NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Kayla Halde Phone: (618)978-6230 Email:khalde@siue.edu

Happy 30th Birthday Italian Fest

COLLINSVILLE, Ill- There will be tons of hugs and kisses as people greet each other at the 30th annual Italian Fest which kicks off Friday, Sept. 20 in downtown Collinsville.

The festival is held from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. The annual festival is always source of pride for the Collinsville community as it welcomes tens of thousands of people to enjoy good music, a bocce ball tournament, a 5k run and of course, great Italian food. Although the fun of the festival is certainly a highlight, it also serves as one of the largest means of revenue for the community.

"This event brings in the most revenue for the town. It's a great way to bring people in and see the town," said Chico Italiano.

There are many bands playing this year at the Italian Fest including "Tough Love" and "Out of Focus."

As usual, Main Street will be closed for the event, along with parts of Seminary, Center and Clinton streets in the downtown area. There is still ample downtown parking available for visitors, or there is a free shuttle service from Dorris Intermediate School to downtown Collinsville.

For a complete festival schedule, go to www.italianfest.net.