. Howard	Pontiac	IL	61764-1919	815-844-3404
White Fence Farm	1376 Joliet Road	Romeoville	IL	60446	630-739-1720
WRLR 98.3	P.O. Box 98	Round Lake IL	IL	60073	847-546-9757
Double H Bar	121 N. 1st St.	Sherman	IL	62634	217-496-3811
Funk's Grove Pure Maple Sirup	5257 Old Route 66	Shirley	IL	61772	307-874-3220
Amoco Fence Co.	2919 S. MacArthur Blvd.	Springfield	IL	62704	217-787-2921
Branham's Paint & Body	4125 N. Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-528-9654
Burris & Son Trucking	2831 S. Whittier Ave.	Springfield	IL	62704	217-528-7741
C & A Custom Kitchens	3500 E. Clear Lake Ave.	Springfield	IL	62702	217-523-0170
Cozy Dog Drive In	2935 S. Sixth St.	Springfield	IL	62703	217-525-1992
Crowne Plaza	3000 S. Dirksen Parkway	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-7777
Curve Inn	3219 S. Sixth St.	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-5806
Curve Inn, Inc.	3219 S. 6th St. Road	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-5806
Holiday Inn Express	3050 S. Dirksen Parkway	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-7771
Illini Bank	2120 Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-544-0139
Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway	700 E. Adams St.	Springfield	IL	62701	217-525-9308
Illinois State Library/ Serials Section	300 S. 2nd St.	Springfield	IL	62701	217-785-4127
Lindsey Electric, Inc.	3260 Terminal Ave.	Springfield	IL	62707	217-544-6789
Maverick Steak House	1023 W. Dorlan Ave., Suite C	Springfield	IL	62702-2346	217-732-7169
Mid Illinois Caliper	2803 N. Dirksen	Springfield	IL	62702	
Midwest Truckers Association	2727 N. Dirksen Pkwy	Springfield	IL	62702	217-525-0310
Moscardelli Moving & Storage	709 N. Lincoln	Springfield	IL	62702	217-787-4043
Oldhan Graphic Supply	2056 Republic	Springfield	IL	62702	217-528-4649
Route 66 Hotel & Conference Center	625 E. Saint Joseph St.	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-6626
Shea's Finest Truck Covers	2075 Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-522-0475
Springfield Overhead Doors, Inc.	421 N. Lincoln	Springfield	IL	62702	217-787-2602
IL State Police Heritage Foundation	4000 N. Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702-1033	217-525-922
Vic's Pizza & Pub	2025 Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-522-2464
City of Staunton	304 W. Main St.	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-2233
Country Classic Cars L.L.C.	2149 E. Frontage Road	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-7056
Decamp Junction	8767 State Route 4 South	Staunton	IL	62088	618-637-2951
Henry's Ra66it Ranch	1107 Historic Old Route 66	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-5655
Henry's Ra66it Ranch	1107 Historic Old Route 66	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-5655
Route 66 Window Tinting, LLC	1315 Historic Old Rt. 66	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-8468
Patterson Bros. Oil & Gas, Inc.	P.O. Box 139	Williamsville	IL	62693	217-566-3328
Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket	645 Joliet Road	Willowbrook	IL	60521	630-325-0780
Angelo's Ben Franklin	706 W. Baltimore St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-9091
City of Wilmington	1165 S. Water St	Wilmington	IL	60481	
Hog Nuts Motorcyle Repair & Supply	205 N. First St	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-7600
Launching Pad Drive In	810 E. Baltimore St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-6535
Milltown Market	508 N. Kankakee St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-0386
Wilmington Chamber of Commerce	111 S. Water St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-5991
Schlechte	7716 State Route 4	Worden	IL	62097-2047	618-633-2426
Greg's Motor Sales	1021 W. Mishawaka	Mishawaka	IN	46545	574-255-0771
Marcia Scrapbooking	9005 Deer Run	Indianapolis	IN	46256	317-842-1164
Boots Motel	107 S. Garrison Ave	Carthage	MO	64836	417-310-2989
Carlville Associates	331 W. Thornton Ave	St. Louis	MO	63119	314-862-5557
GayParita	21118 Old 66	Ash Grove	MO	65604	417-234-4943
Route 66 Root Beer & Soda	P.O. Box 766	Lebanon	MO	65536-0766	417-588-4466
Signlink	3160 W. Kearney	Springfield	MO	65803	800-788-1778
Blue Swallow Motel	815 E. Route 66 Blvd.	Tucumcari	NM	77401	575-461-9849
Afton Station & Route 66 Packards	12 SE 1st St.	Afton	OK	74331	918-257-4044
Claremore Convention & Visitors Bureau	400 Veterans Pkwy	Claremore	OK	74017	918-341-8688
Gionanni Tours	626 Westchester Lane	Newbury Park	CA	91320	805-375-1324
National Route 66 Federation	P.O. Box 1848	Lake Arrowhead	CA	92352-1848	909-336-6131

Join our Association as a business member to be listed among these fine businesses and organizations.

From The 66 News Archives

This publication has existed as long as our Association, since 1989. In that time, **The 66 News** has evolved hand-in-hand with our Association. As time, technology and we ourselves move forward, we certainly want to remember the history - not only of Route 66 - but of this newsletter and the important stories it has told throughout the years. That's why we proudly present, From **The 66 News** Archives, a feature which pays homage to the history of **The 66 News**.

Here's a "blast from the past!" It's Page 14 of the Spring, 1999 issue of **The 66 News**! I chose it especially because of John Weiss' piece on cleanup day at the Odell Standard Oil Station from Page 8 of this issue. Volunteers have been dedicated to saving this historic station for a long, long time. Even our preservation has history! Who knew back then all the success this preservation project would yield? It - and we - have come a long way!

Fun Day On Route 66 – S.O.S. (Save Odell Station)

Saturday, May 15, 1999 • Odell, Illinois

by John Weiss, Chairman of the Preservation Committee

Here is your chance to cruise Route 66, the Mother Road, have loads of fun, help save the historic Standard Gasoline Station in Odell, possibly bring home an armload of goodies, and truly get your kicks on Route 66.

The town of Odell is trying desperately to save and restore their famous old Standard Gasoline Station. It is so original that it is listed on the National Register Of Historic Places. This is one of the most photographed structures on Route 66 here in Illinois.

We, the Preservation Committee of the Route 66 Association Of Illinois, have taken on the challenge to help raise some funds to turn this dream into a reality.

How can you help? That is easy! Come to Odell on May 15th, then cruise to selected locations along Route 66, draw a card at each place and see if you end up with one of the best poker hands. That's all there is to it.

Federal regulations for 1999 have caused most small Mom & Pop style gasoline stations to close forever. We intend to help restore this classic station so future generations can see and appreciate what gasoline service stations once were like. It will be restored to resemble how it appeared in 1939. This will attract tourism into town and that will also be very beneficial to Odell.

At this writing in late January, plans are still being formulated for this fun day, but much is already known.

Some awards will be in the form of rare Route 66 collectibles. Food and raffle tickets will also be provided



free with each poker hand you purchase. More food, raffles and souvenirs will also be available for sale. Additional drawings and awards will be given away. We know you WILL HAVE FUN!

All proceeds will go directly to the Odell Tourism and Community Development Board, a not for profit group formed in Odell exclusively to restore the old Standard Gasoline Station.

The hours for this fun filled day are tentatively scheduled for 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

We need you and anyone else you can get. This is a win-win situation. We will all have fun and accomplish something very worthwhile. So talk it up, encourage others to have a group outing and a great time!

Donations of all kinds are eagerly solicited. Items that can be used as awards will be greatly appreciated and noted. Cash donations are also encouraged.

If you enjoy Route 66 in Illinois, if you want to help create history, if you are at all nostalgic, please join in and help us.

You can call to receive fliers and entry forms for you and your group. Everyone is welcome. All kinds of vehicles are encouraged from roller blades to semis. You can participate even if you don't have wheels.

Call John or Lenore Weiss at 815-469-5219, or Dorothy Seratt at 815-998-2300. We look forward to hearing from you! WE NEED YOU, RAIN OR SHINE! (No rain date)

Original Riviera Sign Installed at Streetcar Diner

The original street sign from the Riviera Restaurant, designed and painted by preservation member Ted Giovanazzi, was saved and has been installed next to the dedication plaque at the Streetcar Diner in Gardner. The sight of it sure brings back pleasant memories!



Photo Credits:

All photos used in this publication are the property of the Route 66 Association of Illinois except for the following, provided by these generous contributors:

Josh Friedrich - Sprague Super Station exterior, pg 9; Charlie & Lizzy, pg 10-11; Fawn's Standard Station, pg 15, blue Route 66 sky, Friedrich Family w/ Gemini Giant, Friedrich Family at Joliet Area Historical Museum & Route 66 Center & Pontiac neon sign, back cover

Marcia Gascho - Cafe Korea, Ft Leonard Wood, MO, pg 2; Big Vern's, Shamrock, TX, pg 20-21

Rich Henry - Phoenix & Little Red, pg 13

Cheryl Eichar Jett - Edwardsville Kiosk, pg 12; Cathcart's Cafe, pg 14

Bill Thomas - Palms Grill Cafe, pg 14

John Weiss - Sprague workday & new concrete at Odell, pg 2; Kent Heiland at Odell gas pump, pg 8; Sprague workday, pg 9; Preservation marquee, pg 17; workday at Odell Standard Oil Station, Preservation Display sign, back cover; Riviera sign, pg 25

Bob Welborn - Corvette at Rt 66 Museum, Clinton, OK, pg 10

OUR MIX INCLUDES ROUTE 66!

The Mother Road lives on in Litchfield, where visitors still enjoy our original Route 66 era restaurants and drive-in theatre. With 250+ modern hotel rooms, Litchfield is an ideal overnight choice for Route 66 travelers.



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This and That

Answers to the previous Question of the Quarter:

Eugene Pincsak submitted both of our Questions of the Quarter and Josh Friedrich answered them both correctly!

Q: Where was this photo taken?

A: At the Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center in Springfield, IL.

Q: Where along Route 66 was the billboard featuring the Coppertone girl wearing nothing but a smile located?

A: Near Edwardsville, IL



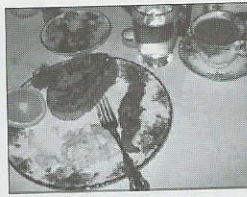
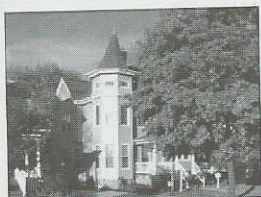
Congratulations, Josh! We don't have a prize for you (other than our awe at being a walking Route 66 trivia encyclopedia)! But John Weiss has one for you...

Horseshoe Challenge Awarded!

John Weiss, in accordance with the Horseshoe Challenge he issued last spring, has awarded the prize: a bathroom scale.

Josh Friedrich won the challenge by visiting the most restaurants and eating the most Horseshoe sandwiches.

Dedication like this must never go un-rewarded!



Why stay at Three Roses in Pontiac, IL?

- ◆ Just 100 miles south of Chicago—great location for 1st night stop
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"Where breakfast is an event!"

From one of our guests:

"Our golf game was rained out but we certainly were not at a loss for activities. We spent a goodly amount of time at the Route 66 Museum. As the skies cleared, we took a long walk around the square, town park, library and courthouse. Our room was well equipped and quiet. Our skillet breakfast was stick-to-the ribs—all-day delicious. We highly recommend Three Roses to anyone staying a night or more in Pontiac."



The Route 66 Association of Illinois

Our Association is governed by an elected group of officers and board members who are responsible for administering our mission and representing the numerous communities through which Route 66 passes in Illinois. They serve to facilitate your involvement with our Association.

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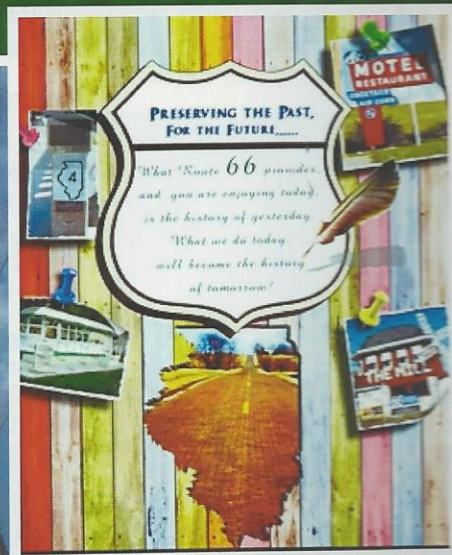
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(see contact information above)

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Gina Blitstein
Website Administrator
www.il66assoc.org
The 66 News Editor
(708) 374-8439
gina@writetidy.com

MORE PHOTOS FROM THIS ISSUE



DON'T MISS AN ISSUE OF THE 66 NEWS!
 UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS TO:
 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN, MARTY BLITSTEIN
 9280 DRUMMOND
 TINLEY PARK, IL 60487
 (708) 444-1312
 BLITZ66@EARTHLINK.NET

THE 66 NEWS

Where Has the Mother Road Taken You?



OUR MISSION:
TO PRESERVE, EDUCATE, PROMOTE
AND ENJOY ROUTE 66 IN ILLINOIS!

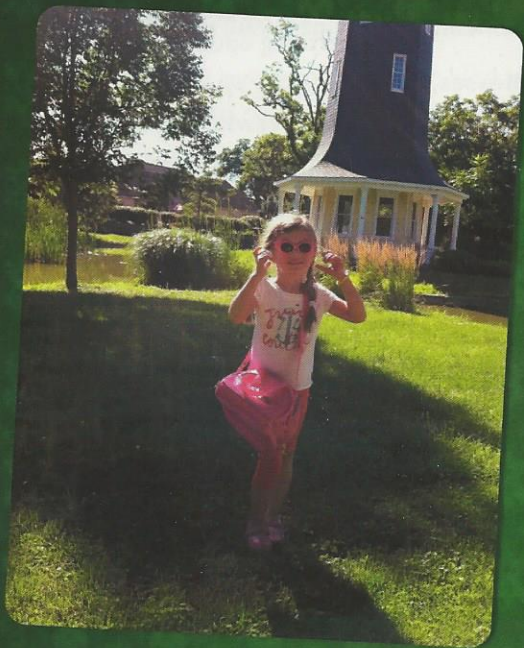


Illinois - Where the Road Begins!

Enjoy this issue of **The 66 News** which includes stories and photos generously contributed by roadies who've been busy traveling along the Mother Road! They've enjoyed our annual Motor Tour, the International Route 66 Festival in Joplin, Missouri and their own do-it-yourself adventures along 66.

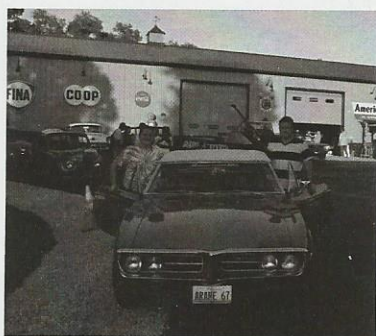
In addition to travelogues, we're serving up Association and Route 66 news, historical pieces and upcoming events, representing the past, present and future of the Mother Road.

As autumn approaches, we hope you'll still have a chance to get some colorful and memorable Route 66 kicks of your own. As always, let us know about your travels. We're excited about learning the answer to the burning question, "Where has the Mother Road taken you?"



The 66 News

This publication is distributed to members of the Route 66 Association of Illinois as a membership premium. Its mission is to inform our membership about our Association and its activities, as well as to demonstrate our passion for preservation and to celebrate the Mother Road.



Submit Content to *The 66 News*

We here at the Route 66 Association of Illinois welcome your stories from the road, Route 66 news and events. Here's how to submit your content to us for publication in this, our Quarterly Newsletter, or on our website:

Route 66 Association of Illinois
Attention: Newsletter Editor, Gina Blitstein
P.O. Box 1940
Matteson, IL 60443
gina@writeytidy.com
(708) 374-8439

Deadline for submissions to the Winter 2013 Issue: November 15, 2013

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Advertise in *The 66 News*

Attention, Route 66 Businesses, Attractions and Communities!

This newsletter, *The 66 News*, is mailed quarterly to each and every member of our Association. Can you think of a more targeted group with whom to advertise your business or community?

Our Treasurer, Marty Blitstein, will be happy to help you purchase your advertisement.

708-444-1312
blitz66@earthlink.net
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Tinley Park, IL 60487

We offer several affordable advertising options in our Newsletter.

Single Issue Pricing for Advertising in *The 66 News*:

Whole Page - \$125.00

Half Page - \$75.00

Business Card - \$25.00

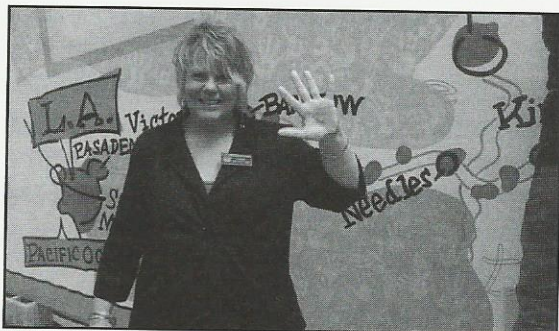
Special Offer - for 1 year of Whole Page or Half Page ads (all 4 issues)

Buy 3 ads, get the 4th FREE

All ads need not contain the same content.

Ads are in black and white only.

A Message from Association President, Cathie Stevanovich



As members of the Route 66 Association of Illinois, we are more than just members whose motto is to promote, preserve, protect, educate and enjoy Route 66. We are caretakers of the approximately 400 miles of the Mother Road that is in Illinois. We are the voice of those miles and need to remember that any change or intended change on our miles impacts more than just the road. It will affect all those - present and future - who will come to see our Illinois Route 66 miles to experience the real Route 66 and the people and places along the way that give the Mother Road its unique character. The Mother Road was built to connect the heartland (Midwest) to the west coast. The roadsides were prime for businesses

and services to serve those who travelled the road. It continues today along our "66" miles.

One of the projects that will affect Route 66 is the proposed Illiana Toll Road. This road will connect I-65 in Indiana with I-55 near Wilmington. The "impact" zone will include IL Route 53/IL 66 between Joliet and Wilmington. We are attending as many meetings as we can to try to express our concerns to limit impact on our Mother Road. As of now the toll road will go over Route 66/IL53 with exits proposed one mile east and one mile west of the road to limit traffic and congestion. We will be posting information on all public meetings as it becomes available.

The high speed rail construction is continuing in Illinois. No new public hearings have been arranged as yet for this fall.

Closer to home are the events of fall: The Bassett Waddle in Dwight September 22, the Mother Road Festival in Springfield September 27-29, followed by the Ropp Road Round-Up on the Ropp Farm in Normal October 5 and 6. The 7th Annual Cruise-In at the Mill in Lincoln is October 12th! While you are out enjoying the fall scenery on Route 66, stop by our annual elections on Sunday, October 21 at 1:00 PM at the Pontiac City Hall Annex (115 W. Howard, Pontiac - right across the street from the Hall of Fame and Museum). Join us after the meeting for a fun, free, Trolley Tour to see the sights of Pontiac at 2:45 PM!

We are progressing nicely in our fundraising for a cover for Bob Waldmire's bus. It's taken a beating this year in the sun and rain and we hope to have the bus under an aesthetically pleasing roof by spring.

The Vic Suhling Sign and DeCamp Junction both received funds from the National Parks Program. Our joint effort with Missouri on the Vic Suhling sign will be bringing back to glory the sign that once gleamed like a beacon on Route 66 in Litchfield. DeCamp Junction applied for funds for a new roof and hopefully we'll be able to help them with their upcoming roof projects as well as additional Preservation or fundraising efforts.

This year the Hall of Fame nominations will be accepted from October 1st thru December 31st. Our Editor, Gina, has an informative and hopefully inspiring article in this newsletter about the Hall of Fame and the nomination process.

I would like to thank everyone for their kind words and cards I received after my father's death in July. I really appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts and thank you for keeping me in your prayers.

Looking forward to the relighting of the Vic Suhling sign in Litchfield, and all the wonderful fall events along the road this year. I look forward to crisp autumn winds, leaves of every color, and of course, great coffee "and" at the Mom and Pop places along the road. Get out and savor the remaining days of our fall season. I wish you sunny skies, the comfort of friends and family, and reasonable gas prices!

See you on the road!

Cathie Stevanovich

Fall Quarterly Meeting Sunday, October 20, 2013

Board Meeting - 10:00 AM / Lunch -12:00 PM (on your own) / General Meeting - 1:00 PM

115 West Howard St (City Hall Annex) Pontiac, IL

This meeting will include our annual Association election.

Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum

Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum

110 W Howard St
Pontiac, IL 61764
815-844-4566

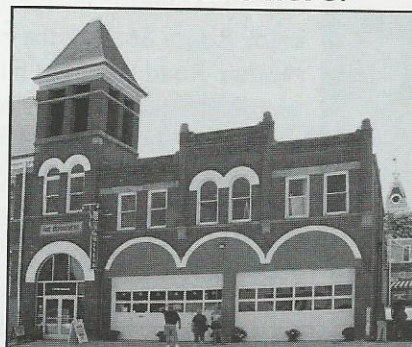
Open 7 days a week!

December - March
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Daily

April- November
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM (Weekdays)
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Weekends)

Admission is FREE!

Begin your Route 66 adventure here!



The Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum features thousands of artifacts and a delightful assortment of unique memorabilia, all related to Route 66 - The "Mother Road."

We invite all of our Association members to volunteer at the museum, sharing your knowledge and enthusiasm with our visitors.

Our Museum boasts:

- Friendly and knowledgeable guides
- Route 66 memorabilia from Hall of Fame members
- Route 66 Artist and Icon, Bob Waldmire's bus and van
- Travel resources to enhance your Route 66 journey
- Photo op! Largest Route 66 mural on our back wall
- Preservation Display recognizing the dedicated efforts of Route 66 volunteers

(An elevator is available for the convenience of our visitors.)

Welcome New Members!

Association President Cathie Stevanovich, Membership Chairman, Marty Blitstein, and the entire Route 66 Association would like to extend a sincere welcome to our new members who have joined us between May 27, 2013 and August 17, 2013

We hope your experience as a member of our Association brings you great satisfaction and a deeper appreciation of Route 66!

- Kathryn & David kibitlewski
- Howard Doering, Jr.
- Just Off 66 / Samuel L. Reichert
- Heath Holland
- Meg Whistler
- Mary E. & Ron E. Wajer
- Joan Bullard Realty / Joan Bullard
- Marcia Opal
- Lawrence Mulcahy
- Ray Galles
- Steven Moctezuma

- Mike Draughan
- Helen & Thomas West
- Route 66 Music Shop / Mary & Dave Hogan
- Ralph Meyer Family
- Kari & Allan Huff
- Jeff Fitzgerald
- Rt. 66 Food N Fuel / Len McEnery
- V.F.W Post 5422 Wilmington, IL / Ronald D. Erickson
- Jennifer & Scott McCoy
- John Hagstrom
- John S. Patterson

Do you want to join or renew your annual Association membership?

You can now pay your dues online!

www.il66assoc.org

2013 Hall of Fame Nominations

New Period for Nomination Submission!

Please note that a new period for Hall of Fame nomination submissions has been implemented. The new Hall of Fame nomination period is between **October 1 and December 31, 2013.**

What follows is the official Hall of Fame nomination information compiled by At-Large Board Member, Kathy Miller, which succinctly and accurately details what is needed for nomination to The Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame:

The Route 66 Association of Illinois Annual Hall of Fame Nominations

The Route 66 Association of Illinois will begin seeking nominations for the 2014 Hall of Fame. Nominations will be accepted from **October 1 until December 31, 2013.**

The purpose of the Hall of Fame is to honor and commemorate those people, businesses, attractions, and events that helped give Route 66 such special character and historical status in Illinois.



Nominations must include accurate documentation or declaration of the Nominee's qualities, deeds, and history on Route 66 that merit this honor. To qualify for election to the Hall of Fame, Nominees must have made significant contributions to the character or history of the Illinois portion of Route 66.

The Hall of Fame is located in Pontiac, Illinois, at the Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum. The Hall of Fame and Museum is one of the most visited attractions on all of Route 66 in Illinois with visitors from all over the state as well as all over the world.

The committee invites anyone to submit a nomination. It must include a strong fact-based essay. It must include details about the nominee's contributions to the character or history of the Illinois portion of Route 66. We encourage that photos, news clips, and other memorabilia accompany the essay but they are not required. A panel of historians and Hall of Fame members will judge all nominations.

Please submit nominations and all accompanying material to the
Route 66 Association of Illinois
ATTN: Hall of Fame Committee
110 West Howard Street
Pontiac, IL 61674

Great News for a Couple Well-Deserving Illinois Attractions

We are excited to report that two Illinois Route 66 Preservation products are among the six winners of 2013 Route 66 Corridor Preservation cost-share grants.

Vic Suhling neon sign, Litchfield, Illinois — Grant money will be used to help restore the sign to working condition.

DeCamp Junction, Staunton, Illinois — Grant funds will be used to help replace this establishment's room and tin ceiling.

Route 66 Association of Illinois Online!

Thanks to all there is to see and do along the Road, we can't fit it all into a quarterly publication.

We strive to keep you informed about Route 66 events as they happen.
Submit your Route 66 news to:

<http://il66assoc.org/content/submit-your-news/>

Also, look for these regular features on our website, providing a travel and educational Route 66 resource:

- **Towns** - a list of all the Illinois communities through which Route 66 passes
- **Map** - a Google map which pinpoints the locations of Illinois Route 66 attractions
- **Web Links** - an ever-expanding list of websites offering useful and enjoyable information about Route 66
- **Business Members** - a guide to our Association's supporting business members whom we hope you'll patronize as you travel the Mother Road

KEEP UP
WITH US ON
THE WEB

www.il66assoc.org

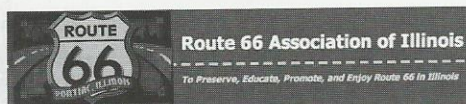


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Sign up to receive our
Association e-Newsletter,
The Day Tripper!

Route 66 news and events
delivered to your inbox!

Sign up at
<http://eepurl.com/dlzp>



DayTripper
Motor Tour 2013 Edition

MOTOR TOUR 2013: BACK TO OUR "ROUTES"

OUR ANNUAL MOTOR TOUR IS A GRAND OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL THE MOTHER ROAD, VISIT SOME OF HER ATTRACTIONS AND MEET OTHER FINE FOLKS WHO ARE LIKEWISE INCLINED TO SEEK OUT AMERICANA, NOSTALGIA AND FUN ALONG '66. WE CORDIALLY INVITE EVERYONE TO JOIN US AS WE "MOTOR TOUR" ALONG ROUTE 66 IN ILLINOIS.



WWW.TWITTER.COM/ILRT66



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IL66ASSOC

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT THE STORIES WE'VE
INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE OF THE 66 NEWS ON
OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.IL66ASSOC.ORG/THE66NEWS

Preservation Report

Our Preservation Chairman, John Weiss, reports the goings-on along Route 66 in Illinois:

Trees Planted, Memories Preserved

On May 1st there was a, "Get your Kicks on Route 66," car show in downtown Pontiac, IL. This event generated over \$800.00 for local cancer programs. Also during this time, two trees, complete with plaques, were dedicated in the historic town square to the memories of Betty Estes and Lenore Weiss.



left photo dedication of tree for Lenore Weiss; right photo dedication of tree for Betty Estes

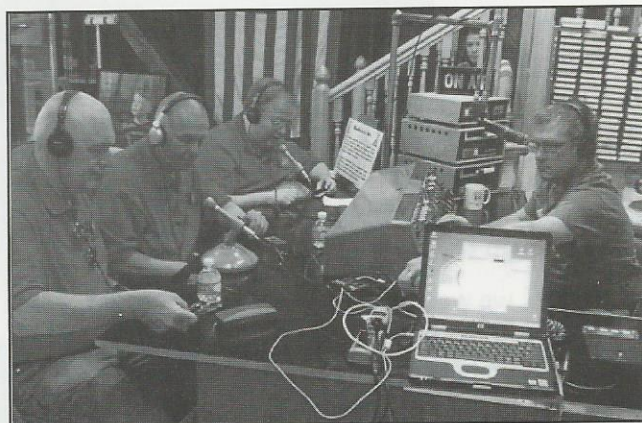
Long live 66 and those who continue her preservation and protection.
-- Bob Waldmire

"WRT66" On the Air!

The antique radio station on the second floor of the museum was recently activated. This marks the first time that it was actually used to broadcast a live radio show. The award winning WRLR 98.3 radio station from Round Lake Heights, Illinois joined up with a UK "Fabulous 50s" station, Forest FM 92.3, who were touring and broadcasting live along Route 66 in Illinois.

This opportunity provided the motivation to activate the 1960s radio equipment. The live broadcast could be heard on local WRLR and on BBC radio in Britain. During the live broadcast several local and Route 66 personalities were interviewed by the guest hosts and Paul Lepek of WRLR. The UK guest personalities, Paul Peters & Geoff Kemp said this was the highlight of their tour.

The radio equipment is on loan from local radio personality Lane Lindstrom. Lane provided the expertise required to make this momentous opportunity possible as well as being the station host.



Getting Our “Kicks” on Route 66

A Route 66 Trip Spanning 13 Years

By Mark Swerdlik and Bruce Goldberg

The following is excerpted from an article submitted by intrepid travelers Mark and Bruce. Read their submission in its entirety on our website.

Born and raised on the north side of Chicago we are two friends from the same neighborhood who share many childhood memories. After graduation from high school, we were college roommates. Of the many adventures we shared across the decades, college road trips, affectionately referred to as “Born Frees”, were particularly memorable. As older adults (born in 1949 and 1950) we wanted to take another memorable “Born Free” and decided to become “Route 66 Roadies”. The “Mother Road” certainly did not disappoint. We wanted to share our adventure with newsletter readers.

We hit the road guided by Tom Snyder’s “Route 66 Traveler’s Guide and Companion.” It took 13 years to complete our 2500-mile Route 66 adventure. We first set out on our “Mother Road” adventure in the second week of July, 2000 when we traveled from Chicago (beginning in front of Lou Mitchell’s restaurant) ending our first phase of our trip in Joplin, Missouri. Two years later we flew into Joplin to begin the second phase ending in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

This past June (2013) we booked a flight from Chicago to Albuquerque beginning the final phase of our trip through New Mexico, Arizona, and California ending at the Santa Monica Pier and meeting our wives in the Los Angeles area.

To record our travels, we made our own documentary video entitled, “The Mother Road: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow.” Armed with a video camera and an external microphone for the first two phases of our trip and our iPhones for the final phase, we interviewed many along the “Mother Road.” What follows are some the more memorable people and sites we encountered as we were getting our “kicks on Route 66.”

The relatively new owner of the Launching Pad in Wilmington, IL, with the 20 foot, 500 lb. Spaceman “stationed” outside their restaurant was eager to share that they now serve many foreign visitors who are interested in learning about America through traveling Route 66.

For our video, we were proudly shown the rest rooms at the Polka Dot Drive-In in Braidwood IL. The woman’s restroom had wall-to-wall pictures of Elvis Presley while pictures of Marilyn Monroe adorned the walls of the men’s room. An original Route 66 signpost embedded in their new floor and an autographed picture of Peggy Sue (Buddy Holly’s girlfriend who was title of the song of the same name) hung on the dining room wall alongside a copy of a speeding ticket received by James Dean just prior to his fatal car crash.

We happened upon Gardner Days parade along Route 66 in Gardner IL. Many of the parade’s onlookers whom we interviewed were born and raised in Gardner. Many had ancestors who were residents since the 1840s. One proudly noted that Abraham Lincoln’s funeral train stopped in Gardner on it’s way to Springfield, Illinois and his relatives were among those who viewed the casket.

We learned that the Route 66 Café in Litchfield, Illinois had once been the Bloody Bucket, a rowdy dance hall and bar.

“The woman’s restroom had wall-to-wall pictures of Elvis Presley while pictures of Marilyn Monroe adorned the walls of the men’s room.”



The visitor center director (who also sells insurance and uses the building as his office) in Staunton, Illinois shared his heartwarming stories of traveling Route 66 with his father (who had passed away the previous year). He proudly showed off the beginnings of his "metal rabbit ranch" consisting of old stripped cars and his future plans for the center.

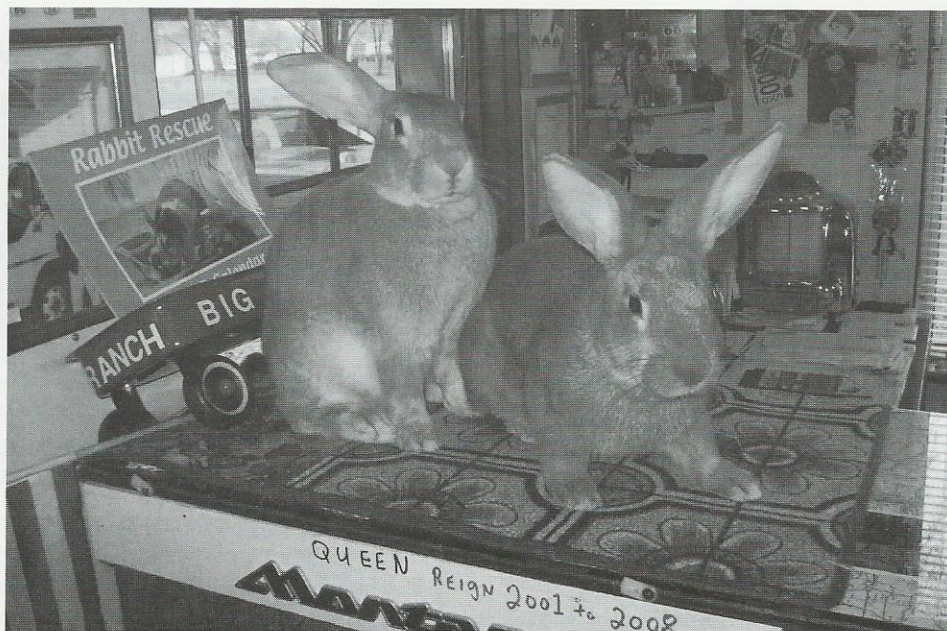
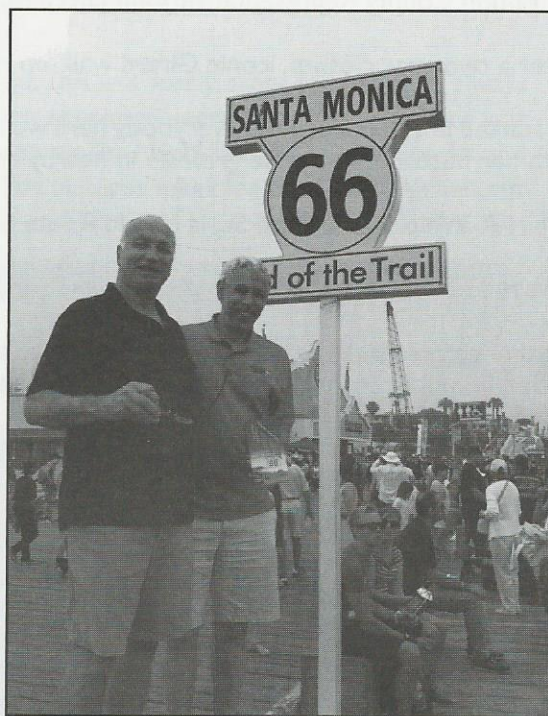
**Editor's note: This part of the Mark and Bruce's story happened 13 years ago on the first leg of their Route 66 trip. The person they're referring to is Rich Henry, who has indeed gotten his "Ra66it Ranch" off the ground and has become a mainstay along the Route in recent years.*

Please read about the beyond-Illinois portion of Mark and Bruce's Route 66 journey on our website.

Their western-most Route 66 journey highlights included the Golden Spray Café, and the El Rancho Hotel in New Mexico. In Arizona, they visited Cool Springs, the wild burrows in Oatman, Winslow and the Arizona and Arizona Route 66 Hall of Fame. Their trip concluded with a trek across the California desert from Needles all the way to the Santa Monica Pier.

They wrap up their travelogue with the following thoughtful words:

The many interesting people we met, the historical Route 66 sites we visited, and the varied scenery we experienced from Chicago to Santa Monica were now part of our shared experience. What's so wonderful about "The Road" is the opportunity it gave two friends to spend quality time with one another. The opportunity to talk about the "old" days, the present and our futures. And even though we've heard just about all our stories dozens of times before, we still in some "odd" way still enjoy hearing them again and again and again. We now encourage you to travel Route 66 with your friend.



Henry's Rabbit Ranch
1107 Historic Old Route 66. Staunton. IL 62088
618-635-5655
"Phoenix and little Red continue the legacy"

Route 66 attraction Whirl-A-Whip reopens in Girard

The following article by Katherine Rem is reprinted with permission from the State Journal-Register. Our thanks to Sangamon County Representative, John Lucchesi, for bringing this story to our attention.

After a two-year closure, iconic Girard walk-up restaurant Whirl-A-Whip has reopened with new ownership.

"It started in 1957 or before. Everybody here went there as a kid," said Girard native Anita Barnes, who owns the restaurant with her husband, Brent. He grew up in nearby Virden.

Whirl-A-Whip, 309 S. Third St., is on old Route 66, so it attracts a lot of tourists as well as locals.

"We're known for our deep-fried tacos and our 50 flavors of ice cream," Brent said.

It's the ice cream that gave the place its name. It still uses the 1950s-era Whirl-A-Whip ice cream machine, which whips each cup of ice cream individually. It's not scooped out of a tub.

"We could make any flavor of ice cream, as long as we could get it and you could think it up," said Anita. Flavors include white chocolate chip, peanut butter-banana, coffee nut, chocolate malt, cinnamon twist, apricot, black walnut, cotton candy, honey and maple walnut.


Cold treats also include soft-serve, malts, shakes, banana splits, floats, sundaes and waffle cones.

Other menu items: horseshoes, burgers, pork tenderloin sandwiches, hot dogs, breaded mozzarella sticks, homemade chips, sweet corn nuggets, taco salad and the Okie Chicken Sandwich — a grilled, seasoned chicken breast with sweet sauce, American and Swiss cheese, grilled onions and bacon.

There are seven tables outside for dining; call-ahead orders are encouraged. The phone is 627-9447. Payment is by cash only. In the past, Whirl-A-Whip closed after summer, but Brent said he'd like to stay open through October or November if the weather allows.

Food is served from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week, although it stays open until 10 p.m.


"We've gone back pretty much to the original menu," said Anita. "On the first day, people were waiting an hour and a half for ice cream. Everybody was ready."



OWNERS: ROBERT & RENAE ERNST
PHONE: 217-627-3491

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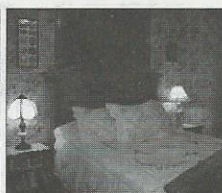
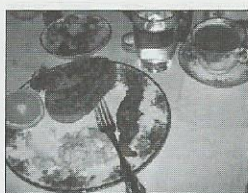
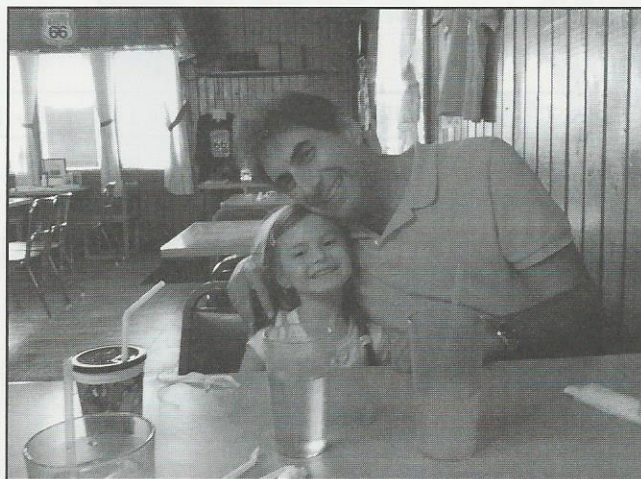
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A Day Out of Chicago and On 66

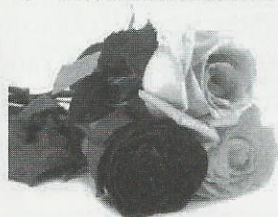
Association member, Evan Dimoutsikos, submitted this account of a day trip on 66 he, his wife Dace and their daughter Antonella, enjoyed recently.

On August 3, 2013, I took the family on an afternoon day trip on Route 66. This is a yearly event for us and is always enjoyable as it is wonderful to get out of Chicago for a while. This year was absolutely incredible as the weather was perfect! We drove from Chicago on I-55 straight to the Log Cabin restaurant for lunch, filled up our stomachs and drove up Route 66 into Joliet. We stopped at Dwight, Odell and Gardner. The pictures speak for themselves. When our daughter gets older we plan to drive the mother road all the way to L.A.!



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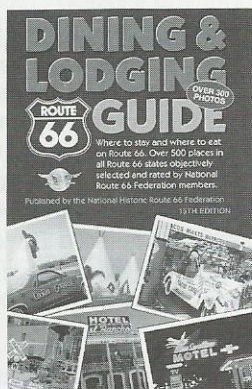
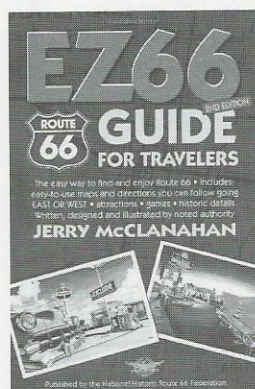
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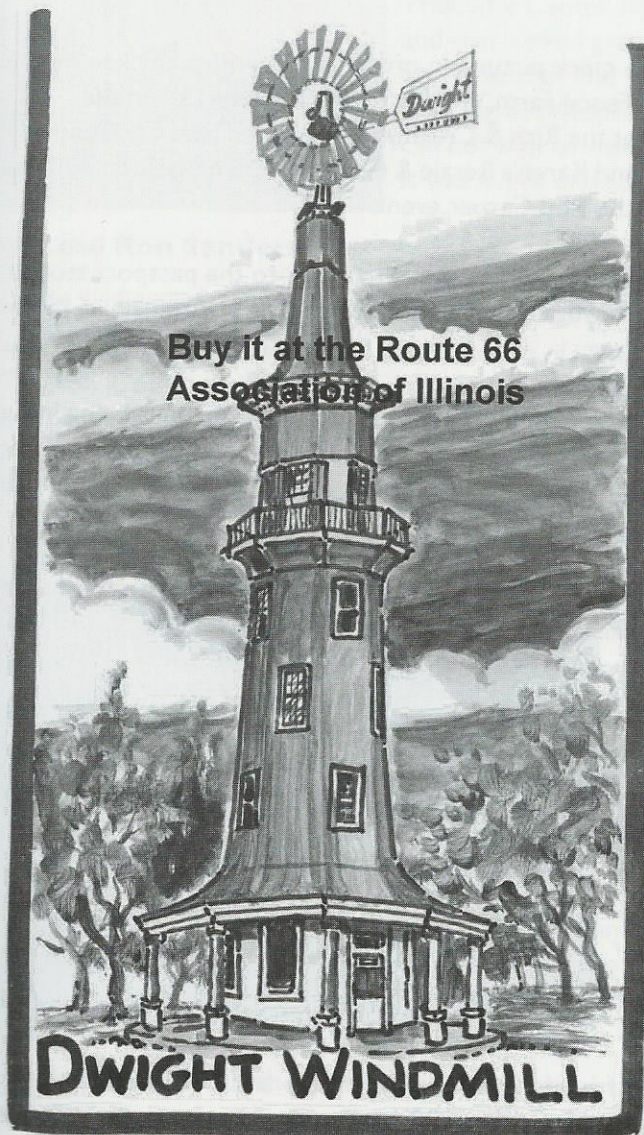
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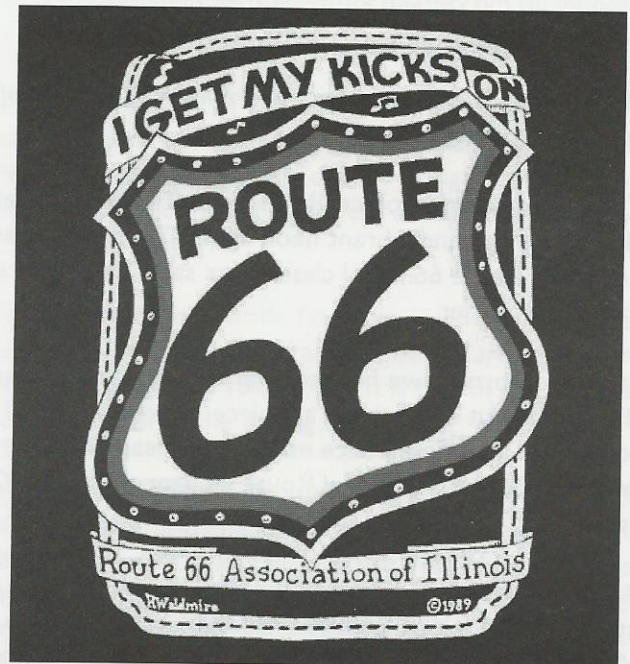
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Motor Tour 2013 Highlights

Our annual Motor Tour was a blast this year! The theme was "Back to Our Routes" and it did not disappoint! Here are a couple of accounts from folks who participated.

The Friedrich Family

The following is excerpted from Josh Friedrich's account of his family's experiences at our 2013 Motor Tour. Read Josh's complete account on our website.

The Motor Tour kickoff celebration was held in Plainfield at "Just Off 66." This place is AWESOME! The walls are covered in vintage signage and vibrant neon lights. There were classic arcade machines and tons of 50s and 60s era artifacts from the heyday of Route 66. Cool classic cars sat outside and even a Red Radio Flyer Wagon convertible car for us to enjoy while eating our dinner.

Saturday morning, we headed over to the Berwyn Historical Museum. I liked the Route 66 history represented, especially the stuff about The Spindle art piece. Next, we waited patiently for a spot to open up so we could join the caravan out of town, with an official police escort. We meandered our way past the Steak-N-Egger and onward to Saban's for a good view of the fenced-off section of Route 66 near the Vulcan Quarry that is unsafe to drive on due to mining and erosion near the road.

After that we zipped over to the Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket for a quick picture. In order to stay with a chicken theme we stopped at Montana Charlie's flea market and then to the White Fence Farm. We like to get our "chicks" on 66! We took a quick detour in Joliet to capture our favorite brothers at the Rich & Creamy. We rocketed past the Gemini Giant and ended up stopping in Braidwood to check out their new zoo and Karen's Resale & Consignment next door. Both places were fun stops. We had missed these two places recently during the Red Carpet event.

It was getting to be lunch time and we headed over to the Gardner Restaurant after I ran over to the passport stop at the NU 2 U Thrift Store across the street. I made it a point to stop at Cayuga to get a good look at the last remaining Meramec Cavern painted barn on Route 66 in Illinois.

Next stop Pontiac and the Hall of Fame. I had to see the new displays for the 2013 Hall of Fame nominees being inducted that night at the dinner, especially the Wilbur Fawns, Sr family. After checking out the museum, we walked thru Bob's road yacht, and took a stroll around the square. We spotted a neat monument to Chief Pontiac and a statue of Abraham Lincoln on the east side of the courthouse.

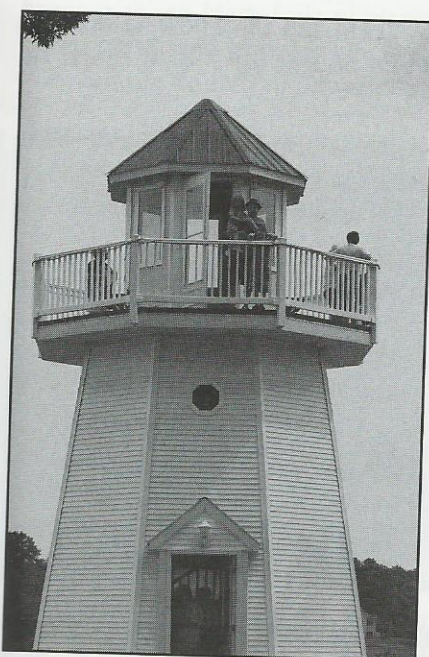
Now it was time to head further south and I pulled over at the old State Police District HQ to get a rubbing at the Route 66 Scenic Byway Wayside Marker. Since we were heading this way, we popped in at Funks Grove Maple Sirup shop.

We were now ready to swing into Atlanta. The smiley face water tower grinned at us from above the tree line as we made our way past the Bunyon Giant and his enormous hot dog. The newly installed Route 66 Reinterpreted shields looked great, especially all the runners-up located inside the park. We took a leisurely walk around the uniquely-shaped library before stepping in to get our passport book stamped. I was really interested in seeing the inner workings of the 7-day clock and get a chance to wind it.



The Hall of Fame Banquet was a very enjoyable evening with friends and roadies. Wendy and I helped seat the HoF inductees and were pleasantly surprised at the Fawns family turnout of at least 30 family members from the Williamsville and Sherman area. It was great to chat with Cheryl Eichar Jett and Rich Henry at the banquet.

The weather was a bit overcast on Sunday but that didn't bother us as we took in a few sites in Lincoln. First up we stopped at the World's Largest Wooden Covered Wagon, complete with Abraham Lincoln sitting in it reading a law book. Next we drove an orphaned alignment behind a Chevrolet auto dealership and took a quick tour of the Postville Courthouse. Then we took a quick snapshot of the Little Chapel on 66, stopped at the wayside exhibit, finally got a Polaroid of The Mill, and lastly took a leisurely walk to the Ghost Bridge on old Route 66.



Now it was onward to a truly interesting view of the 6th Street Bridge/Route 66 in Springfield. We were able to tour a privately-built and owned 30-foot tall lighthouse on the shore of Lake Springfield. We took a detour to the Covered Bridge near Chatham and then we wound our way back to Route 66 to hit the bricks and drop in at Becky's Barn in Auburn.

By this time, we were ready for lunch at Doc's Soda Fountain in Girard. It started raining that afternoon as we made our way to the Old Train Depot in Carlinville. Along the way I enjoyed seeing the barn painted with a 13-star flag; it is one of my favorites. I also stopped at the Wayside exhibit in Carlinville during the drizzle.

We were now headed to see the newly-opened Litchfield Museum and Route 66 Welcome Center. The museum looks awesome inside and out. First off, the neon trip and sign looked great, even in the pouring rain. I can't wait to see the old Gas For Less sign restored! The inside was inviting and the displays were eye-catching. We enjoyed listening to Whispering Joe play a song or two. The place was packed with tour-goers. I can not wait to visit the Litchfield Museum again and really get to see all it has to offer. It was a nice end to the Motor Tour.

Kent and Ron Sanderson

Kent was kind enough to write the following account of their "excellent adventure" on Route 66.

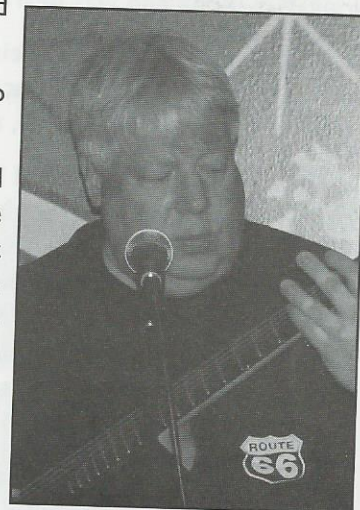
My son, Ron, and I did the Route 66 Association of Illinois Motor Tour this year and had a great time. We left Manchester in St Louis County on Friday the 7th and slabbed our '77 Monte Carlo, "Big Blue," to Springfield. Got onto 66 at Williamsville, only to encounter oil and rock chip road trip which we were able to escape a couple of miles up the road. The road work continued to Lincoln and we didn't re-enter 66 until we actually reached Lincoln.

We stopped for lunch at the Palms Grill Cafe in Atlanta but were too early for their lunch menu and "settled" for bacon, eggs and coffee. Drove through Dwight, my boyhood home and photographed my old house for the umpteenth time after adding \$63 to Big Blue's tank in Chenoa.

Finally reached Countryside and checked into our hotel. We then drove a block or two to Rafferty's Irish Pub for some cold beverages and pizza. Good stuff!

Cruised into Berwyn Saturday morning and officially checked in. Got our goodie bag and then cruised to McCook where we talked with Johnny and Kathy Miller for the first time in several years. Good people and good conversation. Drove through downtown Joliet and then got back into the country on 66 into Wilmington. Stopped in Gardner to see the old jail and street car diner before heading south to Dwight for lunch at the Route 66 Family Restaurant. Next stop was at the Route 66 Association Hall of Fame and Museum in Pontiac, a very cool place put together and maintained by the Illinois association. Walked across the pedestrian suspension bridge before heading south to Memory Lane in Lexington. The rest of the day was fairly uneventful and we had more cold beverages and pizza, the roadies' diet, after checking into the Lincoln Hampton.

Ron and I got back onto the road early Sunday morning and slabbed to Springfield before re-entering 66 for the rest of the cruise back home. We thoroughly enjoyed the Motor Tour and are planning to go again next year.



A 1931 Motor Tour: Father and Son Travel from Illinois to California and Back

By Cheryl Eichar Jett

A road trip on Route 66 always has a sense of adventure about it, and it was certainly no less so in 1931. That year, John Fischer and his son Erwin Fischer made a three-month journey from their home in Edwardsville, Illinois, to California on the five-years-young, partially-paved "Main Street of America."

By 1931, unemployment was skyrocketing and the full effect of the 1929 stock market crash and the Midwest drought was becoming apparent. Gas cost about 17 cents per gallon and a loaf of bread could be bought for 7 or 8 cents. An automobile could be bought for hundreds instead of thousands of dollars.

Route 66 was already carrying its trademark mix of Americana along its path across the country – businessmen, families, adventurers, and refugees from the dust. In 1931 not all of the route was "hard road;" paving wasn't yet completed along the entire length of the route. Particularly in the western states, travel could still be uncomfortable and risky. Dangerous curves, unpaved sections, and breakdowns nowhere near a garage could pose dangers.

Meanwhile, life in Edwardsville was comfortable for the Fischer family. John had three children that were growing to adulthood – Agnes, Edna, and Erwin. Oldest daughter Agnes stepped into a motherly role when John was widowed in 1921 and aunts continued to contribute a female presence. John was a carpenter and built multiple family homes in Edwardsville. Young Erwin was hardworking and ambitious, working from a young age setting pins at the St. Boniface bowling alley and delivering newspapers. A sense of adventure and curiosity about the rest of the country spurred them to travel.



The local newspaper "Personals" column recorded news of a Fischer family trip in August of 1928. Head of household John Fischer, 16-year-old son Erwin, daughter Agnes, John's sister Lizzy Hoffman, and sister-in-law Barbara Fischer took a four-day boat trip on the Mississippi River, stopping at Cape Girardeau, Missouri for a sight-seeing tour.

But to corral son Erwin's energy and for the sense of adventure, in 1931 father John and son Erwin took off on a three-month trip across the country – to California and back on Route 66. Their Model T was packed with supplies and equipment. One family anecdote reveals father John doing some driving practice in the Model T before leaving on the trip. Apparently, he froze up learning the controls while in some traffic in front of the N. O. Nelson manufacturing complex along Troy Road and was nearly in an accident.

The two men took off on their trip, a family story stating that John could have been a bit inebriated at the time. They headed west, undoubtedly encountering everything that everyone else might on 1930s-era Route 66 - dust storms, yet-unpaved stretches of highway, critters, and long, lonely miles.

Somewhere out in the "Wild West," a couple incidents occurred which are still retold in the Fischer family. Traversing the desert, John and Erwin thought maybe they were seeing a mirage on the horizon - "a black ribbon stretching as far to the left and the right as the eye could see," relates Erwin's daughter Nancy Fischer Hess. As they neared the black ribbon, they slowed the car and then stopped to see what it was. It was a herd of tarantulas! (Does this beg the question, why do tarantulas cross the road?) Whether it was after a rain or in the cool of evening or tarantula mating season, there was such a large migration that father and son decided not to wait it out. They drove on across the flowing sea of spiders, stopping afterward at a safe distance to inspect their car and its contents to make sure they had not picked up any hitchhikers.

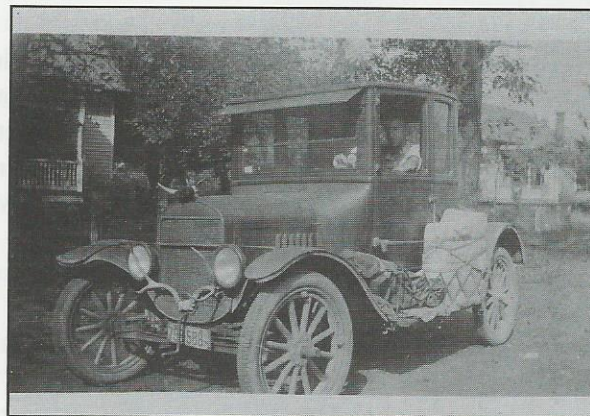
On another day, the travelers spotted an equally strange site. It was summertime, and hot as usual in the desert Southwest, but John and Erwin spotted a man in a big, heavy fur coat dancing along in the road.

By the time they actually got to California, they were having trouble with the brakes on the Model T. Apparently, this was a common problem after navigating hundreds of miles and several sets of mountains. Stacks of hay bales were strategically placed by the side of roads, and the Fischers ended up driving off the road and into the hay bales to stop the car.

During their three-month trip, they camped, sleeping in the car or alongside the car and using the equipment they had brought with them. They put 6,500 miles on the car and arrived home in Edwardsville in October. John's daughter Agnes and sister-in-law Barbara were on hand in front of the family house on Sherman Avenue to welcome them home and record their arrival in photographs. Supplies and equipment were still lashed to the car and a set of antlers adorned the radiator.

The sense of adventure and love for the American West didn't leave this family with that trip. In 1937, a now 25-year-old Erwin married Mary Fiala of Hamel on June 27, and for their honeymoon they motored west in a new Chevy V-8 which Erwin purchased from his Uncle Ralph Hogan. Erwin named the car "Becky." A treasured family photo shows Erwin and Mary on the Fourth of July at Pike's Peak, Colorado during their trip.

Then in 1949, Erwin organized another family trip "out West." By now Erwin was driving a 1949 Chevy which he'd named "Bertha." Two cars were taken for this trip as, according to Nancy Hess, "both Grandpa Fiala and Grandpa Fischer were taken along on the trip." Nancy remembers that the 1949 Chevy was the first new car the family bought after WWII ended. The local newspaper "Personals" column gave the itinerary for their trip: "They motored through Arizona and New Mexico stopping at the Painted Desert, Petrified Forest, Grand Canyon and Boulder Dam. From there they went to Los Angeles and San Francisco, Calif., returning through Salt Lake City and Denver, Colo."




Besides his love for travel and the American West, Erwin Fischer served with the US Navy during WWII, served 42 years in management with the Kroger Company in Jacksonville, Illinois, volunteered and performed community service, and was a talented musician. He lived to the ripe old age of 95, and to this day his descendants enjoy relating the stories of their family trips and the 1931 father-and-son excursion on Route 66. Tarantulas, crazy men in fur coats, dust, and car trouble included, this was a trip that was thoroughly enjoyed and retold with relish as it lives on in the Fischer family.

CAPTIONS: left - John Fischer, his daughter Agnes Fischer Halbe, and John's sister-in-law Barbara Fischer pose with the trusty Ford as Agnes and Barbara welcome John and his son Erwin back home from their Route 66 adventure in 1931. Photo courtesy of Michele Fischer Stark. right - Young Erwin Fischer poses at the wheel of the Model T that carried him and his father on a three-month adventure to California and back. Note the supplies still packed on the car and the antler adorning the front. Photo courtesy of Michele Fischer Stark.


Enjoy the Real Rt. 66

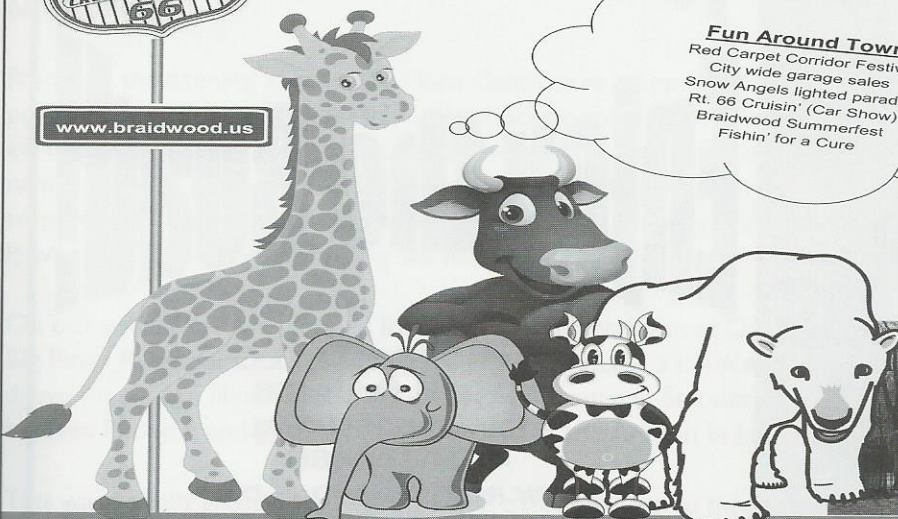
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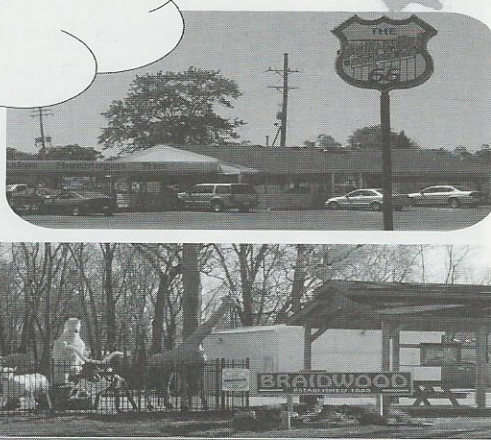
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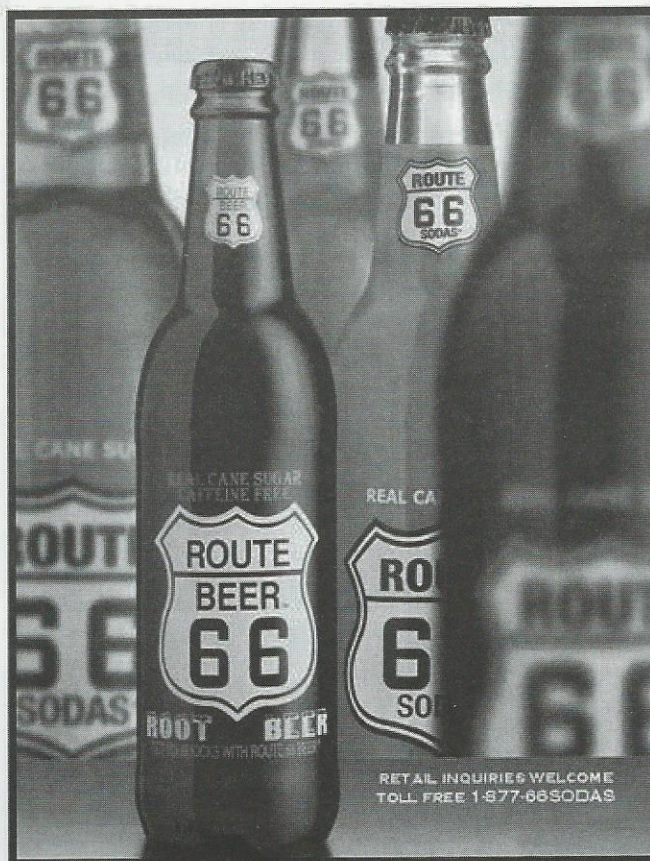
Editor Gina's Corner



Hi, Friends. Another season happily brings another issue of The 66 News down the road and into your mailbox. This time, we're announcing some important news about Hall of Fame nominations. The period during which nominations will be accepted has been moved up significantly to between **October 1 and December 31**. The change will facilitate the preparations that go into honoring the inductees at our Hall of Fame banquet held each year on the first weekend of June. You can read all the details about the Hall of Fame and how to submit a nomination in the article on Page 5 of this publication.

This date change got me thinking about the Hall of Fame in general and how important it is to our Association and its mission to Preserve, Educate, Promote and Enjoy Route 66 in Illinois. While Preservation in a physical sense takes place continually on the attractions along Route 66, the other side of the Preservation coin - the contributions of the people who create and maintain the Route 66 experience - should likewise be preserved. That's precisely what our Hall of Fame does - it recognizes those who contribute to the unique character of Route 66, making her what she was and will continue to be. Unlike many of the physical things that can be preserved with hammer and nails, these people and the memories they created - must be preserved through photographs, recollections and stories passed along and memorialized. If we don't conscientiously do that, they will surely be forgotten and fade into the landscape like so many of the road's memories already have.

Please, jump on this opportunity to compile the story of a Route 66 landmark, person or attraction that you believe has contributed significantly to the character of Route 66 in Illinois and nominate them to our Hall of Fame committee for their consideration. Anyone is welcome to submit a nomination - they look forward to seeing yours! For a complete listing of those already inducted to our Hall of Fame, please consult the list on our website at www.il66assoc.org/content/route-66-association-illinois-hall-fame-members. Together with previous - and future - inductees the story of your nominee could help preserve the whole story of Route 66 in Illinois.



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Route 66 International Festival in Joplin, Missouri

The following is excerpted from Marcia Gascho's account of their long weekend attending the Route 66 International Festival in Joplin, Missouri. Read Marcia's complete story on our website.

Several months ago, we heard that Joplin would be hosting the 2013 Route 66 International Festival on August 1-3. It had never been held in Missouri before. It was close enough for a long weekend trip so we decided to go!

We left Indianapolis the morning of August 1st. Once in Missouri, we hopped off and on the Interstate to visit some favorite spots. We ate lunch at the always wonderful Café Korea in St. Robert, Missouri. When we arrived in Joplin in the late afternoon, our hotel was filling up with Route 66 roadies! Unfortunately the drive-in movie in Carthage, Missouri had sold out long ago. They were showing "Cars" and it would have been fun to watch with a group of Route 66 enthusiasts. Instead, we headed south of Joplin to view Grand Falls, the biggest waterfall in Missouri. We also walked around Wildcat Glade, a nature preserve and Audubon center.

Friday morning we went downtown and picked up the official Route 66 Festival visitor pack. A mini cooler contained items like a flashlight, a beverage cup, a passport and an official lanyard. We also looked at the amazing Route 66 quilt in the City Hall building. We visited Schifferdecker Park to tour the Joplin Museum complex. We also got a tour of the Route 66 Candy House Chocolate Factory and enjoyed watching them make different kinds of delicious candy. We went back downtown to attend the official dedication/ribbon cutting ceremony of the new Joplin Route 66 mural, located on the side of the Pearl Brothers True Value Hardware store.



At the ceremony I was able to meet Michael Wallis in person at last. He and Rick Freeland are co-founders of the Route 66 Alliance and were instrumental in getting the Festival in Joplin. The city of Joplin is making a remarkable recovery from the devastating tornado of 2011. Hopefully the Festival further boosted its image and added some tourist dollars to the local economy.

We spent Friday afternoon on Route 66. First, we drove to Miami, Oklahoma, to see the inside of the beautiful Coleman Theater. This place is a real gem. It would be awesome to see some kind of performance there someday. We went to Baxter Springs and wandered around downtown. They have some neat stores and friendly folks. Their excellent museum is also well worth a visit. We made a quick stop in Riverton at the old Eisler Brothers store (now Nelson's). I was sad when I heard it had closed a while back but was relieved when it was purchased by Scott Nelson, president of the Kansas Route 66 Association.

Rain was threatening as we rolled into Galena. We stepped into the renovated "Cars on the Route" building as it started pouring and the place quickly filled up with soggy people. There were full-sized models of Tow Mater and Lightning McQueen on display, much to the delight of kids young and old. Tow Mater was there in his usual spot too. A beautiful new mural is now on display in town. When the Road Crew band took the stage, it was a real treat to hear them play live. We were able to meet the band members when they took a break during their set. We headed back to Joplin that night tired but happy. It was hard to believe everything we had packed in that day.

On our way home, we stopped for lunch at the Elbow Inn at Devil's Elbow. We love the Devil's Elbow area with the scenic Big Piney River, rock formations and bridges. We made a couple more stops in Missouri, then skirted around St. Louis. We drove on part of Illinois Route 66, picking it up outside Staunton. Rich Henry was at the Ra66it Ranch so we met his new bunnies Phoenix and Little Red. After dinner at the Ariston in Litchfield, we drove the final tedious stretch home.

This was a really great three-day Route 66 trip. It was fun to meet people from all over the US as well as some international visitors. It was just announced that the 2014 International Festival will be in Kingman, Arizona. We're very sad that it's a little too far away for a quick weekend road trip!

The Friedrich Family's 2013 Route 66 Highlights

Josh Friedrich, his wife Wendy and their children, Charlie and Lizzy, were busy travelers along '66 this summer! Here are some highlights of their travels, excerpted from the account submitted by Josh himself:

Henry's Ra66it Ranch, Staunton, Illinois

We were pleased to see many of the rabbits in their pens outside enjoying the wonderful weather. The kids enjoyed petting the bunnies and watching them "race" each other around the pens. Rich was a great host and took a family photo of us on the jack rabbit, as is our custom.

Meramec Caverns gift shop, Stanton, Missouri

I got a couple of pictures of the neon sign at the cave entrance and a few keepsakes.

Wagon Wheel Motel, Cuba, Missouri

We saw the new neon sign.

Munger-Moss Motel, Lebanon, Missouri

We chatted with Ramona who was nice enough to sign my Images of Route 66 book and gave me an autographed light bulb from the historic neon sign.



Route 66 Drive-In, Carthage, Missouri

Cheryl Jett was our guest to attend a special showing of Cars. The special guests that night were none other than Lightning McQueen and Mater, the full sized Disney Pixar animatronic vehicles, and Michael Wallis, the voice of Sheriff. It was a sold-out event! Seeing "Cars" at a classic drive in on Route 66 with a bunch of roadies was spectacular!

International Route 66 Festival, Joplin, Missouri

We went to Joplin City Hall to pick up our festival passport and see the Route 66 photography and quilt exhibit. Then we found the building where the authors, associations, and artists set up and slipped in before they got too busy. I picked up two books: "Route 66 in Texas," by Joe Sonderman and "The Mother Road - The Native Road Of America," by Akio Takeuchi & Massie. I had also brought along our copy of Annie Mouse's, "Route 66 Adventure," by Anne Maro Slanina to get autographed by her and Charlie also picked up her, "Where The Rainbow Touches Ground Annie Mouse Adventure."

We saw so many roadie friends we had met before and finally got to meet a few I had only talked with online via the magic of the Internet. We headed to Sawmill BBQ for a great tasting and stomach-filling lunch. After that we headed over to the official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the festival and dedication of the two new tile murals. It was good to hear Michael Wallis's speech. For an afternoon snack, we went to the Candy House Chocolate Factory for a tour, some free samples, and lots of sugary, sweet goodness.

Next up was Cars On The Route (formally 4 Women On The Route), the Murder Bordello, and a concert by The Road Crew. I enjoyed talking with Dean "Crazy Legs" Walker and Shelby Cagle, daughter to Melba and face of The Route 66 Young Roadies Association.

Catoosa, Oklahoma

After we crested a hill, The Blue Whale of Catoosa came into sight. Lizzy was super-excited and laughed, giggled, and squealed in delight when she saw it. They couldn't wait to run up to Blue and explore him. It was great walking around the area and seeing this roadside attraction for the first time. We next checked out the picturesque steel truss bridges nearby and made our way back East toward Claremore.

Totem Pole Park (just four short miles off Route 66)

We really enjoyed taking in all the wonderful art on the totem poles. Wendy really liked the Fiddle House and all the many varied, handcrafted, wooden fiddles.

I spotted a triangular-shaped concrete Right Of Way marker with a metal highway shield embedded in it, placed there by the state of Oklahoma in 1950. It was a great find! We continued cruising 66 and took an original 1926 alignment over the Pryor Creek Bridge - a beautiful, original truss bridge.

Waylon's Ku Ku Burger, Miami, Oklahoma

We stopped in for some cool treats. I couldn't resist the building design and awesome neon sign.

Marsh Arch "Rainbow Bridge." (1923) outside of Baxter Springs, Kansas.

Simply gorgeous! We enjoyed walking it, the kids running across it, and then driving across it.

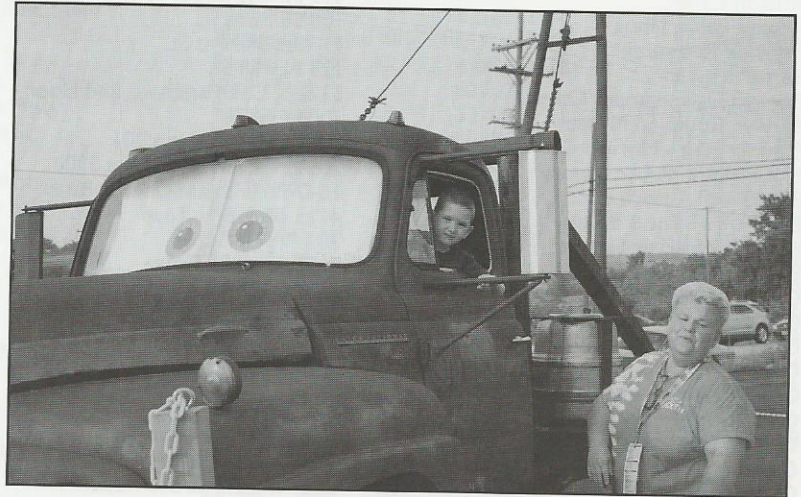
Eisler Bros. Old Riverton Store, Kansas

I was envious of the old soda bottles and advertising.

Old City Jail Cell, Galena, Kansas

We locked the kids up in the cell for just a quick time out.

After four long days on the road across four states we made it home. Another interesting trip along America's Main Street behind us and once again I can't wait for the next one.



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Route 66 Association of Illinois Business Member Directory

These businesses and organizations have joined our Association. Their membership demonstrates their dedication to Route 66. Please demonstrate your appreciation to them by patronizing their businesses whenever you can.

Abraham Lincoln Tourism	1555 - 5th St.	Lincoln	IL	62656	217-732-8687
Amoco Fence Co.	2919 S. MacArthur Blvd.	Springfield	IL	62704	217-787-2921
Angel's Ben Franklin	706 W. Baltimore St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-9091
Anson's Cafe	413 N. Old Route 66., P.O. Box 453	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-2023
Adams Public Library	100 SE Race St.	Atlanta	IL	61723	217-648-2112
Berghoff Restaurant	17 West Adams St.	Chicago	IL	60603	312-427-3170
Bernard's II, Inc.	123 N. Mill St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-842-1198
Berwyn Development Corp.	3322 S. Oak Park Ave., 2nd Floor	Berwyn	IL	60402-3407	708-788-8100
Berwyn Route 66 Museum	7003 Ogden	Berwyn	IL	60402	708-484-9349
Bloomington - Normal Convention Bureau	3201 Cira Dr., Suite 201	Bloomington	IL	61704	309-665-0033
Bloomington Public Library	205 E. Olive St., P.O. Box 3308	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-828-6091
Bob Green Auto Service	1847 New Salam Church Road	New Berlin	IL	62670	217-546-5846
Branham's Paint & Body	4125 N. Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-528-9654
Brown's Wrecker Service	302 Brown St.	Bloomington	IL	61704	309-828-3753
Burns & Son Trucking	2831 S. Whittier Ave.	Springfield	IL	62704	217-528-7741
C & A Custom Kitchens	3500 E. Clear Lake Ave.	Springfield	IL	62702	217-523-0170
Cafe Fontana	1024 W. Reynolds St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-419-2011
Carlin Villa Motel	18891 Route 4 South	Carlinville	IL	62626	217-854-3201
Casey's Garden Shop	1505 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-828-7529
Casey's Garden Shop, Inc.	1505 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-828-1424
Cassens Transport Co.	145 N. Kansas St.	Edwardsville	IL	62025	618-656-3006
Cheneca Pharmacy	209 Green St.	Cheneca	IL	61726	309-747-3002
Chicago Historic Route 66 Classic Car Show	1909 S. Avers Ave.	Chicago	IL	60623	773-592-4718
Chuck's Harley-Davidson, Inc.	2027 Ireland Grove Road	Bloomington	IL	61704-7103	309-662-1648
City of Braidwood	141 W. Main St.	Braidwood	IL	60408	815-458-2333
City of Chenoa	P.O. Box 167	Cheneca	IL	61726	815-945-7619
City of Edwardsville	118 Hillsboro Ave	Edwardsville	IL	62025-0407	618-692-7531
City of Joliet Tourism	150 W. Jefferson St.	Joliet	IL	60432	815-724-9045
City of Litchfield	120 East Ryder	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-8147
City of Mt. Olive	200 E. Main St.	Mt. Olive	IL	62069	217-999-4261
City of Pontiac	115 W. Howard	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-844-5847
City of Staunton	304 W. Main St.	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-2233
City of Wilmington	1165 S. Water St	Wilmington	IL	60481	
Clay Doolley Tire & Auto	307 E. Grove St.	Bloomington	IL	61701-5231	309-828-5037
Comfort Inn	3080 S. SR 157	Edwardsville	IL	62025	618-656-4900
Country Classic Cars L.L.C.	2149 E. Frontage Road	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-7056
Cozy Dog Drive In	2935 S. Sixth St.	Springfield	IL	62703	217-525-1992
Crossroads Route 66 Diner	995 Lakeview	Mt. Olive	IL	62069	217-999-8491
Crowne Plaza	3000 S. Dirksen Parkway	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-7777
Curve Inn	3219 S. Sixth St.	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-5806
Curve Inn, Inc.	3219 S. 6th St. Road	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-5806
Decamp Junction	8767 State Route 4 South	Staunton	IL	62088	618-637-2951
Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket	645 Joliet Road	Willowbrook	IL	60521	630-325-0780
Doc's Soda Fountain	133 S. Second St.	Girard	IL	62640	217-627-3491
Double H Bar	121 N. 1st St.	Sherman	IL	62634	217-496-3811
Econo Lodge	19755 NE. Frontage Rd.	Shorewood	IL	60404	815-927-2850
Edwardsville Preservation Comm.	118 Hillsboro Ave.	Edwardsville	IL	62025	
First National Bank of Dwight	122 W. Main St., P.O. Box 10	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-1212
Funk's Grove Pure Maple Sirup	5257 Old Route 66	Shirley	IL	61772	307-874-3220
Grosso's Garage, Inc.	1301 S. Morris Ave.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-828-3615
Hampton Inn of Lincoln	1019 N. Heitmann Drive	Lincoln	IL	62656	217-732-6729
Hampton Inn of Litchfield	11 Thunderbird Circle	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-4441
Henrys Ra66it Ranch	1107 Historic Old Route 66	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-5655
Henry's Ra66it Ranch	1107 Historic Old Route 66	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-5655
Historic Route 66 Flea Market	3117 W. Chain of Rocks Road	Granite City	IL	62240	618-797-7900
Hog Nuts Motorcycle Repair & Supply	205 N. First St	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-7600
Holiday Inn Express	3050 S. Dirksen Parkway	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-7771
IL State Police Heritage Foundation	4000 N. Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702-1033	217-525-922
Illini Bank	2120 Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-544-0139
Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway	700 E. Adams St.	Springfield	IL	62701	217-525-9308
Illinois State Library/ Serials Section	300 S. 2nd St.	Springfield	IL	62701	217-785-4127
Jim Hannah - Heating & Air Conditioning	208 Elm St.	Joliet	IL	60433	815-651-6556
Joan Bullard Realty	112 W. Tremont	Odell	IL	60460	
Joliet Area Historical Museum	204 N. Ottawa St.	Joliet	IL	60432-4007	815-723-5201
Joliet Route 66 Diner	22 W. Clinton St	Joliet	IL	60432-4102	815-723-3865
Jubelt's Bakery & Restaurant	303 N. Old Route 66	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-5314
Karens Resale & Consignment	195 N Front	Braidwood	IL	60408	815-390-5258

Launching Pad Drive In	810 E. Baltimore St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-6535
Lincoln Printers, Inc.	711 Broadway St.	Lincoln	IL	62656	217-732-3121
Lindsey Electric, Inc.	3260 Terminal Ave.	Springfield	IL	62707	217-544-6789
Livingston County Historical Society	115 W. Howard St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-842-2744
Lou Mitchell's Restaurant	565 W. Jackson Blvd.	Chicago	IL	60661	312-939-3111
Luna Café	201 E. Chain of Rocks Road	Mitchell	IL	62040	618-931-3152
Lydia's Loft	107 1/2 W. Madison St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	309-824-2490
Magnuson Grand Hotel & Conference Center	1 - 55 & IL Route 108., P.O. Box 377	Carlinville	IL	62626	217-324-2100
Maverick Steak House	1023 W. Dorlan Ave., Suite C	Springfield	IL	62702-2346	217-732-7169
McLean County Museum of History	200 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701-3912	309-827-0428
McSherry Agency	209 W. Madison St.	Pontiac	IL	61764-0738	815-844-3183
Mid Illinois Caliper	2803 N. Dirksen	Springfield	IL	62702	
Midwest Truckers Association	2727 N. Dirksen Pkwy	Springfield	IL	62702	
Milltown Market	508 N. Kankakee St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	217-525-0310
Moscardelli Moving & Storage	709 N. Lincoln	Springfield	IL	62702	815-476-0386
Niehaus Cycle Sales, Inc.	718 North Old Route 66	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-787-4043
Old Log Cabin Inn	18700 N. Aurora St	Pontiac	IL	61764	217-324-6565
Old Route 66 Family Restaurant	105 S. Old Route 66	Dwight	IL	60420	815-842-2908
Oldhan Graphic Supply	2056 Republic	Springfield	IL	62702	815-584-2920
Original Route 66 Accessories	1904 - 60th St.	La Grange	IL	60525	217-528-4649
Patterson Bros. Oil & Gas, Inc.	P.O. Box 139	Williamsville	IL	62693	708-246-1543
Polk-A-Dot Drive In	222 N. Front St.	Braidwood	IL	60408	217-566-3328
Pontiac Area Chamber of Commerce	210 N. Plum St., P.O. Box 534	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-458-3377
Pontiac Family Kitchen	904 Custer Ave.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-844-5131
Pour Richards Tap & Dining	210 Tremont	Odell	IL	60460	815-844-3155
Quinn's Shell Station	802 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701	815-998-2556
Rialto Theater	15 E. Van Buren St.	Joliet	IL	60432	309-827-9188
Route 66 Auto Body	P.O. Box 385	Hamel	IL	62046	
Route 66 Music Shop	179 E. Jackson	Viriden	IL	62690	217-801-8310
Route 66 Window Tinting, LLC	1315 Historic Old Rt. 66	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-8468
Rt. 66 Food N Fuel	2401 S. Chicago	Joliet	IL	60436	815-724-0300
Schlechte Family Service Station	7716 State Route 4	Worden	IL	62097	618-633-2426
Shea's Finest Truck Covers	2075 Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-522-0475
Silver Dollar Restaurant	422 Mississippi Ave.	Elwood	IL	60421	815-423-6700
Springer's Creek Winery	817 Hillsboro Ave	Edwardsville	IL	62025	618-307-5110
Springfield Overhead Doors, Inc.	421 N. Lincoln	Springfield	IL	62702	217-787-2602
Standard Station of Odell	314 E. George St., P.O. Box 175	Odell	IL	60460	
State Farm Insurance	2702 Ireland Grove Road	Bloomington	IL	61709	309-622-6588
Station 343	140 E. Maine St.	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-9343
Steak N Egger	8408 Joliet Rd	McCook	IL	60525	708-853-9240
Stowe Auto Body	16501 Broadway	Lockport	IL	604411	815-838-7084
Three Roses Bed & Breakfast	209 E. Howard	Pontiac	IL	61764-1919	815-844-3404
V.F.W. Post 5422	557 W. Baltimore St.	Wilmington	IL	60481-0597	815-476-9210
VFN Fiberglass	330 W. Factory Road	Addison	IL	60101	630-543-0232
Village of Bolingbrook	375 W. Briarcliff Road	Bolingbrook	IL	60440	630-226-8412
Village of Dwight	209 S. Prairie Ave.	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-3077
Village of Elwood	401 E. Mississippi Ave, P.O. Box 435	Elwood	IL	60421	815-423-5011
Village Of Gardner	302 N. Center St., P.O. Box 545	Gardner	IL	60424	
Village of Godley	150 S. Kankakee St., P.O. Box 89	Braceville	IL	60407	815-458-2222
Village of Hamel	111 S. Old Route 66., P.O. Box 345	Hamel	IL	62046	618-633-2484
Weezy's Route 66	108 S. Old Rt. 66., P.O. Box 128	Hamel	IL	62046	618-633-2228
White Fence Farm	1376 Joliet Road	Romeoville	IL	60446	630-739-1720
Wilmington Chamber of Commerce	111 S. Water St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-5991
Wooden Nickel Winery & Saloon	3225 Honey Bend Ave.	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-4446
WRLR 98.3	P.O. Box 98	Round Lake IL	IL	60073	847-546-9757
Greg's Motor Sales	1021 W. Mishawaka	Mishawaka	IN	46545	574-255-0771
Marcia Scrapbooking	9005 Deer Run	Indianapolis	IN	46256	317-842-1164
Boots Motel	107 S. Garrison Ave	Carthage	MO	64836	417-310-2989
Carlinville Associates	331 W. Thornton Ave	St. Louis	MO	63119	314-862-5557
Route 66 Root Beer & Soda	P.O. Box 766	Lebanon	MO	65536-0766	417-588-4466
Signlink	3160 W. Kearney	Springfield	MO	65803	800-788-1778
Blue Swallow Motel	815 E. Route 66 Blvd.	Tucumcari	NM	88401	575-461-9849
Afton Station & Route 66 Packards	12 S.E. 1st. St.	Afton	OK	74331	918-257-4044
Claremore Convention & Visitors Bureau	400 Veterans Pkwy	Claremore	OK	74017	918-341-8688
Route 66 World	8776 E. Shea Blvd. B3A-409	Scottsdale	AZ	85260	847-757-2246
Gionanni Tours	626 Westchester Lane	Newbury Park	CA	91320	805-375-1324
National Route 66 Federation	P.O. Box 1848	Lake Arrowhead	CA	92352-1848	909-336-6131

Join our Association as a business member
to be listed among these fine businesses and organizations.

This time in "From The 66 News Archives," we're featuring Page 3 from our very first issue, published in the Fall of 1989. I noticed a couple names I came across when compiling and editing this very issue: Tom Snyder (who authored the guidebook, "Route 66 Traveler's Guide and Companion" which Mark and Bruce followed during their Route 66 excursions) and Michael Wallis, author of "Route 66: The Mother Road." In addition to having provided the voice of "Sheriff" in the Pixar movie, "Cars," Michael continues to be a knowledgeable and active Route 66 fixture. It's nice to know that these early Route 66 experts still influence '66 fans, informing and inspiring current generations of roadies.



DOWN THE ROAD With 66 Roadologists Jeff and Laura Meyer

As with all of us in Illinois, a great amount of things have been going on along the Mother Road.

Let's start with Missouri. Jim Powell of St. Louis is going to do 66 in September from start to finish. Jim and his brother will be driving a '60 Vette. When he gets back, he will be starting a Route 66 Association of Missouri.

In Oklahoma/Kansas, JoAnn Vervinck of the Oklahoma Department of Tourism has been active in getting an association started there. They had their kick-off day May 31 in Chandler. The governor was there and also many community reps. They gave away hot dogs, moon pies and Coke in bottles! In August, JoAnn and Dr. Tom Snyder of Route 66: An American Adventure in California traveled Route 66 in Oklahoma, surveying the tourism potential of towns and sights along the way.

On October 29, they'll have their statewide organizational meeting in Oklahoma City. They'll be working on the model developed by folks in Tulsa, who have already formed a Tulsa Chapter of the association! This group held

their first meeting June 22 at the Route 66 Diner in Tulsa. Mike Higgs is president, Sherry Higgs is secretary and Gini Hinch is treasurer. Meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at the University of Tulsa.

Tulsa Mike Wallis has written a book called *Route 66: The Mother Road*, which St. Martin's Press plans to publish next spring. Along with Tom Teague's book *Searching for 66*, it should make a fine addition to anyone's 66 library.

New Mexico held its first meeting in March. Since then they've worked with country singer Michael Martin Murphy to produce a video of Bobby Troup's song "Route 66." At their organizational meeting in August, they elected Judi Snow as president, Mary Kay Cline as secretary, and Ron Chavez as treasurer. They will meet quarterly in Albuquerque.

Jerry Richard, executive vice president of the Arizona association, would say things are wild and happening there. For the past two years, they've had three-day parties along 66 from Seligman to Topock! They also got that stretch of the road rededicated as a historic highway by the state of Arizona. They hope to turn their Kingman office into a visitors' center with information about places to see all along the route.

Senator Pete Dominici of New Mexico was the primary sponsor of the Route 66 Study Act, which recently passed the Senate. Look for more word on this in future issues—it could lead to Route 66 being declared a national scenic highway like the Blue Ridge Parkway or the Santa Fe Trail.

Well, that's it from the Pontiac Trail, the Beale Wagon Trail, the Will Rogers Highway, the Main Street of America and the Mother Road—Route 66. These roadologists will see you next time!

ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ PHONE _____

INTERESTS _____

HOW I CAN HELP _____

DUES: \$10 Individual, \$15 Family, \$25 Business, Sustaining—your choice

RETURN TO: Route 66 Association of Illinois, 1208 W. Edwards, Springfield, IL 62704

The Quintessential Route 66 Photo Op

According to a recent press release from Pontiac, Illinois Tourism Director, Ellie Alexander, the largest painted Route 66 Shield, located on the back of our Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum in Pontiac, Illinois, may be the most-photographed site in the city.

Painted by Pontiac's own Diaz Sign Art, ours is but one of a multitude of stunning murals they've created for the delight of the city's visitors and residents alike - but we're understandably partial to this one. Groups and individuals from all over the world have proudly posed with our magnificent shield as a backdrop to their photographs. Are you among them?

Considering the popularity of our infamous mural, let's create a collection of your photos taken with it! Please submit your photo with the shield to us - digital images will be easiest to use (contact information is located on page 3 of this publication). We'll collect the images and share them in a collection on our website, where they can be viewed in all their gorgeous living color. Of course, we'll share some here in the newsletter, too.

Send those shield photos our way and let's try to create the "world's largest collection of photos of the world's largest painted Route 66 mural!"



Now Available - Bob Waldmire Design Jackets!

New and just in time for autumn's chill - Bob Waldmire design jackets are here and we have 'em at our Hall of Fame and Museum at 110W Howard St in Pontiac, Illinois!

The jackets are black, sport the same Bob Waldmire design as our popular T-shirts (pictured on page 13) and are proudly made in the USA. Sizes Medium through X-Large are priced at \$45 and 2X through 3X are \$50.

Photo Credits:

All photos used in this publication are the property of the Route 66 Association of Illinois except for the following, provided by these generous contributors:

Evan Dimoutsikos - Riviera sign, Gardner, IL & Antonella at Dwight, IL Windmill, Cover; Old Car w/ Mobil sign, Dwight, IL & Antonella & Evan at Log Cabin Restaurant, Pontiac, IL, pg 11

Michelle Fischer-Stark (courtesy of) - Fisher Family road trip, 1931, pgs 16 & 17

Josh Friedrich - 66 Signs, pg 3; Hall of Fame Inductees at banquet, Lincoln, IL, pg. 14; Lighthouse, Springfield, IL & Whispering Joe sings at Litchfield, IL Welcome Center and Rt 66 Museum; pg 15; The Road Crew performs, Joplin, MO, pg 19; Wagon Wheel Motel sign, Cuba, MO; Charlie behind Tow Tater's wheel, w/ Melba Rigg, pg 20; Charlie, Lizzy & Josh at Kan-O-Tex Service Station, Galena, KS, Route 66 soda bottles, Eisler Bros. Old Riverton Store, KS, blue Rt 66 sky, somewhere in IL, Tile mural, Galena, KS, Catoosa Blue Whale, OK, Back cover

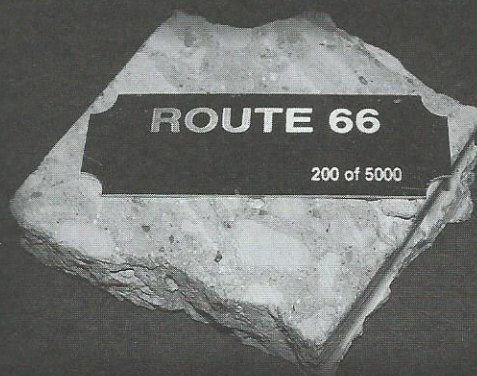
Dave Sullivan - Radio Flyer & Gemini Giant & Association President, Cathie Stevanovich & Museum Coordinator, Jim Jones at 2013 Motor Tour, Cover; ARare67 Pontiac, pg 3; 2013 Rt 66 Association of IL Hall of Fame Banquet, pg 5; Locked-up ladies, Gardner, IL at One-Cell Jail, Back Cover

Mark Swendlik and Bruce Goldberg - Mark & Bruce at Begin Rt 66 sign, Chicago, IL, Pg 8; Bruce & Mark at Santa Monica, CA Rt 66 Terminus, pg 9

John Weiss - Lenore Weiss & Betty Estes memorial tree planting ceremonies & Museum Radio Station, Pontiac, IL, pg 7

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On Historic Route 66

The Route 66 Association of Illinois

Our Association is governed by an elected group of officers and board members who are responsible for administering our mission and representing the numerous communities through which Route 66 passes in Illinois. They serve to facilitate your involvement with our Association.

Officers

President

Cathie Stevanovich ('13)
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cathiesb@earthlink.net

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and

Nick (Ike) Widner ('13)
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whiteshadow66@outlook.com

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geoffladd@yahoo.com

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(618) 251-4892
thelaw1@sbcglobal.net

McLean County

Vacant

Montgomery County

Martha Jackson ('14)
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(217) 313-1218 (cell phone)

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St. Clair County

Vacant (see Madison)

Will County

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Lou Vargo ('13)

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(708) 339-3640

Preservation Committee

John Weiss, Chairman

(see contact information above)

Publicity

Jamie Anderson ('13)

(see contact information above)

Jerry Law ('13)

(see contact information above)

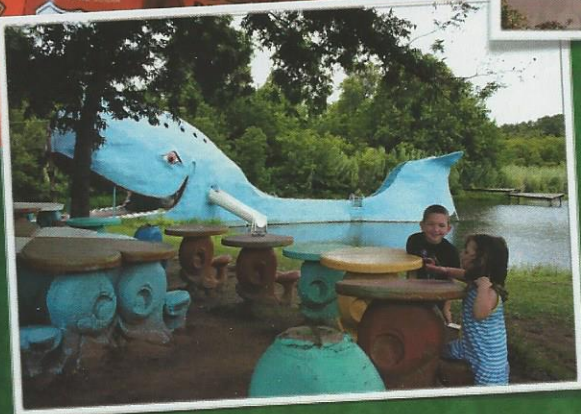
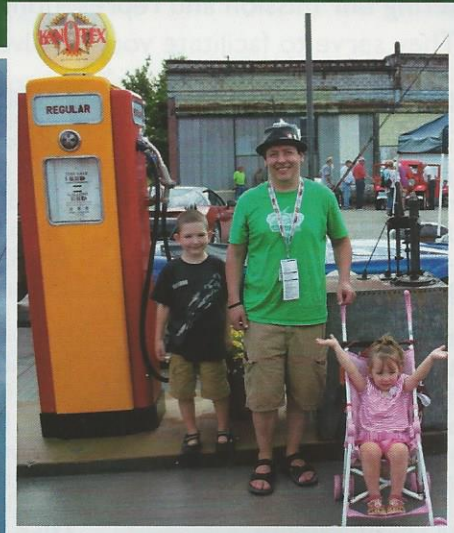
Kathy Miller ('14)

(see contact information above)

Gina Blitstein

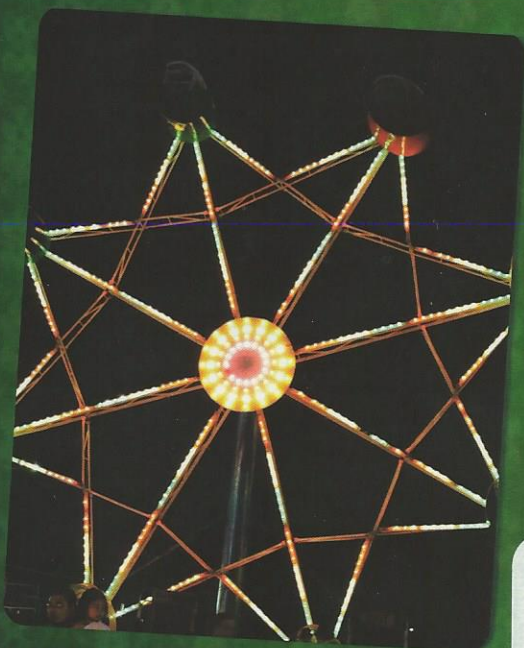
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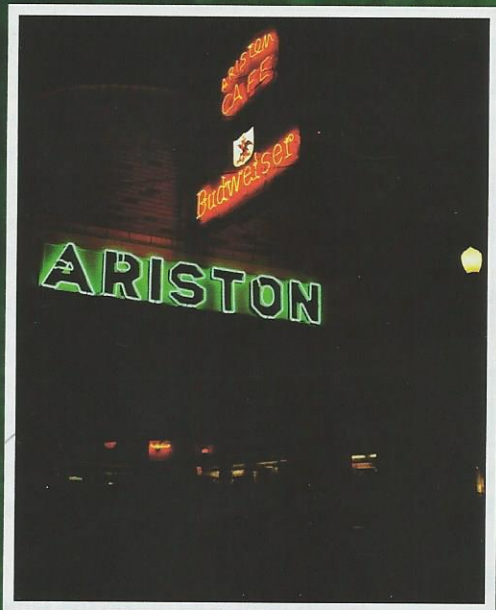


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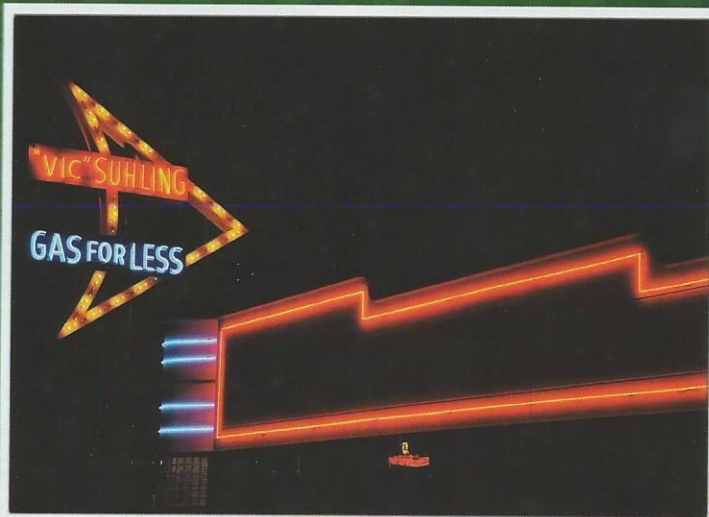
THE 66 NEWS



OUR MISSION:
TO PRESERVE, EDUCATE, PROMOTE
AND ENJOY ROUTE 66 IN ILLINOIS!



WE WISH YOU...
A SEASON OF
LIGHT!



Illinois - Where the Road Begins!

The Mother Road is really lighting up lately! In this issue, you'll find the story of the relighting of some more historic neon - the Vic Suhling sign at the Litchfield Route 66 Museum and Welcome Center. And that's just one of a multitude of stories of travels and events we're delivering from the asphalt to your door.

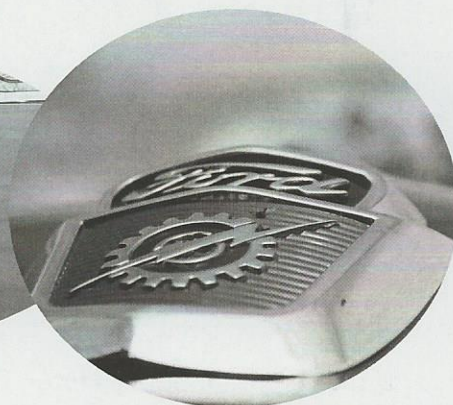
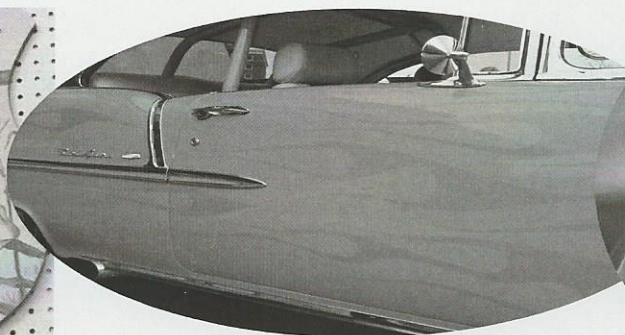
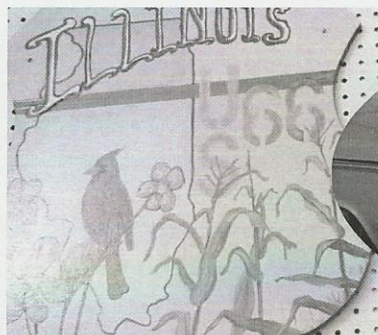
In fact, we're celebrating all kinds of light: The - often neon - light that guides travelers along the miles and illuminates Route 66 attractions. The light that shines in the eyes of delighted roadies as they take in the sights. The light beckons us to explore and discover Route 66.

Our Association has one bright wish for you and yours as we see one year pass us by and another on the horizon: We wish you a Season of Light.



The 66 News

This publication is distributed to members of the Route 66 Association of Illinois as a membership premium. Its mission is to inform our membership about our Association and its activities, as well as to demonstrate our passion for preservation and to celebrate the Mother Road.



Submit Content to *The 66 News*

We here at the Route 66 Association of Illinois welcome your stories from the road, Route 66 news and events. Here's how to submit your content to us for publication in this, our Quarterly Newsletter, or on our website:

Route 66 Association of Illinois
Attention: Newsletter Editor, Gina Blitstein
P.O. Box 1940
Matteson, IL 60443
gina@writeytidy.com
(708) 374-8439

Deadline for submissions to the Spring 2014 Issue: February 15, 2014

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A Message from Association President, Cathie Stevanovich



Fall colors have faded and cold winds are moving in and inevitably, snow. It's time to reflect back on the past year, and to look forward to new endeavors and new activities along the Mother Road in 2014. I am always surprised at the number of letters and emails we receive from people who want to come here and "live our lives." I've heard from four different groups of people who came this past year as part of an International bus tour that they are returning this coming spring – on motorcycles!

Pontiac has installed special lights behind the museum for night picture-taking.

The Red Carpet Corridor planning is in full swing! Mark your calendars for May 3 and 4 as the 90 miles of fun and 13 communities between Joliet and Towanda are making plans to welcome you back again for their combined Route 66 festivals and extravaganzas.

Plans for the 25th Anniversary Motor Tour, to take place June 13-15, 2014 are underway! Tom Armbruster will be our Grand Marshall and lead us over the Chain of Rocks bridge at the start of our tour. This tour will celebrate the 25 years we've been cruising down the road together. We have some great new activities planned and some stops are back by demand because they were so popular on past tours.

I recently attended the World Monument Foundation/American Express Conference on The Mother Road held in California November 20-22. There were 102 attendees from all parts of the Mother Road who gathered to talk about Route 66 and its future. The National Parks Service was also there and helped moderate the discussions and round tables regarding Economic Development and Tourism and helping communities along the road embrace their 66 heritage as a way of surviving tough economic times. Although common goals were developed, a steering committee is being put together to outline what exactly needs to be done. I read online that a faction spent two days putting together a group so that every state "had a voice." I would like to know who Illinois' voice is because I will share with you I was not contacted to be a part of that group. On the last day of the conference where attendance was by invitation only and had 50 participants. Illinois had seven representatives: Ellie Alexander, Bob Russell and myself (Pontiac), Bill Kelly and Anne Haacker (Springfield), Bill Thomas (Atlanta), and Jen Hoelzle, Deputy Director of the Illinois Office of Tourism.

I'm proud that in Illinois, we take care of our miles and our projects because we want to! Sure, "We work for food," as Preservationists but one of the nicest parts of being president of this Association is knowing the real, caring, low-key people who live, work, and serve along the road who are not vested in being icons. People like the unsung heroes who get up at 6:00 and weed the gardens at the park and High School display in Towanda; the owners of small businesses who open up on Sundays as a special favor to accommodate groups and the people along the road themselves who help a lost tourist get back on the road safely.

As we look forward to a new year, the Board of Directors and I wish you all a happy, healthy, and joyous 2014! We wish you warm mittens, a car that starts when it should, and time to reflect on the beauty of snowflakes. Don't forget to get out and support our business members! Coffee, chicken, chocolate, and pie are not extravaganzas when purchased on Route 66. It's an investment in keeping our linear community alive. See you on the road!

Quarterly Meeting Schedule

Sunday, January 19, 2014

115 West Howard St (City Hall Annex) Pontiac, IL

Board Meeting - 10:00 AM / Lunch - 12:00 PM (on your own) / General Meeting - 1:00 PM

Sunday, April 20, 2014

Sunday, July 20, 2014

Sunday, October 19, 2014

Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum

Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum

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Open 7 days a week!

December - March
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Daily

April- November
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM (Weekdays)
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Weekends)

Admission is FREE!

Begin your Route 66 adventure here!



The Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum features thousands of artifacts and a delightful assortment of unique memorabilia, all related to Route 66 - The "Mother Road."

We invite all of our Association members to volunteer at the museum, sharing your knowledge and enthusiasm with our visitors.

Our Museum boasts:

- Friendly and knowledgeable guides
- Route 66 memorabilia from Hall of Fame members
- Route 66 Artist and Icon, Bob Waldmire's bus and van
- Travel resources to enhance your Route 66 journey
- Photo op! Largest Route 66 mural on our back wall
- Preservation Display recognizing the dedicated efforts of Route 66 volunteers

(An elevator is available for the convenience of our visitors.)

Welcome New Members!

Association President Cathie Stevanovich, Membership Chairman Marty Blitstein, and the entire Route 66 Association would like to extend a sincere welcome to our new members who have joined us between August 18, 2013 and December 7, 2013

We hope your experience as a member of our Association brings you great satisfaction and a deeper appreciation of Route 66!

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| ➤ David Wheeler | ➤ Island City Auto Brokers, Inc. - |
| ➤ James Simmons & Family | Mark Ramsey - Wilmington IL |
| ➤ James Brown | ➤ Anna Byerly |
| ➤ Neil Gale | ➤ Paul Whitehill |
| ➤ Kevin J. Martin | ➤ Miltom Loessberg |
| ➤ Econo Lodge - Dipak Patel - Shorewood, IL | ➤ Herb McCurdy |
| ➤ William Ludolph | ➤ Jannette Sanchez & Family |
| ➤ Rita L. & Scott Schuettpehl | ➤ Bruce Gascho |
| ➤ Mark Hendren | ➤ Paul A. Dulli |

Do you want to join or renew your annual Association membership?

You can now pay your dues online!

www.il66assoc.org

Upcoming Association Happenings

All are welcome to participate in these events, sponsored by the Route 66 Association of Illinois. Although we would love you to join our Association, you don't need to be a member to take part in these events.

Our 25th Annual Motor Tour!

June 13-15, 2014 (Father's Day Weekend)

Details are already being arranged!

Complete Motor Tour information and registration form will be available on our website and in the Spring, 2014 issue of **The 66 News!**



Our Annual Association Picnic

Sunday, August 17, 2014

10:30 AM - 6:00 PM - We eat around 12:00 Noon

Sugar Grove Nature Center, Funk's Grove

4532 N 725 East Road, Mc Lean, IL 61254 (right off Route 66)

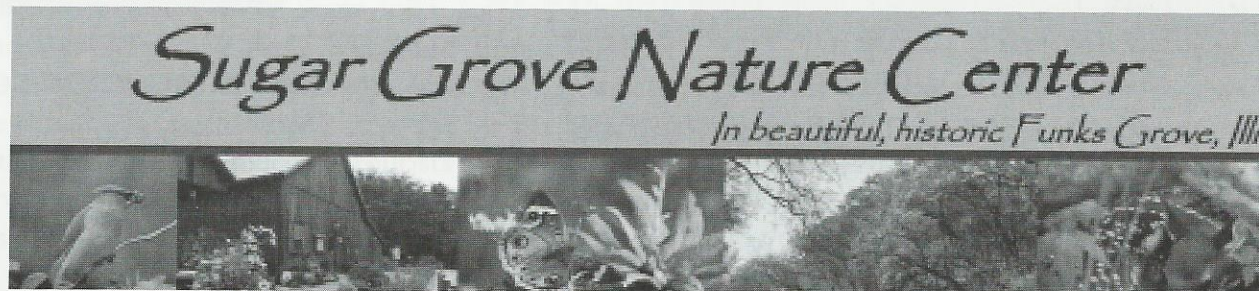
Our picnic is free of charge; the Association provides all food and soft drinks.

Feel free to bring a dish to share if you'd like.

No alcohol is permitted on the grounds of the Sugar Grove Nature Center.

Please R.S.V.P. to Marty Blitstein to assure adequate quantities of food and beverages are available.

www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org



Route 66 Association of Illinois Online!

Thanks to all there is to see and do along the Road, we can't fit it all into a quarterly publication.

We strive to keep you informed about Route 66 events as they happen.

Submit your Route 66 news to:

<http://il66assoc.org/content/submit-your-news/>

Also, look for these regular features on our website, providing a travel and educational Route 66 resource:

- **Towns** - a list of all the Illinois communities through which Route 66 passes
- **Map** - a Google map which pinpoints the locations of Illinois Route 66 attractions
- **Web Links** - an ever-expanding list of websites offering useful and enjoyable information about Route 66
- **Business Members** - a guide to our Association's supporting business members whom we hope you'll patronize as you travel the Mother Road

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www.il66assoc.org



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Route 66 Association of Illinois

To Preserve, Educate, Promote, and Enjoy Route 66 in Illinois

DayTripper
Motor Tour 2013 Edition

MOTOR TOUR 2013: BACK TO OUR "ROUTES"

OUR ANNUAL MOTOR TOUR IS A GRAND OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL THE MOTHER ROAD, VISIT SOME OF HER ATTRACTIONS AND MEET OTHER FINE FOLKS WHO ARE LIKEWISE INCLINED TO SEEK OUT AMERICANA, NOSTALGIA AND FUN ALONG '66. WE CORDIALLY INVITE EVERYONE TO JOIN US AS WE "MOTOR TOUR" ALONG ROUTE 66 IN ILLINOIS.



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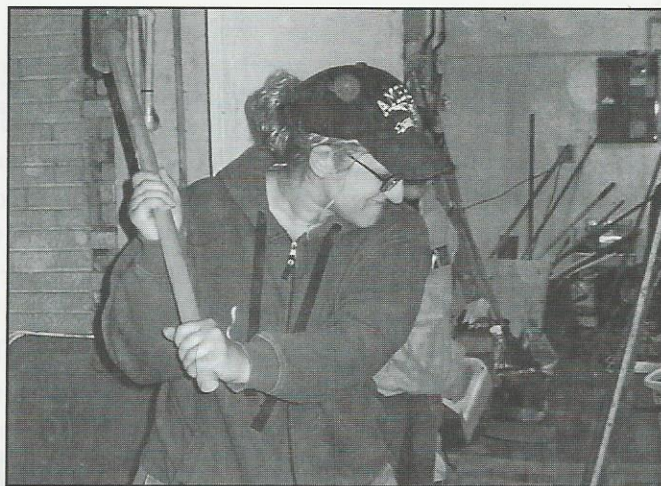
DISCOVER MORE ABOUT THE STORIES WE'VE
INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE OF THE 66 NEWS ON
OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.IL66ASSOC.ORG/THE66NEWS

Preservation Report

By Preservation Committee Chairman, John Weiss

A major work day was successfully completed by members of the Preservation Committee at the Sprague Super Service site in Normal, IL on Saturday, November 2, 2013.

Several projects were completed by the energetic and impressive "Lady's Demolition Crew." An old counter was torn apart by them; when it was turned over it exposed hundreds of pieces of old chewing gum stuck under it from long ago patrons. Some discussion took place to decide if this gum was historic... Pictures were taken but the counter, thankfully, was discarded.



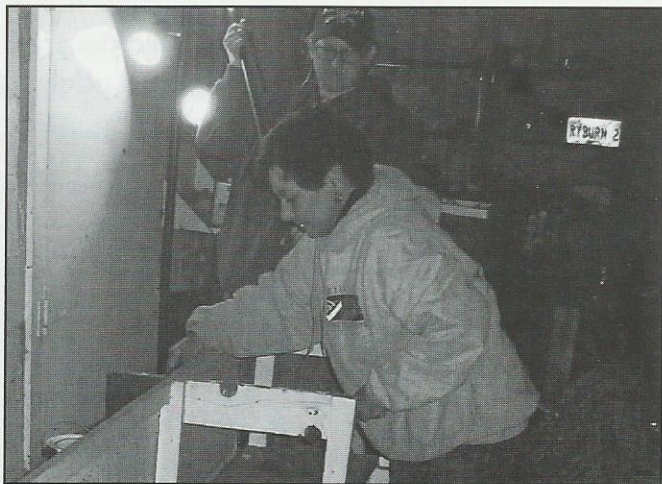
Outside cleanup has made the site more appealing for folks who stop in front to view the building and the new elaborate display kiosk that was recently installed. Inside, new stud walls were mostly completed. This progress enables the electrician to come in and do his work. Owner Terri Ryburn has secured a grant that will be applied to the electric, insulation and drywall expenses. After the electrical work is completed, a small group of us will then come back and complete the rough-in carpentry.



The volunteers on this day were Joanna Jovan, John Lucchesi, (whispering) Joe Gniadek, Dean Keely, Paul Panczuk, Kim Keizer, Steve Spiecke, Diane Quijano and John Weiss.

Terri knew that we must live up to our motto of, "We work for food," so she furnished plenty and served it in the Tea Room. Food always tastes best when we are receiving it for accomplishing so much historic good.

Why do people travel great distances and spend their time and energy to work on historic sites? The answer is, Pride! Preservation volunteers get a special feeling of accomplishment after they have helped save a site that provides enjoyment to huge numbers of appreciative travelers from near and far. Some folks don't understand this and ask "Why?" We reply, "Why not!" If not us, who?



We actually feel sorry for those who don't get it, because they'll never know the wonderful feelings we possess for the site and for each other. If it wasn't for the hundreds of Preservation volunteers through out the past 18 years, there wouldn't be much for tourists to see, photograph and enjoy. When you have the opportunity, visit the Preservation Display at the Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame and Museum in Pontiac to get a glimpse of those remarkable volunteers in action - and all they've accomplished throughout the years.

The Pincsak's 2013 Route 66 Travels

By Eugene Pincsak

Greetings roadies! It's been another exciting year on the Mother Road for Dee and I. Our spring trip in late May was great; we enjoyed nice weather for the most part.

We went through Memory Lane slowly, then around Bloomington to Funks Grove for a supply of sirup and some 66 items. Next we headed on down the road to Lincoln to get some pictures of the murals - there are some nice railroad murals there. Next, on to Springfield for lunch at the Cozy Dog. I remember the Abe Lincoln Motel used to be there and International Harvester was across the road (66). Heading south through Glenarm, we waited a long time for that bridge to be rebuilt. Divernon was next and of course Dee said we must stop at Nickorbob and the Rusty Star for some shopping. There's also an interesting motorcycle-themed 66 exhibit just around the bend. Now onto our destination for a couple of days: Litchfield. The next day we got a pre-grand opening tour of the museum with Martha Jackson.




On Memorial Day, we went down to Weezy's in Hamel and visited some friends. Then the storms rolled in as we were heading north through Staunton. It seemed every road in town was flooded. We took Route 4 (66) up to Carlinville; stopped for dinner at Crabby's for great food right on Route 4, then headed back to our motel.

On the night of 31 May, tornados ravaged the area. A couple friends' homes in Gillespie were damaged. Bunker Hill and Mt Olive suffered much damage. Luckily, the Soulsby Shell Station in Mt Olive was unharmed.

Driving up 66 north on the way home the next day, we saw many poles snapped off like toothpicks and farm buildings that were damaged. This was our second close encounter with tornadoes in that area.

On a brighter note was the 66 picnic in August. Sugar Grove Nature Center is a beautiful place. What a great location to observe nature, take walks or have a picnic - which we did with plenty of good folks and a lot of nice 66 road people. After all that food, we probably all needed to jog if we could!

Picture right features Martha Jackson, Cheryl Eichar Jett and Friend.




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Open Road / On The Road with Wagon Load A Trouble

By Diane Quijano

Route 66 has a magnetic quality, drawing people together from all over the world. And the band, Wagon Load A Trouble, was there this summer, meeting new friends up and down the old highway.

2013 was the Wagon's premier season performing along Route 66 in central Illinois. The band plays classic country, western swing, and rockabilly—songs that travelers would have heard on their radios in the heyday of Route 66. And they sprinkle in original songs reminiscent of those early days. Hubbed in Bloomington, Illinois, the band consists of husband and wife, Ed and Diane Quijano, Clay Johnson, Larry Timm, and father and son, Tom and Travis Morr.

In May, these Trouble Makers welcomed summer with a marathon gig at DK's Garage in Towanda, Illinois, for the Red Carpet Corridor event. They played five hours straight for the car show and for teems of people rolling down from Chicago and gathering at Dawn's iconic garage. Wagon Master Ed Quijano noted, "It was like stepping back in time." "We had a blast cranking out old hits while hot rods sailed by revving their engines."

The band jumped back on Route 66 at a cruise-in at Atlanta, Illinois. This gig was a band favorite. The sun seemed to hang high in the sky all day, and the band filled the air with songs like Summertime Blues and Sentimental Journey. They even had people dancing in the street! Travis remembers how cool it was to play under the giant "Hot Dog Guy," and Diane recalled the warm conversation she had with a woman from Croatia, who was traveling the Road on her motorcycle.

The band met sweltering conditions at Thresherman's Reunion in Pontiac in August, but that didn't stop them from laying down hot melodies, like the ones that came from Larry's saxophone. The band felt right at home surrounded by countless trucks and tractors. And they returned to Pontiac on the last day of summer to film their first video. Clay directed the filming, and Tom received the friendship award there for trying to explain what "Wagon Load A Trouble" means to a couple of nice visiting French women who didn't know English.

Route 66 has its own rustic beauty as a highway, but it's most attractive quality is its ability to bring people together who otherwise would never have met. The last line of Open Road, one of Wagon Load A Trouble's original songs, reads:

When I'm dunmovin', that day will come
For now I'll stay in the passing lane
I thank the Lord for the open road
Because it brought me to
Many friends like you

WLAT is dedicated to preserving the music connected to historic Route 66. To follow the zany escapades of this band, you may find them on Facebook under Wagon Load A Trouble.



Long live 66 and those who continue her preservation and protection.

-- Bob Waldmire

The Friedrich Family at the Lincoln Balloon and Art Festival

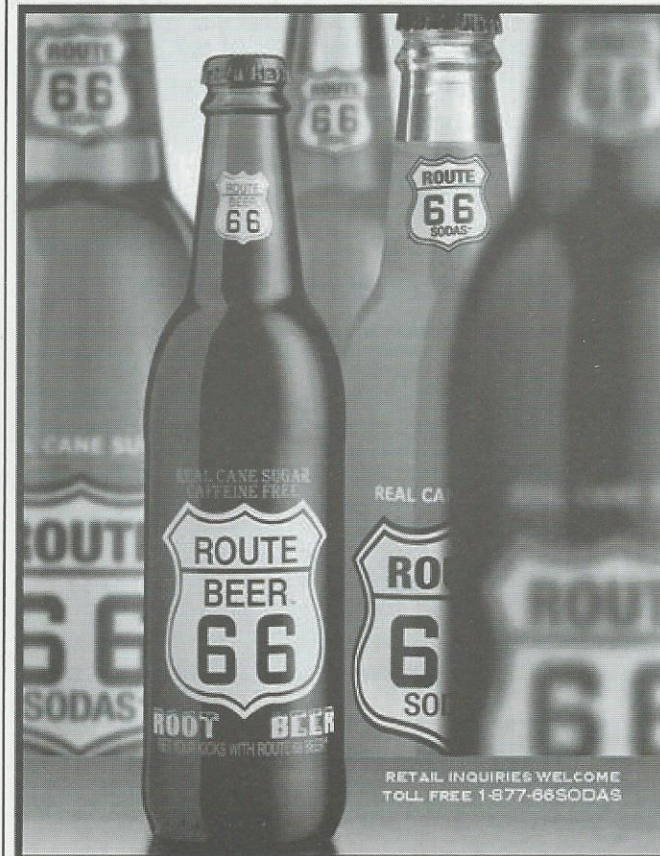
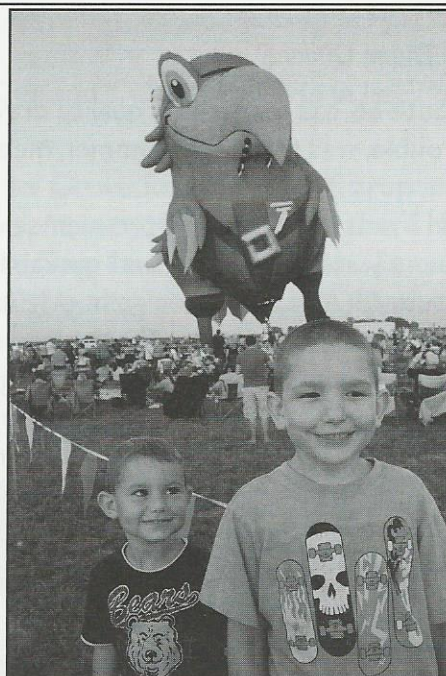
By Josh Friedrich

The annual Lincoln Balloon and Art Festival is held the fourth weekend of August. This year it really was a family affair as it was Wendy, Charlie, Lizzy, myself, both sets of grandparents, and our nephew.

The event is held at the Lincoln Airport for the twilight balloon glow; carnival rides, food vendors, and the Heritage Flight Museum are on the site as well. You can also peruse the artists' tents and other sales set up downtown during the day.

It was a perfect day for ballooning and the twilight glow went off without a hitch. The most spectacular balloon this year was a Pirate Parrot that towered over the other dozen or so balloons. It was complete with a peg leg, eye patch, and hat. The kids enjoyed the various carnival rides and bounce house slide.

It was a wonderful evening to remember for our family. Maybe next year it will be a memory for yours. There are lots of things to do and see in Lincoln on and off route 66 so why not make a day of it? Get out there and view 66!



Taste the Route! Enjoy the Road!

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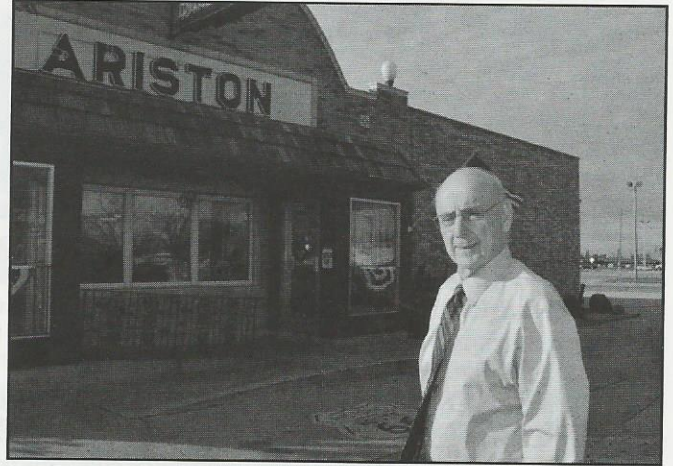
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Litchfield's Ariston Café: A Route 66 International Travelers' Favorite

By Al Lopinot

For many recent years, the Ariston Café in Litchfield, Illinois has been a favorite eating stop for Route 66 travelers on their way to California or Chicago. Ariston, is a Greek word meaning, "The Best." The very first Ariston Café was located on Routes 66 and 4 in Carlinville (along with a candy kitchen) in 1924 and was operated by Pete Adam. The Adam family relocated their café on Route 66 when it came through Litchfield in 1930. In 1966, Nick and Demi Adam took over the restaurant and more recently added their son Paul to the ownership.

The Ariston has been an attraction to many Route 66 travelers, especially from foreign countries like Germany, Italy, England, Australia, New Zealand, Iceland, Japan, China, Belgium, Spain, Switzerland, and Brazil - 33 different countries in all. Their favorite time to visit is from April through October. According to Nick Adam, "This past year (2013) we had 4,000 foreign visitors. One of the main reasons for this attraction is due the TV program Route 66. The program aired 116 episodes from 1960 to 1964 and was about two young men traveling across the United States in a Corvette. Nick said, "This TV program still airs in Europe from time to time and encourages foreign visitors traveling to the United States to also travel Route 66."



Nick continues, "We're on alert for foreign dress and conversations, and we then ask them to sign our guest book. Last year, many of our international customers were from Germany, this year the majority were from England and Spain. About 45% of our business are Route 66 travelers - from both the US and from other countries. One of our favorite food dishes for foreign travelers is the "TexMex" which is homemade chili."

Nick explains, "We also get special groups including the School of Architecture with 120 students. We had a Country/Western Band stop by and while here they played some of their music. In May, 2003 a paraplegic named Vasile Stoica, 36 years old, from Romania in a sports wheel chair stopped by. He was riding this chair without escort from Chicago to Los Angeles, California in 66 days. He holds the Guinness Book record for the longest distance in a wheelchair in a day — 129 kilometers. A group of Germans came with 20 small two stroke generator cars called Trabant. Yet another group from Russia brought their side-car motorcycles for traveling Route 66."

According to Nick, many of the Route 66 travelers that visit his restaurant stay overnight in the local motels and also do shopping in the local stores. This international trade from his restaurant in Litchfield is a big help to the local economy.

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A Tale of Two Racetracks

By Joseph D. Kubal and Keith Yearman

If you think the popularity of auto racing is a new phenomenon, think again. Auto racing in the U.S. is almost as old as the history of automobiles here, and its popularity increased as automobile ownership increased among the general public. Santa Fe Park, for example – the predecessor to Santa Fe Speedway in Willow Springs, IL – had automobile racing as well as horse racing as early as the 1920s.

Racing along U.S. Route 66 in suburban Chicago is a more recent phenomenon. During the 1950s, midget auto racing was a popular spectator sport, and avid fans back then could easily access a few of the tracks located on or very near Route 66. In fact, auto racing in general was so popular that a number of tracks of various kinds peppered the greater Chicago area during the 1950s and 1960s. Hodgkins, a southwestern suburb of Chicago, hosted two tracks – Lenzi Park Speedway and Mance Park Speedway.

Lenzi Park Speedway was located on the SE corner of Joliet Road/U.S. Route 66 and East Avenue, across from Stinson Airport and close to the McCook-Hodgkins quarry run by Vulcan Materials Co. This was about four blocks north of the village center. The auto track operated for just two years, from May 5, 1952 through the end of the 1953 season. The race track was on a larger sports playing field complex, Cole Lenzi Recreational Park, that had been in use at least since the early 1940s and offered a baseball field, a bowling alley and a semi-pro football team. The park was named for the man who operated it: Cole G. Lenzi, a local park district official, former boxer and member of one of the founding families of the village of Hodgkins. The very first village mayor after the village incorporated in 1896, Modesto Lenzi, was one of Cole's ancestors; he remained in office through 1909, when he lost his bid for re-election.

Lenzi Park's 1/6- or 1/8-mile dirt oval track was also sometimes known as Cole Lenzi Field. There seems to be some disagreement regarding the size of the track. During a 2013 interview, former local race car driver Phil Buralli asserted that the track was 3/4 of a mile around the circuit. The track featured 1/4 midget racers (aka TQs, short for three-quarters), sponsored by the American 3/4 Racing Association, as well as stock car, motorcycle and Crosley races.

Neither midgets nor Crosleys should be confused with stock cars used for racing or with standard race cars. Midget racers, according to Webster, are "front engine, single-seat, open-wheel racing cars smaller and of less engine displacement than standard cars of the type." Three-quarter midgets are three-fourths the size of a regular midget automobile.

Crosley was a brand of automobile manufactured in Marion, IN and Richmond, IN by the Crosley Corp. between 1939 and 1952. Crosleys were noted for innovation and energy efficiency, typically reaching 50 mpg. Their compact design made them readily adaptable to small race courses such as Lenzi and Mance Park.

According to Wikipedia, at first stock cars were defined as automobiles that hadn't been modified at all from their original, street-legal factory configurations. However, "later, the term stock car came to mean any production-based automobile used in racing. This term is used to differentiate such a car from a race car, a special, custom-built car designed only for racing purposes. The actual degree to which the cars conform to standard model specs has changed over the years and varies from country to country. Today, most American stock cars may superficially resemble standard American family sedans but are, in fact, purpose-built racing machines built to a strict set of regulations governing the car design ensuring that the chassis, suspension, engine, etc. are architecturally identical on all vehicles. These regulations ensure that stock cars are, in many ways, technologically similar to standard cars on the road."

Mance Park Speedway was located just down the street from Lenzi at 6300 South East Avenue, a mere two blocks south of Route 66/Joliet Road. The land on which the track stood was actually between East Avenue and LaGrange Road on the west and stretched northward a few blocks from about 6300 South to where it met a line of mobile homes on its northern border, into the very southern edge of what is today's Quarry Shopping Center (at that time, the land where the shopping center is now was occupied by motor transport companies – yet another indicator of the close relationship between Route 66 and transport-related businesses on the route in metropolitan Chicago).

The track's first season of operation overlapped with Lenzi's last one: Mance Park opened on May 3, 1953, sporting a 1/5-mile clay (dirt) oval. Although both tracks were in existence simultaneously for one racing season, it seems that there was little competition between the two for fans. Mance Park was initially run by Art, Bill, Harold (Hal) and Tom Mance, but Hal and Bill were the principal operators for most of the track's short life.

Mance Park Speedway debuted as "Chicagoland's fastest and highest banked track." Art Fehrman was the track champion that opening year. Racers often complained that the track was hard to drive and very dusty. The clay oval served the track until September 26, 1954. From June 5, 1955 onward, the raceway featured a paved 1/5-mile track. The track's final racing program was held September 1, 1960; Bryant Tucker was the last Mance Park track champion.

Race driver Phil Buralli's winner's circle photo was taken at Mance Park Speedway. He told interviewer Sue Cappa of the Hodgkins Historical Society that "I was 17 and not old enough to race, but I raced anyway. The car I raced was a 1940 Ford I got for free from Eiserman's Junkyard. Dwayne Sublet helped me work on the race car. I would drive it from my house [6510 Conrad] to the track." Cappa is Buralli's niece and conducted the interview as part of an oral history for the historical society.



Mance Park hosted mostly stock car races but occasionally midget and Crosley racers as well. As with most other tracks, the race course also held events other than racing such as rodeos, Chicago Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) boxing and professional wrestling matches. Amenities at the track included a cocktail lounge, a picnic grove and a trapshooting area.

Of particular note was stunt driver Ace Gasparas, whose appearances included a monthly death-defying motorcycle run through a "wall of fire." According to Phil Buralli, the wall was built with 1/4-inch slats. The wooden wall was ignited and allowed to burn for a while. This made it easier for Ace to crash through it. Once most of the wood was burned through, Ace would rocket through the burning wall. The crowd loved the spectacle and usually roared for more.

Nevertheless, the roar of the crowds and good attendance wasn't enough to keep either track open. According to Buralli, Lenzi Park's racetrack closed because it was to be used for "a more lucrative purpose." Cole Lenzi himself decided to move houses from the village's 5th Avenue cutoff to the racetrack area. Mance Park Speedway, on the other hand, closed as a result of a disagreement between brothers Bill and Hal Mance. Afterward, Bill Mance opened a trailer court on the Mance Speedway property while his brother, Harold, opened a bar called The Pavilion on property adjacent to the trailer court.

A geographic vestige of each track remains in the village. Lenzi Avenue runs north-south in a J-shape east of East Avenue, from just outside the closed section of Joliet Road near Saban's Place roadhouse, heading south a block or two before exiting onto East Avenue. Mance Drive runs west for a few blocks from East Avenue before dead-ending inside the trailer park that Bill Mance developed, essentially serving as a driveway for those homes. And the last public cache of memorabilia from both tracks is resident at Buck's Pit Stop, a bar and grill celebrating auto racing, located on Kane Avenue in the heart of the village and kitty-corner from the village park. The rest, as they say, is just history now.

Joseph D. Kubal is a Naperville, IL-based geographer, data analyst, and amateur historian. Keith Yearman is an associate professor of geography at college of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL. Information in this article has been excerpted in part from the upcoming book, The Curious Traveler's Guide: Route 66 in Metro Chicago, by Maria R. Traska, Joseph D. Kubal and Keith Yearman.

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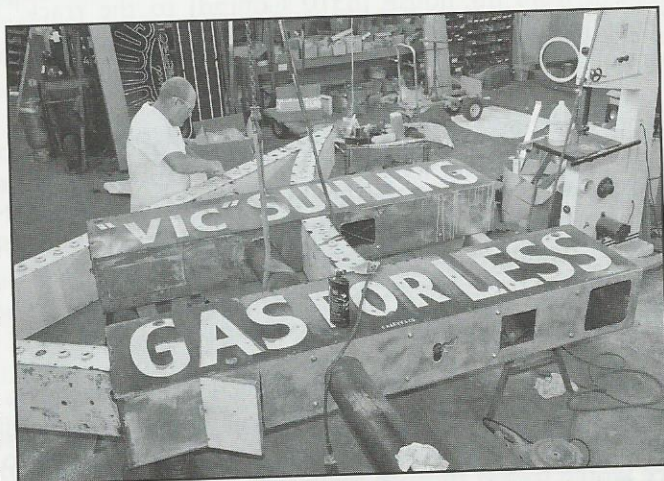
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The Neon's Back On: Relighting of the Vic Suhling Sign in Litchfield

by Cheryl Eichar Jett

On a chilly Saturday evening, October 26, a crowd of Litchfield citizens, former residents, and Route 66 aficionados gathered on the older alignment of Route 66 to watch the neon come back on at the Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welcome Center, formerly the site of the Vic Suhling Gas for Less station. The sign had been taken down a few months ago for restoration, but otherwise had stood sentinel over the property since it was installed in 1957 in front of Vic Suhling's new gas station. The sign outlived the station building, which was razed two decades ago. And now the sign proudly stands in front of the wonderful new Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welcome Center.

In 1957, Vic Suhling owned both a fuel oil delivery business and a gas station in Gillespie. Seeing an opportunity to get in on the Route 66 traffic through Litchfield, he leased a piece of vacant property from Charles and Maude Modlin. The lot had been the first Litchfield location of the Ariston Cafe before Pete Adam built the present Ariston across the street. There, Vic Suhling built his station and erected the neon sign. The station quickly became a popular truck stop, as drivers from the M.C. Slater Trucking Company and others in the region made it a regular stop.



Vic continued his fuel delivery route and eventually opened several other gas stations, while his manager Harry Wagner took care of the Litchfield location. Harry would remain in that position throughout the life of the business. Eventually, Harry's son Gene worked there too. Although Gene Wagner estimates that 90% of the business was from truckers, local residents also patronized the station. They well remember the business and Vic himself – an outgoing and friendly man and an avid bowler as well as hard-working businessman.

Vic's station closed in 1968 and was briefly opened by Paul Stewart as Stewart's Deep Rock. As I-55 was opened and traffic declined sharply on the two Route 66 alignments running along Litchfield's edge, the Deep Rock station closed. The property changed hands a couple times and the building was razed. Ironically, the building came down on October 19, 1990, the day of Harry Wagner's funeral, as his friends and family gathered at the Ariston Cafe across the street.

Seemingly, it was the end of an era, and from that day on, the property sat vacant. Only the sign remained, a silent reminder of the thriving business that had once occupied the lot. Then in 2003, the sign ended up on a list of obsolete signs for the Litchfield City Council to consider removing. Tonya Flannery, Litchfield Tourism Director at the time, and Rich Henry, Staunton City Council Member, owner of Henry's Ra66it Ranch, and Route 66 advocate, stepped in. They addressed the Litchfield City Council, speaking of the history and the value of the sign to Route 66 travelers. The sign was saved.

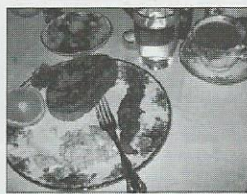
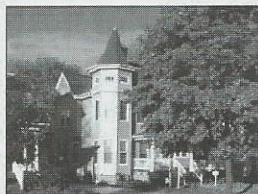
Then, in 2010-2011, after her father David Jackson's passing, Anne Jackson wondered how best to put to use her father's extensive collection of Litchfield photographs and memorabilia. Dave had been Litchfield News-Herald editor for many years and a fixture up and down Litchfield's main streets with his broad smile and purposeful stride. Anne, her stepmother Martha Jackson, Litchfield Tourism Coordinator Carol Burke, and former Superintendent of Schools Walter "Chick" Bishop met in April 2011 to explore the idea of a Litchfield museum based on David Jackson's collection. And as they say in the museum world, the rest is history.

Martha Jackson bought the Suhling property. It was a perfect choice – it was on Route 66, it was across from the Ariston Cafe, and the Suhling sign was still there. A small group began to meet regularly in May 2011 to pursue the dream and begin planning. Soon officers were elected. The Litchfield postcard book was printed and became the first fundraiser. Litchfield citizen Andy Ritchie conceived the idea of a bike ride from Santa Monica, California, to Chicago, Illinois (the length of Historic Route 66) to raise funds. The group received approval of their 501(c)(3) nonprofit status in April 2012. Construction of the building was followed closely by Litchfield residents driving by the site and by Route 66 fans around the world via social media. The grand opening was held June 1, 2013.

A cost-share grant award from the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program provided the funding to restore the neon sign. This joint project was sponsored by the two state associations – Illinois and Missouri – who have successfully worked together on numerous other projects. Specifically, this project team, with the exception of Nick Adam, Vice President of the Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welcome Center Association, was the same group of individuals who managed other Illinois and Missouri neon restoration projects – the Donut Drive-In, Sunset Motel, Munger Moss Motel, Luna Cafe, and Crestwood Bowl. Kudos to these individuals, all Route 66 Association of Missouri members, who are: James J. Thole, Chairman of the Neon Heritage Preservation Committee (NHPC); Robert D. Gehl, Team Advisor for the NHPC; Esley Hamilton, Preservation Historian, St. Louis County; and David Hutson, Neon Restoration Consultant, Neon Time, St. Charles MO.

And for the final piece of the puzzle, on that recent chilly October evening, the crowd did gather to watch family members flip the switch to the sign at dusk. Members of both the Illinois and Missouri Route 66 Associations, members of the Suhling and Wagner families, museum board members, and local dignitaries were on hand. The American Legion Color Guard was there and well-known local personality Paul Hampton sang the national anthem. Speakers included Mayor Steve Dougherty, Neon Team Coordinator James J. Thole, Litchfield Museum & Route 66 Welcome Center President Martha Jackson, Missouri Route 66 Association President Tommy Pike, and Illinois Route 66 Association President Cathie Stevanovich. In her remarks, Cathie said, "All of this came about because one person had an idea, and communicated it, and pursued it, and it finally grew to reality. So here we are [celebrating it]."

When the ceremony was over and continuing through the next few days as photos were posted and the news was shared, one comment echoed over and over - "Vic was a great guy. He would have loved this!"

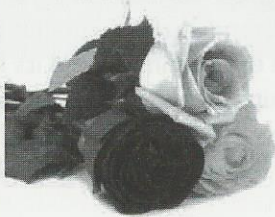


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From one of our guests:

"Our golf game was rained out but we certainly were not at a loss for activities. We spent a goodly amount of time at the Route 66 Museum. As the skies cleared, we took a long walk around the square, town park, library and courthouse. Our room was well equipped and quiet. Our skillet breakfast was stick-to-the-ribs-all-day delicious. We highly recommend Three Roses to anyone staying a night or more in Pontiac."



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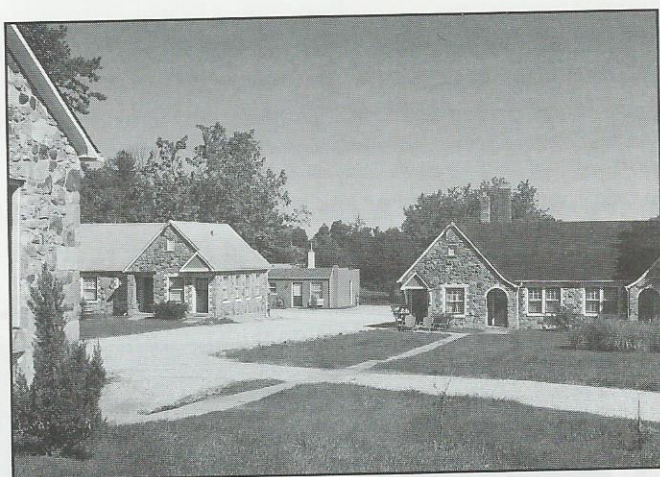
Wagon Wheel Motel

By: Brian L. Alexander

My wife, Fran and I travel from the Chicago land metropolitan area to the rural area between Cuba and Sullivan Missouri various times throughout the year. We have friends and family in both locations. Our entire trip is about 360 miles long, one way. We are familiar with the I-55/Old Route 66 corridor; this is the passageway that is ninety percent of our trip between its starting point and final destination. The journey on Route 66 years ago, before the Interstate System, took approximately eight to nine hours. Today we can travel it in just under six hours. The majority of our time is saved because Interstate 55 bypasses Bloomington/Normal and Springfield, in Illinois. Interstate 44 quickly whisks us right through the St. Louis Metropolitan Area, in Missouri. I like to say that we use today's Interstates to make good time and we travel Old Route 66 to have a good time.

Anyway, we have been to Cuba Missouri many times, Cuba is noted for its murals that have been painted on its buildings in town. It has history going back before the Civil War, and had battles in that area during that conflict. It also has quite a few attractions, The World's Largest Rocking Chair, and the Wagon Wheel Motel, are just to name a few.

The Wagon Wheel is the oldest continuously operating motel on Old Route 66; it was opened in 1935. It opened in the middle of the Depression and at the same time the famous drought known as the "Dust Bowl", which ruined thousands of acres of farmland. Over the years, the property not only had a motel but it also had a gasoline station, a café and today a retail store.



We were told that this was one of the first AAA-rated motels on Route 66. Later on as it aged and lacked repair it was a real flea bag motel until it was bought in 2009 by Connie Echols, a Cuba Missouri resident. There are 19 cottages; all have one bed, except for 5 that have two beds. The cabins are English Tudor style and the exterior walls are made of brownstone which is readily available locally.

Fran and I visited the motel on an annual Route 66 Association of Missouri's Road Tour later the next year, in September. At that time they were doing extensive repairs to all of the buildings. The electrical work and plumbing had been an absolute mess. They had completed a lot of restoration work at the time we visited the motel. The rooms that had been restored looked exceptionally nice. Fran and I visited the motel last September on a Sunday Morning. Unfortunately the motel office and Connie's Shoppe were closed. The maids were cleaning the units and the properties appearance was even better looking than the last time we visited the motel.

Fran and I plan on staying there the next time we make our journey to Missouri. I understand that the amenities have been upgraded and are comparable to a newer motel. I would like to learn more about the establishment and its history. I would also like to experience staying at this restored Route 66 Motel. We will be on Route 66 and we will be having a good time.

Mother Road Festival

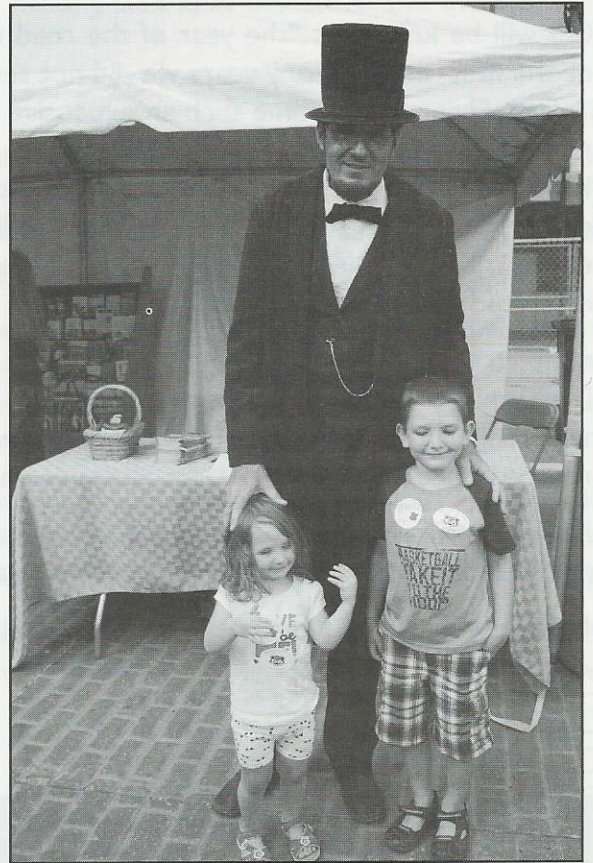
By Josh Friedrich

The annual International Mother Road Festival roared into Springfield again on Friday, September 27, 2013 with its well-attended evening cruise-in. Charlie was wanting to go and see all the cool cars. We wound our way across town to the Cozy Dog for dinner and to watch the cars snake by on Sixth Street/Route 66. After enjoying a few Cozy Dogs and fries, we headed downtown and parked next to the State Capitol building.

It was a nice autumn night and the cars just kept creeping along Fifth Street to park for our viewing pleasure. It took at least two hours for all the cars to complete the cruise. We spotted Route 66 author and avid postcard collector, Joe Sonderman's blue 1957 Chevrolet. I made a point to stop and say hello to Buz Waldmire and see his brother Bob's Ford Mustang, Volkswagon Minibus and artwork. While chatting with Buz, he reintroduced me to his son Tony and daughter-in-law.

Nearby was the main stage where we listened and watched Sh-Boom, a 1950's style band from Saint Louis. The kids enjoyed the music and dancing to a rendition of Jailhouse Rock. We then made our way back towards our car taking in the sights and sounds on all sides. There was no need to see everything as we would be back tomorrow afternoon with Wendy's parents in tow.

Saturday afternoon was upon us and we made our way back to the festival which was in full swing. The streets were lined on each side with obsessively detailed and chromed out vehicular eye candy for the crowd of attendees. I have been faithfully attending this event for at least ten years and it seems to get bigger every year. The variety of cars, kaleidoscope of colors, and various stages of decay vs. restoration keeps things fresh for even the most casual non gear head.



We zig-zagged our way toward the vendor tents so we could chat with our roadie friends and be enticed by their wares. Route 66 was well represented with under the Travel Illinois Expo tents for Carlinville, The Mill in Lincoln, Litchfield, Becky's Barn of Auburn, Illinois Scenic Byways, Marty & Cathie for the Route 66 Association of Illinois, Girard, Arcadia Publishing authors Joe Sonderman and Cheryl Eichar Jett, and several more. We could have spent the whole afternoon talking with everyone, but then we would not have seen so many awesome modes of transportation. We were greeted warmly by Abraham Lincoln and a group of superheroes, including Captain America, Spider-Man, Black Widow, and a rather young Thor. We even signed a car hood brought by the Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway Association. We walked around for at least two hours looking

at Fairlanes, Fords, Chevys, Mercurys, VWs, mini Coops, motorcycles, rat rods, PT Cruisers, Dodges, Jaguars, and everything in between with over 1,000 registered vehicles. It is enjoyable to walk the streets where Abe Lincoln walked and enjoy the architecture of historic downtown Springfield.

Timely Tips for your Route 66 Trip (or other long road trip!)

By Marcia Gascho

2013 will be known as “the year of the road trip” for us. For the first time in many years we did not set foot on an airplane. Flying has become such an expensive and tedious experience with all the security checks, flight delays, etc. My husband Bruce has discovered the joys of long distance driving instead. In April we drove from Indianapolis to Seligman, Arizona. In June we drove to Yellowstone Park and visited my Dad in Montana.

I’m no stranger to long road trips. The longest was an epic 10,000 mile journey to Alaska and back that I took with my parents and brothers in 1977. Believe me, we had to be prepared since most of the Alaska Highway was gravel back in those days with services few and far between.

Like my parents before me, Bruce and I have developed a ‘system’ to prepare for these long trips. We use a road trip checklist that we have refined over the past few years.

Here are some things on our list that we bring on trips:

- ☐ Healthy snacks
- ☐ Case of bottled green tea
- ☐ Cooler with ice packs
- ☐ Lunch made for the first day
- ☐ Small fan to provide white noise and air movement in motel rooms
- ☐ Extension cord
- ☐ Charging cables for phones, tablets and cameras
- ☐ A supply of postcard stamps and pre-printed address labels
- ☐ Books on CD for boring stretches on the Interstate
- ☐ Thumb drive with downloaded podcasts and music. Many cars have a USB port in which to plug it.
- ☐ Tablet with Kindle books and access to wi-fi. After a long day on the road, my husband enjoys reading a book on his tablet. If the wi-fi is good, I indulge in my guilty pleasure of watching Korean dramas online.
- ☐ GPS and paper maps (I don’t always trust the GPS!)
- ☐ Route 66 maps and books (Jerry McClanahan’s EZ66 Guide is great)
- ☐ Binoculars and/or spotting scope for viewing wildlife and scenery
- ☐ Lots of coins if going through tollbooths. (Oklahoma has a bunch)
- ☐ Cash. No one uses traveler’s checks anymore and we don’t like to use charge cards too much except for gas and motels. We start saving money months in advance. Christmas and birthday money go into the vacation fund.
- ☐ Sack for dirty laundry
- ☐ Trash sacks and/or recycling sacks
- ☐ Sunshade for the car windshield
- ☐ Clothes for a variety of different weather conditions plus hats

Other stuff on the checklist:

- ☐ Set house lights on timers
- ☐ Stop the mail and newspaper



☐ Type up an itinerary with motel and contact info to give to our neighbor before leaving. She also takes care of watering our flowers, refilling bird feeders, etc.

Bruce also has a short "paranoid checklist" that he looks at before shortly before heading out. It includes items about setting the house thermostat to a certain temperature, making sure that the stove and oven are off, checking that all doors are locked, etc.

Other tips:

We try to stop every hour or two and walk around for 5-10 minutes. We have many favorite rest stops and have marked them on our GPS. Our favorite Route 66-themed rest stops are on the Interstate near Conway, Missouri and Amarillo, Texas. Rest stops may have recycling bins so we drop off any accumulation of plastic bottles. We stop traveling in the afternoon, don't stay up too late and try to get a good night's sleep.

Despite the temptation, we do not post photos on Facebook during our trip. By doing this, you are advertising the fact that you are out of town and your house is empty. Can you trust ALL your Facebook friends? That goes for using Twitter or other social media too. We wait until we get home, then post the glories of our trip for all to see.

One of the joys of travel is where to eat! I wrote about our favorite Route 66 food in a previous issue of this magazine. It's OK to indulge in greasy road warrior food a bit now and then during the trip, but try to have some healthy meals too. Eat some salads, whole grains and fruits. It's no fun to have an upset stomach ruin your trip.

Have fun and be flexible! Don't over-schedule yourself with places to visit. We used to have detailed itineraries and would get upset if we couldn't see everything on our list. Save some things to see for the trip home or the next trip!

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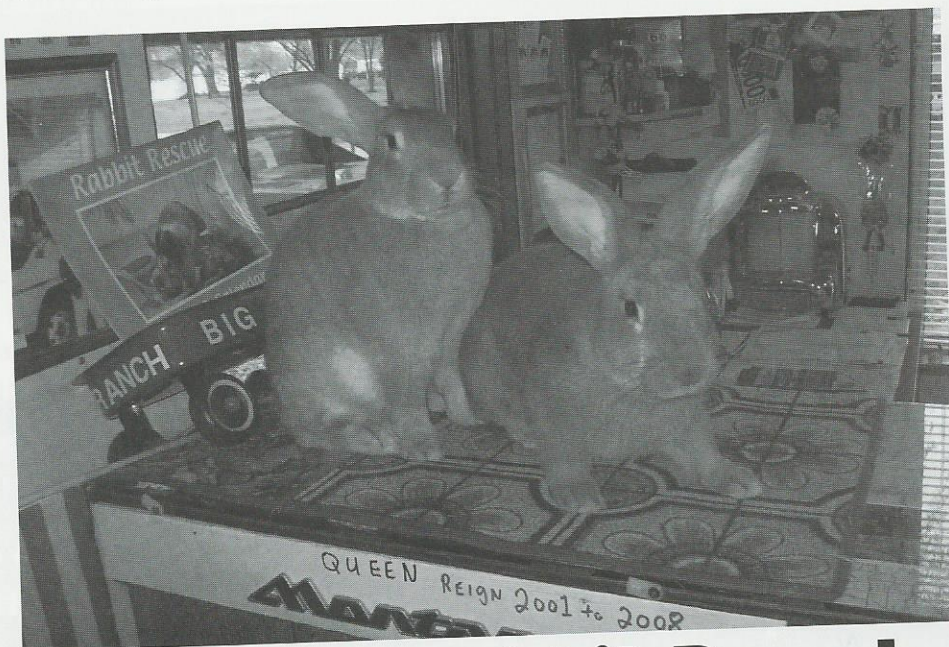
As we approach the end of another calendar year, my thoughts turn to both the past and the future. I'm so happy to be successfully "putting to bed" another exciting year as your newsletter editor. Editing The 66 News continues to be an enjoyable journey for me - and I hope you've enjoyed the fruits of my efforts on every page. It's my pleasure and privilege to assist in the documentation of all you do to preserve and maintain Route 66 and all for which she stands.

Looking ahead, I continue to be inspired by your efforts and I look forward to the opportunity to continue putting together a publication that reflects the hearts and spirits of all you dedicated preservationists.

As we move forward together, remember that while Preservation can be accomplished with physical strength and effort, it is likewise accomplished by chronicling the adventures and events that occur along those carefully preserved miles. Those who submit stories and photos for publication here and on our website are helping to preserve and honor the living presence of Route 66 as she exists today.

I thank all Preservationists: Those who labor with hammers and brooms as well as those who labor with words and photographs. Thank you for sharing your passion and accomplishments - you make the job of editor of your newsletter a real joy.

Wishing you all a pleasant winter to plan your 2014 (and beyond) Route 66 Adventures! I look forward to hearing about them and sharing them with roadies around the world!



Henry's Rabbit Ranch
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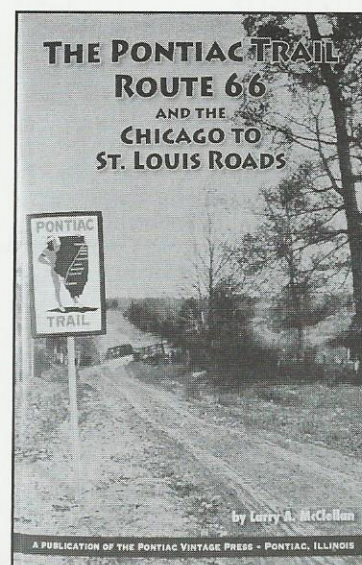
The Pontiac Trail

We'd like to bring this new book to your attention, authored by Larry McClellan with the assistance of Tim Dye and Dave Sullivan, which details the experience of traveling from Chicago to St. Louis before Route 66...

The Pontiac Trail, Route 66 and the Chicago to St. Louis Roads traces the history of travel from the early days of river boats, stagecoaches and railroads into the development of local and then state-wide roads. The author explores the Illinois Good Roads movement, the call for national highways before 1915, and the emergence of named highways in Illinois from 1910 through 1917.

He looks particularly at the number of named highways that would eventually become the path of Route 66, including the Burlington Way, the Mississippi Valley Highway, the Alton Way, the Lone Star Highway, and others. He has tracked down the origins of the Pontiac Trail and explains the development of state and federal aid for highways in Illinois. He then explores the connections of Route 66 to all of this.

The authors hope this adds some strong historical connections for all of those interested in the origins of Route 66 in Illinois. The book is fully illustrated with maps, vintage photos and full color images; 72 pages in a soft binding.



To purchase The Pontiac Trail, Route 66 and the Chicago to St. Louis Roads: In-person - \$10.00 (plus tax) at The Pontiac-Oakland Automobile Museum and Resource Center, 205 N. Mill Street, Pontiac, IL 61764 or Mail order (from Pontiac-Oakland Museum) or www.pontiacoaklandmuseum.org/store/books/ - \$15.63 (includes mailing and taxes)

New Membership Special!

Tell your friends who are not yet members of our Association that we're running a Membership Special until February 28, 2014 especially for NEW members!

Join us as an Individual, Family or Business/Organization and receive a Bonus - a Route 66 of Illinois collectable, commemorative pin in your welcome kit! It's one more way of expressing our gratitude for joining us in our efforts to preserve Route 66 in Illinois.

Remember, all members receive this publication, our Quarterly Newsletter, too, so tell those folks who haven't joined yet how to get their own copy of The 66 News AND a bonus pin for a limited time!

Now Available - Bob Waldmire Design Jackets!

New and just in time for winter's chill - Bob Waldmire design jackets are here and we have 'em at our Hall of Fame and Museum at 110 W Howard St in Pontiac, Illinois!

The jackets are black, sport the same Bob Waldmire design as our popular T-shirts (pictured on page 13) and are proudly made in the USA. Sizes Medium through X-Large are priced at \$45 and 2X through 3X are \$50.

Route 66 Association of Illinois Business Member Directory

These businesses and organizations have joined our Association. Their membership demonstrates their dedication to Route 66. Please demonstrate your appreciation to them by patronizing their businesses whenever you can.

Abraham Lincoln Tourism	1555 - 5th St.	Lincoln	IL	62656	217-732-8687
Amoco Fence Co.	2919 S. MacArthur Blvd.	Springfield	IL	62704	217-787-2921
Angelo's Ben Franklin	706 W. Baltimore St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-9091
Ariston Cafe	413 N. Old Route 66., P.O. Box 453	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-2023
Atlanta Public Library	100 SE Race St.	Atlanta	IL	61723	217-648-2112
Berghoff Restaurant	17 West Adams St.	Chicago	IL	60603	312-427-3170
Bernardi's II, Inc.	123 N. Mill St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-842-1198
Berwyn Development Corp.	3322 S. Oak Park Ave., 2nd Floor	Berwyn	IL	60402-3407	708-788-8100
Berwyn Route 66 Museum	7003 Ogden	Berwyn	IL	60402	708-484-9349
Bloomington - Normal Convention Bureau	3201 Cira Dr., Suite 201	Bloomington	IL	61704	309-665-0033
Bloomington Public Library	205 E. Olive St., P.O. Box 3308	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-828-6091
Bob Green Auto Service	1847 New Salam Church Road	New Berlin	IL	62670	217-546-5846
Branham's Paint & Body	4125 N. Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-528-9654
Brown's Wrecker Service	302 Brown St.	Bloomington	IL	61704	309-828-3753
Burris & Son Trucking	2831 S. Whittier Ave.	Springfield	IL	62704	217-528-7741
C & A Custom Kitchens	3500 E. Clear Lake Ave.	Springfield	IL	62702	217-523-0170
Café Fontana	1024 W. Reynolds St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-419-2011
Carlin Villa Motel	18891 Route 4 South	Carlinville	IL	62626	217-854-3201
Casey's Garden Shop	1505 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309828-7529
Casey's Garden Shop, Inc.	1505 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-828-1424
Cassens Transport Co.	145 N. Kansas St.	Edwardsville	IL	62025	618-656-3006
Chenoa Pharmacy	209 Green St.	Chenoa	IL	61726	309-747-3002
Chicago Historic Route 66 Classic Car Show	1909 S. Avers Ave.	Chicago	IL	60623	773-592-4718
Chuck's Harley-Davidson, Inc.	2027 Ireland Grove Road	Bloomington	IL	61704-7103	309-662-1648
City of Braidwood	141 W. Main St.	Braidwood	IL	60408	815-458-2333
City of Chenoa	P.O. Box 167	Chenoa	IL	61726	815-945-7619
City of Edwardsville	118 Hillsboro Ave	Edwardsville	IL	62025-0407	618-692-7531
City of Joliet Tourism	150 W. Jefferson St.	Joliet	IL	60432	815-724-9045
City of Litchfield	120 East Ryder	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-8147
City of Mt. Olive	200 E. Main St.	Mt. Olive	IL	62069	217-999-4261
City of Pontiac	115 W. Howard	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-844-5847
City of Staunton	304 W. Main St.	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-2233
City of Wilmington	1165 S. Water St	Wilmington	IL	60481	
Clay Dooley Tire & Auto	307 E. Grove St.	Bloomington	IL	61701-5231	309-828-5037
Comfort Inn	3080 S. SR 157	Edwardsville	IL	62025	618-656-4900
Country Classic Cars L.L.C.	2149 E. Frontage Road	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-7056
Cozy Dog Drive In	2935 S. Sixth St.	Springfield	IL	62703	217-525-1992
Crossroads Route 66 Diner	995 Lakeview	Mt. Olive	IL	62069	217-999-8491
Crowne Plaza	3000 S. Dirksen Parkway	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-7777
Curve Inn	3219 S. Sixth St.	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-5806
Curve Inn, Inc.	3219 S. 6th St. Road	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-5806
Decamp Junction	8767 State Route 4 South	Staunton	IL	62088	618-637-2951
Dell Rhea's Chicken Basket	645 Joliet Road	Willowbrook	IL	60521	630-325-0780
Doc's Soda Fountain	133 S. Second St.	Girard	IL	62640	217-627-3491
Double H Bar	121 N. 1st St.	Sherman	IL	62634	217-496-3811
Econo Lodge	19755 NE. Frontage Rd.	Shorewood	IL	60404	815-927-2850
Edwardsville Preservation Comm.	118 Hillsboro Ave.	Edwardsville	IL	62025	
First National Bank of Dwight	122 W. Main St., P.O. Box 10	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-1212
Funk's Grove Pure Maple Sirup	5257 Old Route 66	Shirley	IL	61772	307-874-3220
Grosso's Garage, Inc.	1301 S. Morris Ave.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-828-3615
Hampton Inn of Lincoln	1019 N. Heitmann Drive	Lincoln	IL	62656	217-732-6729
Hampton Inn of Litchfield	11 Thunderbird Circle	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-4441
Henry's Ra66it Ranch	1107 Historic Old Route 66	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-5655
Henry's Ra66it Ranch	1107 Historic Old Route 66	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-5655
Historic Route 66 Flea Market	3117 W. Chain of Rocks Road	Granite City	IL	62240	618-797-7900
Hog Nuts Motorcycle Repair & Supply	205 N. First St	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-7600
Holiday Inn Express	3050 S. Dirksen Parkway	Springfield	IL	62703	217-529-7771
IL State Police Heritage Foundation	4000 N. Peoria Road	Springfiels	IL	62702-1033	217-525-922
Illini Bank	2120 Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-544-0139
Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway	700 E. Adams St.	Springfield	IL	62701	217-525-9308
Illinois State Library/ Serials Section	300 S. 2nd St.	Springfield	IL	62701	217-785-4127
Jim Hannah - Heating & Air Conditioning	208 Elm St.	Joliet	IL	60433	815-651-6556
Joan Bullard Realty	112 W. Tremont	Odell	IL	60460	
Joliet Area Historical Museum	204 N. Ottawa St.	Joliet	IL	60432-4007	815-723-5201
Joliet Route 66 Diner	22 W. Clinton St	Joliet	IL	60432-4102	815-723-3865
Jubelt's Bakery & Restaurant	303 N. Old Route 66	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-5314
Karens Resale & Consignment	195 N Front	Braidwood	IL	60408	815-390-5258

Launching Pad Drive In	810 E. Baltimore St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-6535
Lincoln Printers, Inc.	711 Broadway St.	Lincoln	IL	62656	217-732-3121
Lindsey Electric, Inc.	3260 Terminal Ave.	Springfield	IL	62707	217-544-6789
Livingston County Historical Society	115 W. Howard St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-842-2744
Lou Mitchell's Restaurant	565 W. Jackson Blvd.	Chicago	IL	60661	312-939-3111
Luna Café	201 E. Chain of Rocks Road	Mitchell	IL	62040	618-931-3152
Lydia's Loft	107 1/2 W. Madison St.	Pontiac	IL	61764	309-824-2490
Magnuson Grand Hotel & Conference Center	1 - 55 & IL Route 108., P.O. Box 377	Carlville	IL	62626	217-324-2100
Maverick Steak House	1023 W. Dorlan Ave., Suite C	Springfield	IL	62702-2346	217-732-7169
McLean County Museum of History	200 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701-3912	309-827-0428
McSherry Agency	209 W. Madison St.	Pontiac	IL	61764-0738	815-844-3183
Mid Illinois Caliper	2803 N. Dirksen	Springfield	IL	62702	
Midwest Truckers Association	2727 N. Dirksen Pkwy	Springfield	IL	62702	217-525-0310
Milltown Market	508 N. Kankakee St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-0386
Moscardelli Moving & Storage	709 N. Lincoln	Springfield	IL	62702	217-787-4043
Niehaus Cycle Sales, Inc.	718 North Old Route 66	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-6565
Old Log Cabin Inn	18700 N. Aurora St	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-842-2908
Old Route 66 Family Restaurant	105 S. Old Route 66	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-2920
Oldhan Graphic Supply	2056 Republic	Springfield	IL	62702	217-528-4649
Original Route 66 Accessories	1904 - 60th St.	La Grange	IL	60525	708-246-1543
Patterson Bros. Oil & Gas, Inc.	P.O. Box 139	Williamsville	IL	62693	217-566-3328
Polk-A-Dot Drive In	222 N. Front St.	Braidwood	IL	60408	815-458-3377
Pontiac Area Chamber of Commerce	210 N. Plum St., P.O. Box 534	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-844-5131
Pontiac Family Kitchen	904 Custer Ave.	Pontiac	IL	61764	815-844-3155
Pour Richards Tap & Dining	210 Tremont	Odell	IL	60460	815-998-2556
Quinn's Shell Station	802 N. Main St.	Bloomington	IL	61701	309-827-9188
Rialto Theater	15 E. Van Buren St.	Joliet	IL	60432	
Route 66 Auto Body	P.O. Box 385	Hamel	IL	62046	
Route 66 Music Shop	179 E. Jackson	Viriden	IL	62690	217-801-8310
Route 66 Window Tinting, LLC	1315 Historic Old Rt. 66	Staunton	IL	62088	618-635-8468
Rt. 66 Food N Fuel	2401 S. Chicago	Joliet	IL	60436	815-724-0300
Schlechte Family Service Station	7716 State Route 4	Worden	IL	62097	618-633-2426
Shea's Finest Truck Covers	2075 Peoria Road	Springfield	IL	62702	217-522-0475
Silver Dollar Restaurant	422 Mississippi Ave.	Elwood	IL	60421	815-423-6700
Springer's Creek Winery	817 Hillsboro Ave	Edwardsville	IL	62025	618-307-5110
Springfield Overhead Doors, Inc.	421 N. Lincoln	Springfield	IL	62702	217-787-2602
Standard Station of Odell	314 E. George St., P.O. Box 175	Odell	IL	60460	
State Farm Insurance	2702 Ireland Grove Road	Bloomington	IL	61709	309-622-6588
Station 343	140 E. Maine St.	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-9343
Steak N Egger	8408 Joliet Rd	McCook	IL	60525	708-853-9240
Stowe Auto Body	16501 Broadway	Lockport	IL	60441	815-838-7084
Three Roses Bed & Breakfast	209 E. Howard	Pontiac	IL	61764-1919	815-844-3404
V.F.W. Post 5422	557 W. Baltimore St.	Wilmington	IL	60481-0597	815-476-9210
VFN Fiberglass	330 W. Factory Road	Addison	IL	60101	630-543-0232
Village of Bolingbrook	375 W. Briarcliff Road	Bolingbrook	IL	60440	630-226-8412
Village of Dwight	209 S. Prairie Ave.	Dwight	IL	60420	815-584-3077
Village of Elwood	401 E. Mississippi Ave, P.O.Box 435	Elwood	IL	60421	815-423-5011
Village Of Gardner	302 N. Center St., P.O. Box 545	Gardner	IL	60424	
Village of Godley	150 S. Kankakee St., P.O. Box 89	Braceville	IL	60407	815-458-2222
Village of Hamel	111 S. Old Route 66., P.O. Box 345	Hamel	IL	62046	618-633-2484
Weezy's Route 66	108 S. Old Rt. 66., P.O. Box 128	Hamel	IL	62046	618-633-2228
White Fence Farm	1376 Joliet Road	Romeoville	IL	60446	630-739-1720
Wilmington Chamber of Commerce	111 S. Water St.	Wilmington	IL	60481	815-476-5991
Wooden Nickel Winery & Saloon	3225 Honey Bend Ave.	Litchfield	IL	62056	217-324-4446
WRLR 98.3	P.O. Box 98	Round Lake IL	IL	60073	847-546-9757
Greg's Motor Sales	1021 W. Mishawaka	Mishawaka	IN	46545	574-255-0771
Marcia Scrapbooking	9005 Deer Run	Indianapolis	IN	46256	317-842-1164
Boots Motel	107 S. Garrison Ave	Carthage	MO	64836	417-310-2989
Carlville Associates	331 W. Thornton Ave	St. Louis	MO	63119	314-862-5557
Route 66 Root Beer & Soda	P.O.Box 766	Lebanon	MO	65536-0766	417-588-4466
Signlink	3160 W. Kearney	Springfield	MO	65803	800-788-1778
Blue Swallow Motel	815 E. Route 66 Blvd.	Tucumcari	NM	88401	575-461-9849
Afton Station & Route 66 Packards	12 S.E. 1st St.	Afton	OK	74331	918-257-4044
Claremore Convention & Visitors Bureau	400 Veterans Pkwy	Claremore	OK	74017	918-341-8688
Route 66 World	8776 E. Shea Blvd. B3A-409	Scottsdale	AZ	85260	847-757-2246
Gionanni Tours	626 Westchester Lane	Newbury Park	CA	91320	805-375-1324
National Route 66 Federation	P.O. Box 1848	Lake Arrowhead	CA	92352-1848	909-336-6131

Join our Association as a business member
to be listed among these fine businesses and organizations.

Earlier in this publication, Marcia Gascho shared her best travel tips. Long before Marcia compiled her list, however, Route 66 artist and icon Bob Waldmire shared his own in his inimitable, stylistic manner. Here are Bob Waldmire's travel tips which were originally published in the Winter, 1992 issue of The 66 News.

The Road: 66 TRAVEL TIPS

"Sunset is beautiful, still is beautiful, snow is beautiful, sage is beautiful... no one disagrees." *—Pop, it's beautiful!*

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

AN IDEAL COLLECTION OF
FIELD GUIDES CAN HELP YOU "GET YOUR
THE "NATIVES" — THESE FELLOW SPECIES OF
PLANTS & ANIMALS WHOSE NAMES ARE KNOWN
FIND THEM. SOME OF THESE GUIDES CAN HELP SHOW US
HOW TO "READ" THE LAND (FOR SOME OF THE
THEY CAN TELL US THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
BIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES. GUIDES HELP IDENTIFY &
TELL US ABOUT THE ANIMALS. COLORFUL, ILLUSTRATIONS
THE WAY FOR A GOOD ALL-AROUND, ALL-IN-ONE GUIDE
TO THE ENVIRONMENT (ALL LIFE FORMS). HIGHLY RECOMMEND
ANY OF THE 7 GUIDES OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY NATURE
THESE ARE ESSENTIALLY - BASIC -
LOOK FOR THEM AT THE WAY - AT ALL
FROM & MOUNTAINS & HILLS. THE BOOK IS OFF SHOT
THEY SOMETIMES CARRY LOCAL & SPECIALIZED GUIDES.

ALL INFORMATION ON PAGE 17 REMAINS UNCLASSIFIED

You too can
 CLUE
 THE SECRET TO
 (MAGNETIC) - 11-11-11
 RAILROAD BOB
 (MAGNETIC) - 11-11-11
 OLD 66

FILED

TALL TALES RESTAURANT
ROAD, DON'T HEAR
ASH "LOCALS" ARE
CUP OF!



WE'VE UNLINED —
TO "RECAP"
IT — NAMES,
AGES, NEW FRIENDS,
AND A THOUSANT'S MORE,
STORIES & PHOTOS,
TO RECAP THE

2 SMALL TRUCK
1-1/2" TRUCK LAMP
2-1/2" CENTER-TO-CENTER
1-1/2" HUB SPACER
TRUCK CABINET
ON TRUCK CABIN
ON TRUCK CABIN
HUBS OF WHEELS
IT ALL TOGETHER

2000年12月15日

...BECOMES AN
"AND 66 SLEUTH!"
 ...TO WATCH FOR:

CLUES ARE USUALLY
SUPERIMPOSED TO DISTINGUISH
OLD AND FROM THE CONTAMINATED
RARE (I STATE STRAIGHTFORWARD).
THERE IS A DANGEROUS NUMBER OF OLD
BOOKS, CLUES, & MAPS TO INFORM THE
TRAVELLER - BUT IT'S STILL FUN TO HAVE

SONGS OF YOUR OWN? (HE DISAPPEARS)
 MUSIC
 HORROR
 OF THE
 TASTE TO
 MAKE A HIT!
 "I'VE HAD MUSIC A
 HUNDRED TIMES" FROM ONE
 MAN, ANOTHER, FOR FOUR YEARS
 "BUT NEVER DISCOVERED THE
 ART OF IT" HE SAYS
 "I RESPECT THE LAME, I'VE MADE
 A TRY TO BEAT AN ESTABLISHED NAME

BINOCULARS — YOU CAN STILL
BUY A PRICED BINOCULAR
FOR UNDER \$100 — TRY THE
GALILEO OPTICS, 1000 N. 1ST ST.,
CHICAGO, OR GET FOR \$99.95, BUT BE PREPARED
TO GET THE BEST: MOUNTAINS, VILLAGES, SHIPS, ETC.
OFF THE CORNER OF YOUR EYE, AND ALWAYS BARRY WILSON'S
MAGNIFIED, JUST IN YOUR EYES. MAGNIFIED — HERE IS
THE DETAIL WITH EVERYTHING LOOK THROUGH OTHERS!

SUBSTANTIAL, & AVAILABLE IN CANADA & SYDNEY
 STORES, AND THROUGHOUT MANY LIBRARIES, OR LETTERS
 AND ORAL VIEWING OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS
 (SOME ARE IN A CHINA APPROPRIATE MUSEUMS)
 (THEY HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF MANY STUDIES)

Press *Make your own!*
 A LEAF COLLECTION OF FILMED AND
 A LEAF COLLECTION OF FILMED AND
 BUT DON'T THINK ANY MORE ABOUT IT

RECORDED THIS DATA — LOCALS, PLANT
IDENTIFICATION, ETC. — ON THE CARD &
FROM THE ATTACHED FLAT.

IS COLLECTING LIVE SPECIMENS IS
STRONGLY
CAUTIONED AGAINST IT

For further information

SEE OTHERS — RELATED SPECIMENS &
"SPECIMEN" — VIEWS — VIEW PAGES,
P. 2, 3, 4, 5

R. W. WILSON, Cardinal Hill Cemetery
P. O. Box 110
R. 2, 2, 2, BOX 110
ROCHESTER, ILLINOIS 61568
Phone: (815) 486-9375

Route 66 Shield Mural Photo Collection

Thanks so much for getting our "world's largest collection of photos of the world's largest painted Route 66 mural" off the ground! We've created an online slideshow where you can view the more than 50 photos that have already been submitted. We know for a fact that there are hundreds - maybe even thousands - more photos of this mural out there - so please do help grow our collection! Don't you think they deserve to be in the company of other versions of this "quintessential photo op?" Send your photos our way (digital format is best - email to Editor Gina whose contact information is on page 2 of this publication) so we can all "appreciate the appreciation" for this work of art that celebrates Route 66!



According to Association President, Cathie Stevanovich's letter on page 3, Pontiac has recently installed outdoor lighting to the back of the Museum - so let's see those "after dark" photos with the Shield!

View the collection at: <http://www.il66assoc.org/attraction/route-66-association-hall-fame-museum>

A Charming Way To See the Shops of Pontiac!



Collecting charms is one of the most creative ways of remembering your visit to Pontiac, IL! Local boutiques, merchants, museums, and restaurants have created a Charm Trail. While visiting these locations you can purchase charms and bracelets that serve as unique mementos of your day in Downtown Pontiac!

815-844-5847 · visitpontiac.org · tourism@pontiac.org

Photo Credits:

All photos used in this publication are the property of the Route 66 Association of Illinois except for the following, provided by these generous contributors:

Brian Alexander - Wagon Wheel Motel sign & Wagon Wheel Motel, Cuba, MO, Pg. 16

Gary Bickel - Cool car at Shield mural, Pontiac, IL Pg. 25

Josh Friedrich - Mother Road Festival Ferris Wheel, Springfield, IL, Ariston neon sign, Litchfield, IL, Lincoln, IL Balloon Festival, cover; Route 66 Reinterpreted Art Project, Bel Aire, Mother Road Festival, Ford hood ornament, Springfield, Pg. 2; Kids at Lincoln Balloon and Art Festival, Pg. 10; Mr Lincoln with kids & Joe Sonderman's 1957 Chevy, Mother Road Festival, Springfield, IL, Pg. 17; Vic Suhling sign in daylight, Litchfield, IL, Lauterbach Giant & Charlie, Springfield, sunny Route 66 sky, Our Lady of the Highways, Raymond, IL, Woody PT Cruiser, Mother Road Festival & Art's Motel sign, Farmersville, IL, back cover

Marcia Gascho - Marcia at Missouri Route 66 rest stop near Conway, Pg. 18

Don Johnsen - 2012 Chain of Rocks Bridge, Motor Tour 2012, Pg. 5

Joe Kubal - photo courtesy, Race car driver Phil Burelli with his 1940 Ford at Mance Park Speedway

Al Lopinot - Nick Adam & the Ariston, Pg. 11

Eugene Pincsak - 2013 Picnic at Sugar Grove Nature Center, Pg. 8

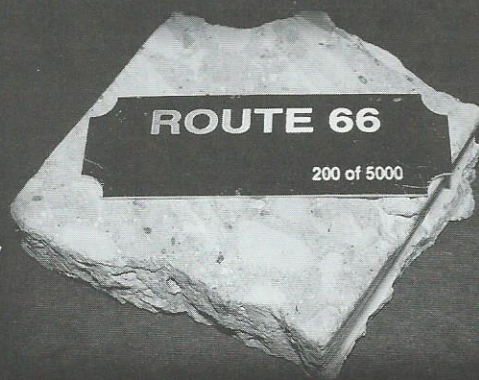
Ed and Diane Quijano - Wagon Load A Trouble, Pg. 9

Jim Thole - Vic Suhling neon, cover; Vic Suhling neon sign refurbishing, Pg. 14; Martha Jackson speaks at relighting of Vic Suhling neon sign relighting, Pg. 15

John Weiss - Preservation at Sprague Super Station, Pg. 7

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On Historic Route 66

The Route 66 Association of Illinois

Our Association is governed by an elected group of officers and board members who are responsible for administering our mission and representing the numerous communities through which Route 66 passes in Illinois. They serve to facilitate your involvement with our Association.

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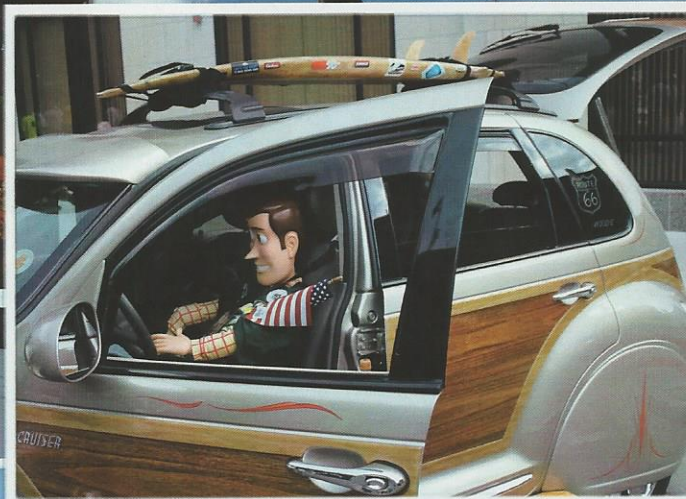
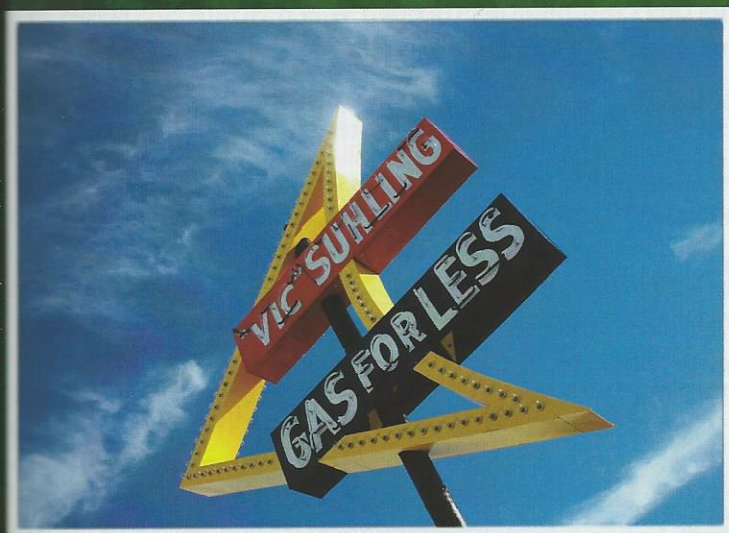
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