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6000 Cars Anticipated at HOT ROD Power Tour in Rantoul

Rantoul, IL—The HOT ROD Power Tour returns to Champaign County for the fifth time as it rolls into the Rantoul National Aviation Center on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, bringing an anticipated 6,000 cars. Rantoul is proud to be the second stop on 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 6,000 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.

“It has been an incredible opportunity to work with the team behind the scenes to create a unique and exciting atmosphere in Rantoul for the HOT ROD Power Tour this week,” exclaims Scott Eisenhower, Administrator for the Village of Rantoul. “Taking a detour from the famed 100-year-old Route 66, our former Chanute Air Force Base will provide an epic day of gathering to share a passion of cars, creating camaraderie and new memories for thousands, including the many residents in our community.”

Hot rodders will be coming into Rantoul off US-136 and working their way through the Village to reach the former Chanute Air Force Base. People can anticipate increased traffic around 10:00–10:30 a.m.

The show will be free and open to the public from 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Spectators can expect to visit with vendors, watch an autocross event, shop for merchandise, eat from over ten food trucks, and check out thousands of unique cars. Single-day passes are available for those who would like to enter their car and join the tour for the day. These can be purchased at hotrod.com/events.

“We’re honored to once again be a part of the Hot Rod Power Tour, welcoming thousands to the Rantoul National Aviation Center,” says Jayne DeLuce, President & CEO of Experience Champaign-Urbana. “This one-day, mid-week event will generate \$1.3 million in revenue in less than 24 hours in our community, with hot rodders staying in our hotels, visiting area restaurants, 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.



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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
- **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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