

Angel Delgadillo has been interviewed over a thousand times. His Route 66 preservation efforts, and his once pool hall now gift shop, have been featured in hundreds of newspaper and magazine articles, as well as numerous television programs, all over the world.



Angel has received many awards including:

- The Steinbeck Award from The National Historic Route 66 Federation for beginning "the revival of Route 66."
- A Culture Keeper Award from The Arizona Historical Foundation for his participation in the preservation of Route 66, its history, and culture.
- An Arizona Governor's Tourism Award for "Arizona Preservation."
- A Speaker of the House of Arizona Award in recognition of his "dedication to preserving Route 66" and his "legendary contribution to the establishment of the Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona."

Pixar's John Lasseter visited Seligman on his Route 66 road trip doing research for his computer-animated movie CARS and interviewed Angel about his life on Route 66. Watch the "Inspiration for CARS" (a bonus feature on the CARS DVD or on our youtube channel) to see some of Angel's interview that helped shape the storyline of the movie!



Angel and the Delgadillo family are featured in a permanent exhibition about Route 66 in the Smithsonian National Museum Of American History. The exhibition features a section called "The People's Highway" which chronicles how Route 66 affected the lives of certain families during the 1930s and 1940s.



Ever since Angel Delgadillo founded the Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona on February 18, 1987, the Association has remained a tireless champion of Route 66. The Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona has been responsible for:

- Arizona's segment of Route 66 being designated as:
 - An Arizona Historic Road
 - a National Scenic Byway
 - An All-American Road, the highest national designation possible
- Securing over 3 million dollars in FHWA Byway Program grants for the Arizona Route 66 communities
- The Historic Route 66 Passport Program
- The installation of Historic Route 66 and National Scenic Byway, and All American Road signage
- The yearly "Fun Run", the 800+ car parade celebrating the longest stretch of Route 66 left in the country

In addition, the Association continues to assist all of Arizona's Route 66 communities with preservation and marketing projects.




You can support the Association by becoming a member or you can register for the "Fun Run" and join us for our annual celebration of Historic Route 66. For more information on The Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona go to www.azrt66.com, call 928-753-5001, or visit them at the Association's gift shop in the historic Powerhouse visitor's center in Kingman.



The Birthplace of Historic Route 66



Angel's Barber Shop  Get your passport stamped here!
We proudly carry products made in the USA ★ Scenic By-Way



ANGEL & VILMA DELGADILLO'S ORIGINAL ROUTE 66 GIFT SHOP

PO Box 426 * 22265 W Historic Route 66 *
Seligman, AZ 86337 U.S.A. (928) 422-3352
www.route66giftshop.com info@route66giftshop.com
Open every day 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

YouTube  /route66giftshop
 tripadvisor  yelp

A ROUTE 66 LANDMARK



For over 50 years Route 66 was the main thoroughfare through Northern Arizona and brought much commerce to the town of Seligman. But on September 22, 1978, the newly constructed Interstate 40 by-passed Seligman and replaced the section of Route 66 that had brought the traffic of thousands of cars through town on a daily basis.

The livelihood of the businesses in Seligman disappeared in one day. All the travelers who had once stopped to eat, get fuel, and stay the night were now quickly driving by just two miles south of Seligman. For ten long years the residents of Seligman learned to live on very little. Businesses closed, townspeople moved, buildings were abandoned.

Angel Delgadillo, barber and proprietor of the Delgadillo Barber Shop and Pool Hall, decided he had had enough of watching his town waste away. On February 18, 1987, in an effort to improve Seligman's economy, he arranged a meeting of representatives from Route 66 towns in Arizona to organize a group to make old Route 66 a "historic" highway. At this meeting the Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona was formed with Angel as President. This was the first Route 66 preservation association ever formed and Angel's barber shop/pool hall housed the first headquarters for the grassroots organization.

As interest in the cause and Route 66 nostalgia grew, people started to want Route 66 merchandise. To support the newly-formed

Association, Angel and his wife, Vilma, started selling a few pieces of Route 66 memorabilia out of the pool hall and thereby inadvertently established the first Route 66 gift shop in existence. Little did they know what was to come!

In November of 1987, the Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona proved successful. The State of Arizona christened the old U.S. 66 from Seligman to Kingman as "Historic Route 66". Soon after that the section of Old Route 66 to the east of Seligman, and the stretch from Kingman to the California border was also named part of the historic highway, preserving the longest remaining stretch of uninterrupted Route 66 in the country.

Not only did the Association reach its goal of making the old route "historic" but by doing so it did indeed create a new interest in the old road. People started driving Route 66 again. The dedication of Historic Route 66 in 1988, led to a yearly Fun Run, where 800+ cars start in Seligman to drive the longest stretch of the famed road every first weekend in May. The success of the Arizona's Route 66 Association led to other states starting their own campaigns to rejuvenate the road and tourism to the small towns along it.

Now enthusiasts from all over the U.S. and the world come to drive Route 66 and experience a more nostalgic America. The small unique towns along Route 66 have new life and a piece of American history has been saved.

And it all started in a little barber shop on Route 66 in Seligman, Arizona because the town barber refused to watch his town die.

Angel's barber shop and pool hall is now a visitor's center and Route 66 gift shop. At age 88, Angel still opens the store every morning and is happy to visit with tourists from all over the globe and encourage them to believe that one person can make a difference in this world, just as he did. His daughters Mirna and Clarissa, and Clarissa's husband, Mauricio, all help to manage the shop and carry on Angel's tradition of welcoming travelers with small-town American hospitality.



Mauricio, Clarissa, Angel, and Mirna in the barbershop with Scottish comedian and actor, Billy Connolly, one of the many international celebrities that have come to meet and interview Angel. We are featured in part 4 of his travel documentary "Billy Connolly's Route 66"

Your Route 66 road trip is not complete until you visit the living history at the Original Route 66 Gift Shop

