MEDIA RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 26, 2017 Contact: Dawn A. Miceli 860.681.8006 E-mail: jndmiceli@aol.com Southington Italian-American Festival



## 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Southington Italian-American Festival Kicks Off July 28

The annual Southington Italian-American Festival hosted by the Sons of Italy, Sorelle d' Italia in America and Southington UNICO will take place July 28, 29, and 30. This is the Festival's 13<sup>th</sup> year of promoting and supporting Italian heritage and culture in our community.

The festival takes place on Lower Center Street and features food and vendor booths, live entertainment, a children's carnival with games and more. Classic festival staples include fried dough, pizza, sausage and pepper sandwiches, gelato and pasta fagioli. Other foods include Italian pastries, soffritto, burgers, hot dogs, and fries.

On Sunday, July 30, a Catholic Mass in Italian will take place at 10 a.m. followed by a procession throughout the downtown streets. The procession honors the Madonna della Strata and features a statue of the Madonna, which is carried by members of the festival's host groups.

Each year, the festival also features a homemade wine contest, sponsored by Northeast Produce. Amateur winemakers are encouraged to enter their red or white wine varieties.

Hours for the festival are: Friday, 5 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, 1 to 11 p.m., Sunday, noon to 6 p.m. Opening ceremonies take place Friday, July 28, at 6 p.m. Proceeds from beverages sold at the festival will benefit United Way of Southington and Southington Community Services.

For more information, please contact Dave Zoni at 860.384.9103 or Tony Cusano at 860.681.3451. You can also visit the festival's Facebook page.