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Chicago Auto Show 2026



1958 Chevrolet Impala Convertible



2026 Jeep Compass

Daytripping

Charles Herbst

It's Auto Show Week in Chicago. Manufacturers from all over the world (except China) have their vehicles on display in a tradition that goes back to 1901. It remains one of the largest auto shows in North America.

The show works as a display salon. Visitors can come and look at scores of cars from over thirty brands in a climate-controlled environment. It is an especially great place to look not only for a car but also instantly compare that car to the competition. While one can sleuth out cars over the Internet, and gain massive amounts of

data, nothing beats the opportunity to see the cars in person, and maybe even get a test drive or two. Whether you are interested in an Internal Combustion

Engine (ICV), an Electric Vehicle (EV), or a hybrid, a large assortment of vehicles are on display.

Many of the attendees are looking for a new car. Others are car geeks who want to see the latest and greatest that's on offer. Of course, some are just looking for something to do on a dreary February afternoon.

This year's show has the unmistakable look of an industry in transition. There are plenty of electric vehicles available, but there is also a new 777-horsepower, RAM truck on offer. Prominently displayed at the Chevrolet exhibit is a turquoise 1958 Impala convertible with a picture of Dinah Shore. The backdrop proclaims that "there's still no better way to see the USA." Chevrolet is dis-



Chi-Town Alley at the Chicago Auto Show

playing a fleet of new vehicles divided into internal combustion and electric vehicle areas. A Corvette CX concept car rounds out the display.

If you are looking for a new car, the Midwest Automotive Media Association (MAMA) might give you a place to start: This year's MAMA Favorite Vehicle finalists are:

- Favorite Off-Roader: 2025 Toyota 4Runner TRD Pro
- Favorite Family Vehicle: 2026 Hyundai Palisade Calligraphy
- Favorite Luxury Vehicle: 2026 Genesis GV70 3.5T Prestige
- Favorite Pickup Truck: 2026 RAM 1500 5.7L Hemi
- Favorite Affordable Vehicle: 2025 Volkswagen GTI
- Favorite Performance Vehicle: 2025 BMW M5 Touring
- Favorite Plug-in Vehicle: 2026 Hyundai IONIQ 9 Calligraphy

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How to Vote in Illinois In 2026: Early Voting Begins this Week for Most of the State

Capitol News Illinois once again launches Election Guide

Jenna Schweikert *Capitol News Illinois*

Capitol News Illinois has launched its revamped 2026 Election Guide to coincide with the opening of early voting throughout much of the state.

The guide has a rundown of key dates, information on how to register and vote early, and a lookup tool to put voters in touch with their local election authority. It also links to our coverage of the various races for statewide office.

Early voting opens

The guide launched this week to coincide with early voting opening on Feb. 5 for the March 17

primary in most of the state, outside of Cook County. Early voting kicks off on Feb. 12 in Downtown Chicago and either Feb. 18 or March 2 in Suburban Cook County, depending on where you live. Early voting for all jurisdictions ends on March 16.

Most early voting takes place at the local election authority's offices, which for most residents is their county clerk's office. Some churches, libraries, colleges and universities and other government buildings are also offering early voting. Voters can find local polling locations and hours at the Illinois State Board of Elections website.

Registration is also open at most polling locations through Feb. 17. Grace period registration, available at some polling locations, opens Feb. 18 and closes on Election Day, March 17.

Registration is also open online at ova.elections.il.gov until March 1 and will reopen on March 19.

Registration identification

Any voter who needs to register for the first time or file an address change must present two forms of ID, one of which shows the voter's current address.

Valid forms of identification include work, school, state and military ID, passports and drivers licenses, leases and mortgages, utility bills, vehicle registration, credit and debit cards and insurance cards.

Voters who do not present a valid form of ID if needed can cast a provisional ballot and present ID to the election authority by March 24.

ID requirements vary at polling locations, but election authorities recommend bringing at least one form of identification in case of any questions.

Mail-in ballots

Mail-in ballots will also be sent to voters who've requested them beginning Feb. 5. The last day to request a mail-in ballot is March 12.

They must be postmarked by Election Day, but county clerks recommend mailing these ballots at least a week in advance of the election, due to United States Postal Service changes that could delay mail.

Election authorities will also accept mail ballots delivered by hand, and some have drop boxes where ballots can be delivered. Voters who requested a mail-in ballot can still vote in person but must surrender the mailed ballot before doing so.

Polls will be open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day. If voters are in line before the polls close, they are guaranteed a chance to vote.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service that distributes state government coverage to hundreds of news outlets statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

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State Looks to Expand Manufacturing Training at Community Colleges

Latest round of grants could dedicate \$24 million to 6 downstate campuses

Reece Dower *Medill Illinois News Bureau*

As the U.S. sheds manufacturing jobs, Illinois is accepting applications for \$24 million in grant funding to establish training facilities at community colleges aimed at bolstering the state's manufacturing labor pool.

The funding is for six "manufacturing training academies" at downstate community colleges that will add to two existing academies that opened in 2024.

The new grants will be awarded through a bidding process. The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity announced that the latest application window opened earlier this month. Community colleges outside of Cook and the Collar Counties can apply for grants ranging from \$3 million to \$6 million.

It comes as the industry faces harsh headwinds from a wide range of factors, including those outside of Springfield's control.

The training academy program is an offshoot of the bipartisan budget and public infrastructure framework that became law during Pritzker's first year in office in 2019. The Illinois Manufacturers' Association, a pro-business trade consortium, was instrumental in its launch.

"Today's manufacturing is far different than it looked 10, 20, 30 years ago," said Mark Denzler, the president and CEO of IMA. "(For) the states that are going to win on economic development, a large part of that is making sure we have a skilled workforce."

State funding

The first two training academies were built at Heartland Community College outside Bloomington and Southwestern Illinois College in Belleville. The colleges now offer programs and certificates in a wide range of manufacturing processes and technologies, including robotics, welding, advanced automation and renewable energy technology.

The state also made awards to Richland Community College in Decatur and Kankakee Community College.

"Our skilled workforce is part of what makes Illinois a manufacturing powerhouse," Gov. JB Pritzker said in a statement. "This critical grant funding will empower more Illinoisans to pursue high-demand, well-paying jobs in our growing manufacturing sector."

The state also awarded more than \$17 million this month to fund pre-apprenticeship programs in the state's building and construction trades. While pre-apprenticeship training is distinct from the manufacturing academies, Pritzker promoted both programs as means to funnel candidates into in-demand jobs with high barriers to entry.

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OBITUARIES

Burdette Anderson, 86, Belvidere, January 27
Albert Cartwright, 80, Belvidere, January 30
Charles "Chas" Donner, 67, Harvard, January 26
Betty Kelley, 85, Harvard, February 2
Lynnell "Lynn" Saso, 71, Belvidere, February 1
Mary "Cindy" McManus, 80, Belvidere, Jan. 27
Keith Rodebeck, 74, Belvidere, January 25
Kyle Slaughter, 68, Marengo, January 31

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Each week, the Journal seeks to present a variety of voices. **Letters.** Every attempt will be made to print all letters received with the exception of those that are libelous or obscene. Letters should be signed and include an ID or phone number, so that we can contact the author prior to publication to verify authenticity. **Guest columns.** Community leaders are encouraged to submit guest columns consistent with our editorial guidelines for possible inclusion in the Journal. **Opinions.** The opinions expressed in the Journal are those of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Boone County Journal management or ownership.

*David Grimm April 1938 - Dec. 2000
Richelle Kingsbury Aug. 1955 - June 2013*

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THE BOONE COUNTY JOURNAL

real journalism for a real democracy

--In Our Opinion-- Déjà vu?

The Journal does not publish gossip.

Because of the ubiquitousness of the latest rumor coming out of the Belvidere Assembly plant, we'll acknowledge the story that Stellantis has delayed the resumption of Belvidere production from 2027 to 2028. This story originated from a generally reliable source and has been published by many news outlets, but it has not been officially confirmed by Stellantis. This rumor, if true, supports our general perception that future vehicle production of vehicles in Belvidere remains speculative.

In February 2023, Stellantis "indefinitely closed" the Belvidere Assembly Plant. Production of the Jeep Cherokee was shifted to Toluca, Mexico. Subsequently, the contract that ended the 2023 United Autoworkers Strike called for the early 2025 reopening of the Belvidere plant to assemble a new mid-sized pickup truck. A parts depot would also be established in Belvidere as well as an electric vehicle battery plant. President Joe Biden came to Belvidere to showcase and celebrate the agreement.

In August 2024, Stellantis announced a delay in investments in the plant. The following January, the company announced that a mid-size truck would be assembled in Belvidere in 2027. The battery plant and parts depot were not going to happen.

In Spring 2025, President Trump announced tariffs on car imports. In October 2025, in response to President Donald Trump's tariff announcements, Stellantis announced that, instead of the truck, production of the Jeep Compass would take place in Belvidere beginning in 2027. Currently, the Jeep Compass is built in Toluca.

The Boone County Journal February 10, 2026 3

did that work out for Brampton? Canada promised Stellantis C\$529 million (\$387 million), and the Province of Ontario promised an additional C\$513 million (\$375 million).

Stellantis, for its part, has been playing one group of strapped taxpayers against another. We wonder if, in light of past performance, anyone still finds the company's promises and announcements to be credible. Making an empty promise may be enough to satisfy President Donald Trump, but it's the union autoworkers in both countries who are being toyed with.

Last August, this page concluded that It's Over in Belvidere. Nothing has caused us to change our minds.



Meanwhile, in Brampton, Ontario

In 2022, Stellantis announced it would spend US\$2.8 billion to modernize its Windsor and Brampton, Ontario assembly plants. Brampton Assembly would stop assembling Dodge Challengers and Dodge Chargers in 2024. The Brampton facility would be retooled and modernized to "produce the electric vehicles of the future."

The contract with the Canadian Auto Workers called for Brampton Assembly to be retooled for the next-generation Jeep Compass that currently has been built in Toluca. Stellantis was to invest C\$970 million (\$709 million) in the Brampton Plant, with that plant building internal combustion, hybrid, and electric vehicles. Jeep Compass production in Brampton was to begin in the fourth quarter of 2025.

After US President Trump announced tariffs on car imports, in October 2025, the new Stellantis CEO, Antonio Filosa announced plans to invest \$13 billion in American plants over the next four years. This included transferring future Jeep Compass production from Brampton to Belvidere.

Notwithstanding the American tariffs, no modernization of the Brampton facility had previously been made that would have allowed Stellantis to honor the Canadian contract by meeting the timetable and resume production in late 2025.

Despite Stellantis' assurances to a Canadian government hearing in Ottawa on December 4 that the Brampton Plant is on "operational pause not closed," there is no timetable to restart operations in Brampton.

Stellantis has recommended its Brampton workforce transfer to Windsor. Brampton to Windsor is approximately a 4-hour trip. Roughly, this is the same distance as between Janesville and Fort Wayne, which is what many workers in Janesville had to do when the General Motors plant closed there.

Does all this sound familiar?

We respect the UAW officials and politicians (chiefly Democrats), who have supported resuming production in Belvidere, and we respect their Canadian counterparts, too. Truthfully though, what can they really do? We suppose if they shovel enough cash to guarantee Stellantis a profit, the company might be persuaded. But how

Fourteen Black Soldiers Earned Medal Of Honor at New Market Heights

Tom Emery

In the Civil War, most soldiers were white. But some 190,000 blacks served as well, and the facts behind their stories – and struggles -- are sometimes overlooked.

The 1864 battle of New Market Heights, Va. is remembered as one of the outstanding examples of black troops in Civil War combat. Of the twenty-five black soldiers that won the Medal of Honor in the Civil War, fourteen received them from that battle.

The authorization of black troops did not sit well, even with many in the Union ranks, and blacks endured rampant racism in their service. Blacks earned \$10 per month, less than the \$13 that white soldiers took in, and frequently had to pay for their own clothing, unlike white comrades.

Their assignments were often unfavorable, as many did not believe blacks had the intellect or fortitude to become good soldiers. Many Confederates made it clear against black Yankees that no prisoners would be taken.

New Market Heights, which was part of the Petersburg campaign of Ulysses S. Grant, may be one of the most noteworthy events of blacks in combat, but it was hardly the first. The first known instance was at the battle of Island Mound in west-central Missouri on Oct. 29, 1862.

In addition, blacks were in the fight in the battles of Cabin Creek, in present-day Oklahoma, on July 2, 1863 and at Honey Springs, also in Oklahoma, on July 17, 1863. The most famous Civil War battle involving black troops was Battery Wagner, S.C., on July 18, 1863, the basis for the 1989 movie, *Glory*.

At New Market Heights (also known as Chaffin's Farm), which was centered around the Southern fortifications of the capital of Richmond, Grant intended a diversionary action to prevent reinforcements from being sent to the concurrent Shenandoah Valley campaign, and draw Confederates from south of the James River. A threat against Richmond would also

continued on page 4

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CHARLES HERBST, J.D., LL.M.

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OP-ED

Dear Governor Pritzker And State Legislators: Stand Strong To Protect Illinoisans From Our Federal Government

Anusha Thotakura and Lauren Wright

We are the Illinois frontline service providers and community advocates who have watched in horror as the Trump administration unleashes military-style ICE raids through our neighborhoods while simultaneously dismantling critical supports for our most vulnerable community members. We have supported community members as federal agents conduct sweeping immigration enforcement and tear families apart, while helping those who have had their access to essential services demolished by the same administration.

As a new year in the Illinois General Assembly gets underway, we came together with more than 100 advocacy, health and human services, faith, and community organizations to send a letter calling on Gov. JB Pritzker and the Legislature to resist federal coercion and refuse to retreat into regressive policy rollbacks. Our state must advance bold, progressive solutions, not abandon the progress so many Illinoisans have fought and sacrificed to achieve. It is essential that our elected officials make budgetary decisions and pass legislation that protects Illinoisans by filling some of the enormous gaps that now exist because the federal government has both assaulted and abandoned us. Passing legislation that shields our residents from these coordinated attacks protects our communities and creates a safety net of support and humanity in the face of systemic harm. That is, after all, the ultimate act of resistance.

The number of holes we must fill is enormous. Over the past year, the Trump administration has begun to slash essential federal funding streams, roll back vital civil rights protections, and impose austerity measures that are already devastating marginalized communities and state budgets nationwide. These attacks will not fall evenly; they target states like ours that have advanced justice reforms, expanded safety-net programs, and worked to build a more equitable society. These attacks come as our state continues to deal with the fallout of austerity state budgets

passed by previous administrations and the need for new progressive revenue streams. Trump's authoritarian agenda represents an unprecedented threat to the health, safety, and stability of millions of Illinoisans.

The people of our state will feel these cuts first, hardest, and most deeply.

Across our coalitions, direct-service organizations are already dealing with the fallout and preparing for further reductions in funding that would destabilize SNAP benefits, Medicaid, housing, behavioral health care, reentry services, disability services, public health infrastructure, environmental enforcement, child care, violence prevention programs, transportation systems, and more. Illinois must face this storm head-on, with the resolve to protect our commitment to equity and justice and continue to build upon that legacy as a form of resistance. If we do anything else, the consequences will be swift and severe for the communities we serve and for the organizations that work on the front lines every day.

Trump and his allies have already targeted communities in California, Illinois, Minnesota, Washington, D.C., North Carolina, Minnesota, Tennessee, and Louisiana. They continue to deploy federal forces that terrorize neighborhoods, including the unwarranted use of pain-inducing weapons and the unlawful detention of residents. They have openly signaled their intent to impose punitive measures on states that refuse to comply with their authoritarian agenda. While many details remain unknown, what is clear is that federal actors are attempting to force Illinois to abandon its commitments to justice, opportunity, and human dignity. These efforts represent a profound violation of state sovereignty and democratic self-government.

It is all too easy during times of economic pressure to cut programming and make our most vulnerable suffer. Instead, our elected officials should keep moving forward to protect everyone who lives here. Failing to do so will be giving in to this administration. That means that our elected leaders must focus on legislation that actually supports working people and the poor in Illinois. They must resist the urge to cut community investments, which are designed to lead to long-term safety and healthier communities. Instead of capitulating to demands to criminalize homelessness and behavioral health disorders, at a time when violent crime has dropped to generational lows, we can reaffirm our commitment to the landmark Pretrial Fairness Act and companion Pretrial Success Act that have eliminated money bond and created a network

A failure to do so will cost a lot more – both in lives and in money – down the road. The Illinois nonprofit sector stands ready to work with Governor Pritzker, the General Assembly, and the people of Illinois. We stand with every leader and organization who chooses to defend Illinois residents rather than succumb to federal intimidation.

We know these coming months will require resolve, clarity, and courage. Illinois has faced serious challenges before, and in our best moments our state has chosen to meet those challenges head on, like when we've taken bold action to protect abortion and immigrant rights, as well as leading on pretrial reforms. We are proud to call ourselves the Land of Lincoln and proclaim our commitment to democracy. We are confident that Illinois will once again stand strong together, uphold our shared values, and reject any effort to force us backwards.

Anusha Thotakura is executive director of Citizen Action/Illinois. Lauren Wright is executive director of Illinois Partners for Human Services.

Black Soldiers

from page 3

force Robert E. Lee to divert badly needed troops from Petersburg, a vital rail center.

Some 19,600 Union troops and 10,800 Confederates were engaged at New Market Heights. The Union forces were largely from the Army of the James under Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler, who is remembered as the first Union general to refuse to return runaway slaves to their masters, in May 1861.

The Northern forces included a brigade under William Birney, the son of a Southern abolitionist whose brother, David, was one of the high commanders in the attack. The brigade contained six black regiments and was repulsed with severe losses.

black regiments, and was repulsed with severe losses. Reference historian Mark Mayo Boatner reports that Birney's brigade "is reported to have particularly distinguished itself on a day when the Federal assaults were marked with great gallantry."

As Grant had hoped, Lee was forced to draw troops to the battle. The Union lost a reported 3,327 casualties, while Southern losses were estimated at 2,000.

The Medal of Honor winners from New Market Heights were a mixture of former slaves and free men, and were born across both North and South. One was Maryland-born Alfred Hilton, a flagbearer who carried the American colors as part of his regiment's color guard.

As his unit advanced on the enemy, Hilton saw another bearer, with the regimental colors, go down. Hilton grabbed those colors before being shot through the leg, screaming "Boys, save the colors!"

Two of his black comrades came forth to take the flags before they hit the ground. Hilton died of his wounds twenty-three days later.

Another black Medal of Honor winner was Robert Pinn, who had trained as a broom
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of community-based supports. We must continue investing in substance use and mental health treatment, in job training, and in quality access to health care, even if they seem expensive now.

Black Soldiers

from page 4

manufacturer. The son of a former slave, Pinn suffered three wounds – two in the left leg and one in the right shoulder – at New Market Heights. Pinn later taught school before becoming an attorney.

Christian Fleetwood, one of the men who grabbed the colors from Hilton, was unusually well-educated for his time, and had owned one of the first black newspapers in the Upper South. Fleetwood, who also earned the Medal, held a string of government positions after the war.

Of the twenty-six blacks who won the Medal in the Civil War, eight were in naval service. Fifteen of the remaining eighteen were part of the U.S. Colored Troops, while the other three were in various Army units.



Training

from page 2

Pre-apprenticeship programs are designed to prepare candidates to enter registered apprenticeship programs, ascension to which is highly competitive in the unionized building trades, said Jay Rowell, executive director at Hire 360, an awardee of the new grant funds.

Other Pritzker administration policies have also sought to bolster manufacturing in Illinois. The 2021 Reimagining Energy and Vehicles in Illinois Act uses tax incentives to attract qualified renewable energy-related manufacturing companies to make capital investments in the state.

The administration's announcement of the training academy expansion cited a "growing list" of manufacturers that are expanding operations in Illinois, some of which, like Cache Energy and Nano Nuclear, are REV Illinois program participants.

Swimming upstream

The manufacturing sector as a whole continues to shrink across the U.S. Altogether, the U.S. lost 63,000 manufacturing jobs in 2025, according to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Over that same period, Illinois lost 7,100 manufacturing jobs, a pace 2.5 times the national rate. Frank Manzo, an economist at the Illinois Economic Policy Institute, attributed this, in part, to

increasing input costs from tariffs and federal cuts to infrastructure funding.

The Illinois Economic Policy Institute is closely tied to several of the state's labor organizations.

Manufacturing as a share of U.S. GDP has been on the decline for decades, as have the number of manufacturing jobs in Illinois. Average hourly earnings for manufacturing workers have not kept pace with those in professional and business services, according to BLS data, and the gap continues to widen.

Manufacturing training programs have proven to develop skilled labor pools in the way the policy aims to, Manzo said. But he also argued "by far" the number one way to address any labor shortage is to raise pay and benefits to make the sector more attractive to new candidates who would otherwise not work in it.

"Unions have been hollowed out," Manzo said. "As a result, job quality at these plants has been hollowed out, and that's one of the reasons why people don't want to work in manufacturing."

Illinois unions have steadily declined over the last 30 years, and manufacturing unions have been especially decimated. Once a leader of the union movement, the Illinois manufacturing sector in 2024 was only 7% unionized, 1% higher than the national average, according to Manzo's think tank.

In new sources of work like renewable energy and advanced manufacturing, where the training academy program is focused, union density is particularly low according to Professor Robert Bruno, director of labor education at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He also sits on the Economic Policy Institute's board.

He added that labor provisions in Illinois' 2021 Climate and Equitable Jobs Act have made progress to address that challenge.

"The strongest institution for generating higher job quality is to work under a collective bargaining agreement," Bruno said.

Many of the IMA's affiliated employers are unionized, but at the same time, their political efforts are sometimes opposed to strengthening organized labor, Bruno said. While not always in agreement on statewide issues, labor organizations and the IMA both support the training acad-

emy model.

"The IMA has a long history of working collaboratively with unions across Illinois on a number of vital issues," Denzler said in response.

Pat Devaney of the Illinois AFL-CIO said the state's unions and the IMA's interests are sometimes in conflict, but they regularly work together productively. Both the unions and the manufacturers benefit from a skilled workforce, he said, but jobs must be unionized to be a pathway to the middle class.

Course curriculum

Labor boosters said they were disappointed that nothing in the law or grant agreements requires the community colleges receiving grant funds to teach about unionization.

Heartland Community College, which was awarded nearly \$7.5 million in 2021, said the only coursework related to labor organizing or workers' rights in its state-backed manufacturing programs is a 10-hour OSHA construction safety course.

Paul Carlson, dean of business, technology and human services at Kankakee Community College, which received \$12 million in 2024, according to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity grant tracker, said their curriculum does not cover workers' rights or labor organizing.

"We do not avoid these topics if brought up in classroom settings," Carlson said. "They are just not typical of our stakeholders' needs or students' interests as they are beginning their lifelong learning and choosing whatever field of endeavor."

Officials at Southwestern Illinois College and Richland Community College did not respond to multiple requests for comment about their grant-funded workforce development curricula.

Reece Dower is a graduate student in journalism with Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, Media and Integrated Marketing Communications, and is a fellow in its Medill Illinois News Bureau working in partnership with Capitol News Illinois.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service that distributes state government coverage to hundreds of news outlets statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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MORTGAGE CENTER L.L.C., Plaintiff,
 -v.-
EDWIN H. RANDALL JR, KRISTINE L. RANDALL, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 11, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on February 27, 2026, at the Advocus National Title Insurance, 530 S. State, Suite 201, (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

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Case # 2024 FC 21 6088-961469

Published in The Boone County Journal Jan 27, Feb 3, 10 SW

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY
 PUBLICATION NOTICE

In The Interest of CHARLOTTE BORN, minor No. 24-JA-16
To: Nicholas Born, All Unknown Fathers, All Whom It May Concern
ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on July 19th, 2024, a petition was filed under the JUVENILE COURT ACT by Attorney Tricia Smith, Boone County States Attorney, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, in the Circuit Court of Boone County entitled "In the Interest of Charlette Born, a minor. At the Boone County Courthouse, located at 601 N. Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, on 03/26/26 at 1:30 PM CDT, or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a hearing will be held upon the Petition to have the child declared to be a ward of the Court under that Act. THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS PROCEEDING TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH THE POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD. Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an Amended Petition or a Motion to Terminate Parental Rights. Unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the Petition, the allegations of the Petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an Order or Judgment entered. Dated: January 20, 2026

Pamela Coduto, CIRCUIT CLERK

Published in The Boone County Journal: 1/27, 2/3, 2/10/26-C

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
 BOONE COUNTY
 PUBLICATION NOTICE

In The Interest of VIOLET BORN, minor No. 24-JA-15
To: Nicholas Born, All Unknown Fathers, All Whom It May Concern
ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on July 19th, 2024, a petition was filed under the JUVENILE COURT ACT by Attorney Tricia Smith, Boone County States Attorney, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, in the Circuit Court of Boone County entitled "In the Interest of VIOLET BORN, a minor. At the Boone County Courthouse, located at 601 N. Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, on 03/26/26 at 1:30 PM CDT, or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a hearing will be held upon the Petition to have the child declared to be a ward of the Court under that Act. THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS PROCEEDING TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH THE POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD. Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an Amended Petition or a Motion to Terminate Parental Rights. Unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the Petition, the allegations of the Petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an Order or Judgment entered.

Dated: January 20, 2026

Pamela Coduto, CIRCUIT CLERK

Published in The Boone County Journal: 1/27, 2/3, 2/10/26-C

Early Voting Hours

Early Voting for the March 17th, 2026, General Primary Election will begin on Thursday, February 5th, 2026, and end March 16th, 2026. Early Voting for Boone County residents will be conducted at the Boone County Clerk's Office, 1212 Logan Ave, Suite 103, Belvidere, IL 61008. The office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30AM to 5:00PM, except for holidays. The office will also be open on Saturday, March 14th, 2026, from 9:00AM to 12:00PM. The office will be closed on Monday, February 16th, 2026, in observance of Presidents' Day.

For more information about Early Voting please contact the Boone County Clerk's Office at 815-544-3103.

Amy E. Ohlsen

County Clerk & Recorder

Published in The Boone County Journal 02/03, 02/10, 02/17, 02/24, 03/03, 03/10

STATE OF ILLINOIS
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
 COUNTY OF BOONE, IN PROBATE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:TOBY ROUSH,

Deceased.

2025PR74

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION-WILL AND CLAIMS

NOTICE is given of the death of Toby Roush on September 9, 2025. Letters of Office were issued on December 18, 2025, to Nicole L. Keil, who is the legal representative of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Attorney Charles G. Popp, P.C., 215 South State Street, Belvidere, Illinois.

Claims against the estate may be filed on or before August 6, 2026, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Boone County Circuit Clerk--Probate Division at the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, or with the estate legal representative, or both.

Published in The Boone County Journal 2/3, 10, 17

STATE OF ILLINOIS
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
 COUNTY OF BOONE

Daggett, Dale, Plaintiff,

vs. Case No.: 2025-FC-89

Louis Tenore Jr.; Louis Tenore Jr as Trustee under the provisions of a certain trust agreement dated the 22nd day of July, 2008, and known as Trust Number SBL-2894; EPI, LLC, a dissolved Illinois Limited Liability Company; Park National Bank, as Trustee under a Trust) Agreement dated December 19, 2003 and known as Trust Number 31796; John Grafft, a deceased individual; Village of Poplar Grove; State of Illinois, Department of Revenue; Unknown Owners; Unknown Occupants; and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION TO UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants in the above entitled suit, that the said suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Boone County, Illinois, by the Plaintiff, Dale Daggett, against you and other Defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the property described as follows, to wit:

LOT THREE (3) IN EDENFRUIT BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (1/4) OF SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 45 NORTH, RANGE 4 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED MARCH 14, 2001 AS DOCUMENT NO. 2001R02233, IN BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

PIN: 04-19-176-024

Commonly Known As: East Street, Poplar Grove, Illinois 61065

The Mortgage was made on May 5, 2009 by Louis Tenore Jr. as mortgagor to Dale Daggett, as mortgagee and recorded on May 5, 2009 in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds in Boone County, Illinois as Document No. 2009R04463.

Summons was duly issued out of the Circuit Court of Boone County against you as provided by law, and that suit is now pending.

Now, therefore, unless you, the above Defendants, file your answer to the complaint in this case or otherwise file your appearance in the office of the Circuit Court Clerk, on or before August 10, 2026, a default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a decree entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint.

YOU ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT THE TIME IN WHICH THE SUBJECT REAL ESTATE MAY BE REDEEMED FROM FORECLOSURE, PURSUANT TO LAW, COMMENCES TO RUN WITH THE FIRST DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

Dated: 2/2/26 at Boone County, Illinois
 Circuit Court of Boone County, Illinois

Jason Rock

BARRICK, SWITZER, LONG, BALSLEY & VAN EVERA, LLP
 6833 Stalter Dr.
 Rockford, IL 61108
 (815) 962-6611

Published in The Boone County Journal Feb 10, 17, 24

ASSUMED NAMES

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE COUNTY
 ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION

No. DBA 4261 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a LANDSCAPING business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of GG'S LANDSCAPING that its location is or will be 1001 W 6TH ST in BELVIDERE, in the County of Boone County, State of Illinois, and that the true or real name(s) of the person(s) owning, conducting, or transacting the same with the post office address or address of said person(s) is shown below.

Phone Number: 815-544-1860

GERARDO GARDUNO

1001 W 6TH ST BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS 61008

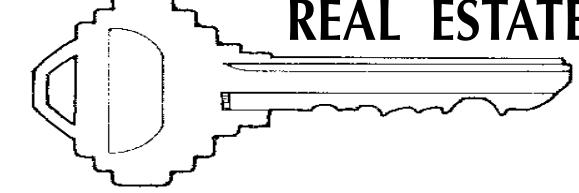
I, Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk and Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office.

Dated: January 27, 2026

Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk and Recorder of Boone County

Published in Boone County Journal 02/03,10,17 P.

REAL ESTATE



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

MORTGAGE CENTER L.L.C., Plaintiff,

-v.-
EDWIN H. RANDALL JR, KRISTINE L. RANDALL, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 11, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on February 27, 2026, at the Advocus National Title Insurance, 530 S. State, Suite 201, (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 18143 CAPRON ROAD, CAPRON, IL 61012
 Property Index No. 02-35-300-002

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

The judgment amount was \$262,156.98.

Sale terms: If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without



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any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g) (1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., LPA Plaintiff's Attorneys, 180 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 2400, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (312) 782-9676. Please refer to file number WWR 23-001179.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., LPA

180 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 2400

CHICAGO IL, 60601

312-782-9676

Fax #: 312-782-4201

E-Mail: ChicagoREDG@weltman.com

Attorney File No. WWR 23-001179

Case Number: 2024 FC 21

TJSC#: 46-99

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Case # 2024 FC 21 6088-961469

Published in The Boone County Journal Jan 27, Feb 3, 10 SW

'My Own Government Attempted to Execute Me,' Chicago Woman Shot by Border Patrol Testifies

Representatives called for immigration enforcement reform, civil liability of federal agents

Jenna Schweikert Capitol News Illinois

The Chicago woman who Border Patrol agents shot five times last October called the incident an attempted "execution" in a public forum Tuesday in Washington, D.C.

Marimar Martinez, a U.S. citizen and Chicago resident, was shot Oct. 4 during a confrontation with Customs and Border Patrol agents in Brighton Park in southwest Chicago.

Court documents state that Martinez's vehicle collided with a federal agent's, although it is undetermined which vehicle initiated the collision. Martinez's lawyers maintained she was not at fault for the accident and never intentionally hit the CBP agent's vehicle. But the Department of Homeland Security quickly spun the incident as an "ambush" on federal agents, and Martinez was charged with assault — a charge that a judge has since dismissed with prejudice, meaning it can't be refiled.

"On Friday, I was teaching the young children at the Montessori School, and we were singing and dancing and getting ready for spooky season, preparing fall activities to do the following week," Martinez said. "On Saturday, my own government was calling me a domestic terrorist,

and I was in federal detention centers with the bullet holes all over my body."

"Domestic terrorist" is the same label DHS uses to refer to Renee Good and Alex Pretti, two citizens shot and killed by DHS agents in Minneapolis last month.

"I am Renee Good. I am Alex Pretti. I am Silvio Villegas Gonzalez. I am Keith Porter," Martinez said. "They should all be here today." Gonzalez was shot and killed by federal immigration agents in the Franklin Park suburb of Chicago, and Porter was shot and killed by an off-duty ICE agent on New Year's Eve in a suburb of Los Angeles.

Public forum

Martinez testified with two other citizens who accused Department of Homeland Security agents of assault.

The panel also included the attorney for the family of Good, who was shot and killed by DHS agents in January, and an expert on law enforcement use of force tactics, who both raised concerns on the force federal immigration agents have used across the nation.

Good's two brothers also spoke.

This is the second public forum organized by U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, a Connecticut Democrat, and U.S. Rep. Robert Garcia, a Californian Democrat. The forums are part of an inquiry the pair opened in October investigating the detention of U.S. citizens by immigration agents.

"This is not normal, and this is neither professionally nor democratically acceptable," said Seth Stoughton, a former police officer and current public safety professor at the University of South Carolina School of Law.

"We see a lack of interagency collaboration or even basic communication, reducing both efficiency and public trust," he added. "We see poor tactics that put community members and federal agents themselves in unnecessary danger, and we see profound failures of leadership after critical incidents that never should have happened."

Blumenthal and Garcia opened the forum by asking Congress to support allowing citizens to sue federal agents for actions taken against them.

"When you serve this country in an elected office or in uniform, you swear an oath to the Constitution, you pledge to work for all Americans," Garcia said. "You don't get a license to kill, and there's no absolute immunity. We're going to stand up for the rights of our communities, and we believe strongly that we need to hear the stories of those that are in front of us."

U.S. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, who represents part of the Chicago region and is running for the U.S. Senate, also called for reforming Immigration and Customs Enforcement at the forum.

Martinez's testimony

Martinez is asking a federal judge to allow the release of evidence in her case in light of the federal government continuing to label her as a "domestic terrorist."

"As a 30-year-old USA citizen with no criminal history, I believed that I had nothing to worry about, but I was concerned for my friends and neighbors," Martinez testified, recalling the

Saturday that she saw CBP agents in downtown Chicago. "For the next 15 to 20 minutes, I followed these border patrol agents through my neighborhood, honking my horn, shouting out, 'La Migra,'" which in Spanish means immigration officers.

Martinez followed the agents for several blocks before the vehicles collided, resulting in minor dents and scrapes on both vehicles.

According to testimony and documents from Martinez's now-dropped assault case, she stopped her vehicle directly after the collision and the agents' SUV came to a halt just ahead of Martinez. She then accelerated away, testifying in court that she swerved left to avoid hitting the agents, who were exiting their vehicle.

That's when the agents opened fire, ultimately striking Martinez five times in the arm, chest and both legs. Only one of the three agents had a body camera activated at the time.

While the body camera footage hasn't been released publicly, lawyers for Martinez have said in court that it shows an officer shouting "do something b—."

The agent who shot her allegedly said in a group text to friends: "I fired 5 rounds and she had 7 holes. Put that in your book, boys."

"The physical scars will always be there in the mornings and evenings, when I get dressed and I stare at my body, now permanently disfigured by the five lead bullets," Martinez said. "They will be there this summer when I head to the beach with my dogs and family. They will be there when I get down on the floor with my students."

"Perhaps even worse, the mental scars will always be there as a reminder of the time my own government attempted to execute me, and when they failed, they chose to vilify me."

Release of evidence

In late January, Martinez's attorneys requested that U.S. District Judge Georgia Alexakis lift an order barring Martinez from sharing records like photos, videos and communications from the incident.

Several media outlets, including the Chicago Tribune and Chicago Sun-Times, also requested the release of the records but that motion was denied.

Federal prosecutors announced Tuesday they would not oppose the release of the body camera footage that depicts the crash, or interviews with the agents, but would oppose the release of text messages not already seen by the public, according to the Tribune.

Alexakis is expected to rule on that motion Wednesday.

The order is standard in most trials to protect against public disclosure in a criminal case. But even though the charges have been dropped, Martinez's lawyers say the information needs to become public because DHS continues to label Martinez as a "domestic terrorist."

"I am asking you today, pleading with you to please help bring back the America I grew up loving," Martinez said at Tuesday's forum. "If there's no justice for the people, let there be no peace for the government."

Auto Show**from page 1**

MAMA's overall favorite is the 2026 Hyundai Palisade Calligraphy. (My favorite at the show has to be the 1958 Chevy Impala!)

In recent years, the Chicago Auto Show has added activities to broaden the appeal of the show. These include the formal opening night gala, First Look For Charity (\$375/person, black tie required), there is a fun run over a 2.6-mile course through the show, which was held last Sunday. Called Miles Per Hour, the goal is to run as many miles as you can in one hour. The event is held in conjunction with the Chicago Area Runners Association. Tuesday is Automotive Career Day. On Wednesday, first responders, military, and veterans are admitted free. On Friday night, February 13, there is a beer and cider tasting from local breweries. A blood drive is also held at the show.

New this year is Chi-Town Alley. This is a refresh of the former marketplace and is dedicated to car culture. This is an area where car enthusiasts can meet and connect with other local car clubs, modification vendors, auto-themed merchandise, accessories, and more. There are sleek show cars and creative customizations. This area, next to Wilderness Chicago and the Subaru display (lavishly decked out as a tribute to America's national parks) are probably the most fun part of the show.

The show features four indoor test tracks: Camp Jeep and Bronco Born Wild each give you a ride through an obstacle course in one of their respective vehicles. Chicago Drives Electric, sponsored by ComEd, gives you EV rides from eight different manufacturers. New this year is a gasoline powered track where you can drive a Chevrolet, Kia, or Volkswagen. Outdoor test drives are also available.

ComEd has been taking a major role in promoting electric vehicles. There are currently more than 160,000 EVs registered in Illinois today, 90 percent of which are in ComEd's service territory. In addition to sponsoring the EV test track, the company is announcing at the auto show \$70 million in rebates designed to remove barriers and promote widespread adoption of EVs and expansion of charging infrastructure in Northern Illinois. The rebates cover residential EV chargers and installation, business and public sector EV

purchases, and public sector "make-ready" expenses.

The Chicago Auto Show is on from February 7-16 at the South Hall of Chicago's McCormick Place. General admission is \$20, Seniors and children \$15. Cash is not accepted at McCormick Place. Doors open daily at 10am. Expect to pay about \$27 for parking. If you take Metra, the CTA will have shuttle buses from the downtown train stations to McCormick Place during the show for \$5 round trip. Website: chicagoautoshow.com.

In Canada:**Letting the Market Decide**

On Friday, January 30, The Toronto-based *Globe and Mail* published an editorial with a dramatic conclusion: Let the customer decide whether to purchase inexpensive Chinese-built electric vehicles or stick to vehicles assembled in North America. Electric vehicles made in China are very competitively priced and have dramatically increased in quality.

Ostensibly because of Chinese state support for auto makers, The Biden Administration placed a 100 percent tariff in the US on Chinese-made vehicles. The Trudeau government followed suit in Canada. China retaliated with tariffs against Canadian canola seed and other products.

After the announcement by President Donald Trump of tariffs against Canadian vehicles and other products, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney has sought to diversify Canada's export base. In return for the Chinese lifting the tariff on canola, Canada will permit China to import 49,000 electric vehicles per year into Canada. *The Globe* pointed out that vehicle prices have been increasing in Canada, and there is demand for lower cost alternatives.

Worldwide, Scandinavia and China have embraced electric vehicles. Electric vehicles in the European Union have about a one-fourth market share, double the share that EVs have in North America. Until last week, Canada had a mandate for automakers to phase out internal combustion vehicles by the mid-2030s. Canadian automakers have said that the mandate will not work because there is little demand for electric vehicles in Canada.

Asking, "So which is it?" - *The Globe and Mail* reasoned that if imported electric vehicles were

indeed unpopular, there's no need for the tariff against the Chinese EVs. If the cars don't sell, Canada scores a big win by eliminating Chinese tariffs on canola, which is a major export of the Prairie Provinces. And, despite the rhetoric of those opposed to the deal, a 49,000 vehicle quota amounts to only three percent of Canadian auto sales, hardly a sellout to the Chinese government.

Last week, less than a week after *The Globe* editorial was published, Prime Minister Carney reinstated EV buyer incentives for Canadian-made vehicles and announced that the EV-only mandate would be scrapped. Tailpipe emissions tests are back in the mix. Thus, the Canadian government has decided to take a carrot rather than a stick to promote adoption of electric vehicles.

Similar arguments have been raised in the US about slack demand for EVs, and cars have certainly become more expensive here, too. *The Globe* did not address what might happen if a quota of Chinese vehicles were similarly exempted from US tariffs.





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2026 Jeep Recon EV with doors removed



2026 Hyundai Palisade Calligraphy