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HOT ROD Power Tour Returns to Champaign County for Fifth Visit

Rantoul, IL—Experience Champaign-Urbana is thrilled to welcome back the iconic HOT ROD Power Tour for the fifth time as it rolls into the Rantoul National Aviation Center on Tuesday, June 9, 2026. This year, Rantoul is proud to serve as the second stop of the legendary five-day tour, bringing thousands of visitors and a powerful economic boost to the region.

The HOT ROD Power Tour continues to be the world's largest traveling car show, drawing more than 5,000 classic cars, hot rods, performance vehicles, and enthusiasts from across the country. This year, the tour will cruise along the legendary Route 66, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary, starting in Joliet and ending in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Participants caravan city to city, creating a festival-like atmosphere in each destination—an experience our community has enthusiastically embraced previously at the State Farm Center and Parkland College.

"What an incredible opportunity to put Rantoul 'on the map' through the HOT ROD Power Tour as we welcome thousands of visitors," exclaims Scott Eisenhauer, Administrator for the Village of Rantoul. "Combining the history of the tour, along with the famed 100-year-old Route 66 and our former Chanute Air Force Base, allows for an epic day of reveling in the past while creating new memories. We are looking forward to joining our fellow cities along this year's route in developing an unforgettable experience for our visitors!"

"We're honored to be part of the Power Tour's route once more, and even more excited to welcome them to Rantoul National Aviation Center this year," says Jayne DeLuce, President & CEO of Experience Champaign-Urbana. "We anticipate over \$1.3 million in economic impact in less than 24 hours in our community, with hot rodders staying in our hotels, visiting area residents, and cruising to area attractions and shops. The energy this event brings is unmatched."

Champaign County has a long and celebrated history with the HOT ROD Power Tour, previously hosting stops in 2012, 2015, 2017, and 2021, each year drawing record-breaking participation and enthusiastic community support.

In addition to the main event in Rantoul, Experience Champaign-Urbana will once again host the popular Pint Night in downtown Champaign, giving participants and residents another opportunity to connect, celebrate, and enjoy local craft beverages and live entertainment.

The 2026 HOT ROD Power Tour schedule includes:

- **KICKOFF / Day 1: Monday, June 8** — Route 66 Raceway, Joliet, IL
- **Day 2: Tuesday, June 9** — Rantoul National Aviation Center, Rantoul, Illinois
- **Day 3: Wednesday, June 10** — World Wide Technology Raceway, St. Louis, MO



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- **Day 4: Thursday, June 11** — Missouri State University, Springfield, MO
- **Day 5: Friday, June 12** — Tulsa Raceway Park, Tulsa, OK

For more information about HOT ROD Magazine and the HOT ROD Power Tour including how to participate on the tour, visit hotrod.com/events.

About Experience Champaign-Urbana

Experience Champaign-Urbana is the certified destination management organization for the greater Champaign-Urbana area. Their mission is to promote a welcoming destination experience for visitors to strengthen economic opportunity and enhance the lives of residents. Visit experiencecu.org to learn more.

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