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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Goodwill Ribbon Cutting and New Store Celebration

A ribbon cutting for a new Goodwill store at 8010 North Second Street in Machesney Park will be held Thursday, October 16, at 11:00 AM. Mayor Linda Vaughn and Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois staff will celebrate the opening of the new 15,000-square foot retail store.

The new store will bring many benefits to the community in terms of training and employment, generation of new sales tax receipts for Machesney Park, recycling opportunities and reuse of an existing building. Construction on the store began on August 18 and its doors opened for business on September 16.

"We are thrilled with the way residents of Machesney Park and the surrounding communities have responded to the new store," says Sam Schmitz, president of Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois. "Mayor Linda Vaughn and her team were great to work with in making it a reality in such a short period of time. We look forward to collaborating with other non-profits in the area to assist each other in meeting our respective missions. We also look forward to our long-term commitment to Machesney Park."

The Machesney Park Goodwill is the first in the area to feature a "drive-through" donation function that allows donors to more easily and quickly drop off their items without having to enter the store. The store is open seven days a week: Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM-9:00 PM; Saturday, 9:00 AM-6:00 PM; and Sunday, 10:00 AM-6:00 PM. A four-day celebration is planned for Thursday, October 16 through Sunday, October 19. On those dates all merchandise will be 20 percent off and raffles for prizes will be held at the end of the celebration.

Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois is a community-based not-for-profit organization that provides education, training and job placement for persons in need. Goodwill stores in northern Illinois (Rockford, Machesney Park, Freeport, Sterling) and Beloit, Wisconsin employ more than 170 people.

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For more information about the ribbon cutting and new store celebration, please contact Craig Grugel at (815) 965-3795.