

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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America's Road: The Journey of Route 66
traveling museum exhibit at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum
May 7 – August 29

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK— The Gaylord-Pickens Museum is honored to host NRG! Exhibits' *America's Road: The Journey of Route 66*, presented by Dolese Bros. Co. This exhibit shares the history of and fascination with one of the world's most famous highways. On exhibit from May 7 through August 29, *America's Road: The Journey of Route 66* includes photographs, narrative, music and objects from the highway's heyday. In keeping the museum's mission of telling Oklahoma's story through its people, the exhibit also will highlight Oklahoma's Route 66 landmarks through the eyes of Newkirk artist Caryl Morgan. Her watercolor paintings will detail the history of the Mother Road in Oklahoma.

Route 66 is emblematic of the American experience. Nearly every aspect of 20th century United States history is reflected in the story of the people and events along the Mother Road. Those who take the journey down Route 66 today can still explore the Main Street of America. Nearly a hundred years of highway culture can be found, whether a thriving relic or decaying ruin. Thousands of people from around the country and around the world drive all or portions of the Route each year. The highway stretches 2,448 miles and crosses through eight states, tracing the migration of people from the Midwest to the Pacific coast.

The nation's longest drivable stretch of Route 66, over 400 miles, cuts through Oklahoma. Explore the history of the Mother Road in our state, from the creation to the charming landmarks that have stood the test of time. Guests will learn the process of constructing the highway from Dolese Bros. Co., whose products have paved many of Oklahoma's highways, including Route 66. Visitors will also see historical landmarks reimagined with eight, original watercolors depicting Oklahoma's Route 66 stops by Newkirk artist, Caryl Morgan. These original works, made exclusively for the Gaylord-Pickens Museum, will be available for purchase along with prints in the Museum Store for the duration of the exhibit.

An opening reception will be held on Thurs., May 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum, located at NW 13th and Shartel in Oklahoma City. The reception is free and open to the public. All guests must RSVP to Marissa Raglin mbr@oklahomaheritage.com or 405.523.3231.

America's Road: The Journey of Route 66 will be on display at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum in Oklahoma City through August 29 and is appropriate for all ages.

Also, the Museum will celebrate its eighth anniversary on Saturday, May 9 by offering free admission from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. In addition to tours of the high-tech Museum, activities throughout the day include a free Community Yoga with an instructor from This Land yoga, food trucks, crafts, face painting and an inflatable as well as access to the Route 66 exhibit.

The Gaylord-Pickens Museum, home of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, features high-tech, interactive exhibits. Through video-driven displays and touch-screen computers, visitors meet Oklahomans like country music superstar Reba McEntire, ballerina Maria Tallchief, aviation innovator Wiley Post and historian John Hope Franklin who have shaped the history of our state, country and world. Exhibit touring information: Organized by NRG! Exhibits of Kirkland, Washington. Please contact Seth! Leary at 425-827-7617 or via e-mail at seth@nrg-exhibits.com.

For more information about the *America's Road: The Journey of Route 66* exhibit and/or events in conjunction with the exhibit, visit oklahomaheritage.com or call 405.523.3231. For more information about the Gaylord-Pickens Museum, visit oklahomaheritage.com or call 405.235.4458.

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