

# PAUL RESTIVO

**W**hen President John F. Kennedy delivered

his oft-quoted "Ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country" speech, it left a lasting impression with young Paul Restivo of Freeman Spur in Williamson County.

So much so, in fact, that Restivo has been a tireless volunteer worker most of his adult life.

"I can remember how that speech inspired me in the early 1960s," said Restivo, now 50 and residing in Marion with his wife, Angela, and two children.

"I can also remember as a freshman in high school at Herrin helping out the upperclassmen with a fundraiser for the American Heart Association, going door-to-door passing out information and receiving some donations in the process. From then until now, I have greatly enjoyed the feeling of making a little bit of a difference in this world. It's part of who I am, I suppose."

Restivo, who is director for the SIUC Center for Environmental Health & Safety, said his passion now lies with the Beautification of Southern Illinois campaign and the multitude of activities associated with the Marion Kiwanis Club.

"I really enjoy working with our college students and witnessing their spirit of volunteerism," Restivo said.

"I know that it's gratifying to me to see them get so excited about what they do, even if it's something as simple as picking up litter. Some even thank me for helping them fulfill that volunteer niche in their lives. And I am hopeful that many of these young people will



continue to do volunteer work the rest of their lives."

Restivo said that what he likes about his association with the Marion Kiwanis Club is its connection with youth in the community.

"We assist youth-oriented activities by volunteering to help staff a fundraising event, or we may be asked to simply do service," Restivo said.

"Mostly, these are volunteer activities of a few hours at a time, such as work

Appointed Special Advocates), Marion Carnegie Library Halloween reading project and the Saluki Kids Academy golf outing."

Marion Kiwanis Club President Joe Hays said Restivo is a driving force within the club.

"Paul was president of the club for two years and is a take-charge kind of guy," Hays said. "He has been proactive in finding events where kids are involved and how we as Kiwanians can be of assistance. Paul is always the first guy to step up and volunteer his time, money and expertise to a project. And that has a positive effect on our other club members."

Restivo said he enjoys his work with Beautify Southern Illinois.

Last month in conjunction with Earth Day, the Beautify Southern Illinois campaign joined forces with the Illinois Department of Transportation for the first statewide litter clean-up day.

"Angela and I have tried to instill the importance of volunteerism with our children," Restivo said. "It's something we believe in."

— John D. Homan

## DID YOU KNOW?

On the morning of Oct 12, 1978, Sid Vicious of Six Pistols fame was arrested for the murder of his girlfriend, Nancy, who had been killed in New York City's Chelsea Hotel sometime during the previous night. On Oct. 13, Paul moved into the hotel, which was home to eclectic artists and performers.

with the Poshard Foundation for Abused Children, American Lung Association, Salvation Army Christmas Tree Project, Williamson County CASA (Court