

# People First Gazette

This issue is dedicated to Lawrence  
C. 'Larry' Moffitt, Jr. 1936-2010

Monday, April 5, 2010

One our most devoted members died. Larry has been a member of People First of Tennessee for more than 17 years and he served on the state Board of Directors for many of those years too. I only knew Larry for about 6 years, but he made me laugh and kept me on track for those years. He was always willing to go to board meetings and conferences. He would always advocate for other people to join People First. He thought everyone should be a part of the experience.

Larry was a ladies man at conferences because he always had a lady on his arm on the dance floor.

Suzanne Colsey

We will miss you Larry!



Larry Moffitt 1936-2010

## **History of People First of Tennessee**

We started in 1981 with a small group in Nashville, Tennessee. Now we are the only statewide self-advocacy organization that is for and run by people with disabilities.

**Our Mission:** We provide an outlet for people with Disabilities to air and alleviate their concerns about disability related issues and to join together to address those issues. We advocate for people with disabilities in the areas of housing, healthcare, employment, education and transportation. We want to be seen as leading the way to a better future for all people with disabilities. We want to be as active, productive and contributing citizens in the community.

## **\* Note new phone numbers\***

### **People First staff:**

#### **Executive Director:**

Leanne Boyce  
615-713-1162

#### **Middle Tennessee Coordinator:**

Tommy Plunkett  
615-713-1162

#### **East Tennessee Coordinator:**

Open position  
1-615-713-1162

#### **West Tennessee Coordinator:**

Suzanne Colsey  
901-730-4680

**Please call if you are interested in starting a chapter in your area or becoming a chapter advisor**

## **Regional Coordinator- East Tennessee**

We are looking for an East Tennessee Regional Coordinator for People First of Tennessee. If you have any suggestions please let me know and I will send a job description. People First of Tennessee, Inc. is a non profit disability rights organization run by and for people with disabilities. We serve as an outlet for people with disabilities to air and alleviate their concerns about disability related issues and to work together to address those issues. The East TN coordinator is responsible for supporting 8 chapters in East TN as well as looking to start new chapters so it will need to be someone who has their own transportation. Please contact Leanne Boyce for more information. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

For more information, please contact

Leanne Boyce  
People First of  
Tennessee, Inc.  
1630 South Church  
Street, Suite 309  
Murfreesboro, TN. 37130  
615-713-1162  
[pftenmurf@aol.com](mailto:pftenmurf@aol.com)

## **Microconference 2010**

On March 3 and 4, 2010 People First of Tennessee and the Tennessee Microboard Association Co-Hosted our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. This was a very special Conference for us as we were celebrating three very important anniversaries. The Americans With Disabilities Act is 20 years old, Tennessee Microboards Association is 10 years old and People First of Tennessee is 30 years old! Congratulations to us all

for keeping up the fight!  
We kicked off the conference with a birthday party complete with cake and fun! Opening night we had a banquet and dance with Dj Zeke. Saturday we gave out awards and shared a delicious lunch. We had some very interesting sessions on many different topics. Fun was had by all.

### Middle Tennessee Chapters Give Back to the Community

Local Chapters in Middle Tennessee have been busy giving back their community through a variety of volunteer projects. Nashville members go to the animal shelter and take care of the animals. They get to learn how to take care of the animals and receive therapeutic benefits of playing with the animals. Members at our three Buffalo River Sites are doing Meals on Wheels and

Visiting folks in Nursing homes. They go each month and have a great time, as do the people they go to visit. When they visit people in the nursing home they always make some crafts to take to them and it brightens up the day of the residents. Volunteering not only helps people in the community you feel a sense of pride when you volunteer your time to help somebody out.