

4 Women on the Route



June, 2007 was the grand opening for 4 Women on the Route which sits on the original site of the Banks Hotel, which is the Hotel that Belle Starr stayed at when she was in town.

The building has been many things over the years including a gas station, a welding shop and it sit vacant for many years.

In the beginning Melba Riggs and her sister Renee' Charles was going to open a Farmer's Market and sell Route 66 Memorabilia, while they were working on the building, a gentleman from Cartersville, Missouri, stopped by and asked where the old tow truck that was parked there at one time was, as it was the

inspiration for "Mater" in the movie "Cars". Neither Melba nor Renee' had seen the movie, so they both went home and cleaned up and went to the theater to see the movie. When they returned home they contacted Larry Courtney who owns the building and him and his family went to see the movie. After he had seen the movie he went on a quest to find the truck, he was successful as the truck "Tow Tater" now sits next to the building.

On June 21, 2008, 4 Women on the Route, received the New Business Award, at the Will Rogers Award Event which is held by the Route 66 Preservation Foundation, it was held in Litchfield, Illinois.

They also received a neon sign of "Tow Tater" by the Route 66 E-Group.

The building has been restored to a Kanotex Gas Station with non working

1951 Wayne gas pumps, in the front of the building. The original plan include a snack bar in the bay area of the station, it has now turned into a regular little restaurant, serving smoothies, hamburgers,

reubens, phyllis and some local favorites like the Frito Chili Pie and the Funnel Cake.

The hours of operation for the snack shack is Monday through Saturday,

10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. They are located at 119 North Main Street in Galena, Kansas, just west of the Route 66 Viaduct that sits on Front Street in Galena.



Betty Courtney, Renee' Charles, Judy Courtney, Melba Rigg on truck fender

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Jack's Self Serve



Jack LaTurner sitting on bench outside his business Jack's Self Serve

Sitting on a bench watching the cars go by, waving every now and then that is how Jack LaTurner spends his days. He is 78 years old. He is the owner of Jack's Self Serve located at 7th and Elm in Galena. He has owned and operated the business for at least 25 years.

Jack's was the first self-serve gas station in Galena. Bill Murray was the previous owner of the station, and it has always been a gas station.

Currently he sells gas, beer, cigarettes, candy and chips. There used to be a pool table inside many years ago for a nice and friendly game. For awhile he had a bait shop inside. Jack was born in Galena and was one of six children. They lived in a two bedroom house. He lived in Trona, California for 15 years before moving back to Galena. "I just couldn't give it up," said LaTurner when talking about Galena.

LaTurner was a previous City Clerk for Galena, he was actually working as City Clerk when he acquired the gas station. When he was a teenager he hauled hay in the summer like most boys did.

Jack's Self Serve is open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday with nap time from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

When your passing through town stop on by or at least give Jack a wave.



Ghost writing on side of building in Galena, Kansas



Field of Dreams north of Baxter Springs, on Historic Route 66. Ballgames usually every weekend during summer.

from The Route 66 Association of Kansas

The president says:
The economy is a tuff thing; but "66" still keeps them traveling the route, it's magnetic!

European gas prices have always been high, so in reality they haven't been troubled by ours - Plus the European exchange rate, gives more for the dollar than U.S. citizens can get for theirs... Long live "66"

Not to be outdone our own U.S. citizens still find the Route interesting enough to keep them on the road. Regardless of Gasoline prices, there are plenty of fans that are still getting their "Kicks on Route 66".

Scott H. Nelson

Annual Election

A recent election held by members of the board of The Route 66 Association of Kansas, list the following:

- Elected Officers**
 president, Scott Nelson
 vice president, Kenneth Keeley
 secretary, Judy Johnston
 treasurer, Floyd Steele
- Board members:**
 Jay Foreaker, David Nelson, Kenneth Keeley, Judy Johnston, and Floyd Steele



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Hours: Monday through
 Thursday 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
 Friday 10:00 AM until 8:00 PM

Located on Historic Route 66

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