



## Chandler Oklahoma Route 66 Interpretive Center

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### **“The Mother Road” Interactive Video Experience Now Playing at Chandler Route 66 Interpretive Center**

**Chandler, Okla.** – Nov. 2, 2007 – The public is invited to experience the completed interactive video attraction. “The Mother Road,” at the Chandler Route 66 Interpretive Center (CHIC). Located in the old Armory building on the corner of Route 66 and Mickey Clarkson Avenue in Chandler, the Center officially opened to visitors on May 19 of this year.

The interactive experience takes the participant through a visually entertaining “drive” from the 1920’s through current day on Route 66, dubbed “America’s Mother Road” in author John Steinbeck’s Depression-era classic, *The Grapes of Wrath*.

Visitors are encouraged to experience for themselves the bleak, “Dust Bowl” years from the seats of a Model A Ford, then move on through the booming Forties and Fifties from the seat of a 1948 Willys Overland Jeep. The happy days of the 1960s and on can be experienced from the ultra-cool vantage point of authentic 1965 Ford Mustang seats.

The exhibit also allows visitors to track “The Route” through eight states, on billboards reminiscent of the kind seen by travelers back when Route 66 was *THE* road. Attendees can re-live the unique lodging experience enjoyed by early travelers in their own virtual hotel rooms such as the Route 66 Tourist Camp, the Moonlight Motel and the 40 Winks Motor Court.

“Roadside attractions” along the way include Vanished Icons, the Round Barn, Through The Windshield, the Popeye Collection, Neon Nights, and the Chisolm Trail Cattle Drive. These are joined by Vintage Views, the Route 66 Poker Run, the Golden Age and Route 66 Bicyclists. Actual theater seats provide a viewing platform for the inspiring “Oklahoma Rising” video, celebrating our state’s centennial with a soundtrack by acclaimed country artist Vince Gill.

After the trip, visitors can stop by the Gift and Book Shop to browse and purchase souvenirs and items selected to bring home a bit of their visit to the Southwestern U.S. and Route 66.

The Center is currently operating under completion of the first of three planned phases of renovation on the historic, native sandstone block Armory Building. The Center is located halfway between Tulsa and Oklahoma City, just off Exit 166 from I-44 (Turner Toll Road). Plentiful on-site parking is provided.

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