

# A SHINING STAR!

**It's time to recognize a VOLUNTEER in our organization who is always there for ALL of us! Joan Harwick has given so much to The Arc's for so many years and continues to do so as the President of The Arc of Colorado. Many of us have been involved in this organization for years as well but Joan's commitment seems to grow and grow! As all of us know, being the President of an organization is very time-consuming and puts a lot of demands on one's life. Even though Joan has another job, she spends hours doing Presidential duties in and out of the office, being on committees and going to meetings and even preparing for our own Board meetings. If that is not enough, when this organization was without an Executive Director for a period of time, Joan stepped in to lead the organization in both capacities. Her support and dedication is never-ending and we are eternally grateful.**

**THANK YOU, JOAN HARWICK!**

## *A People First Highlight*

**By Casey A Mangan  
People First of Weld County**

I am proud to announce that a new chapter of PEOPLE FIRST has been formed in Greeley. My friend UNC student Pyper Thaller and I began organizing for the group during the summer. An open house was held during August with 35 people attending. Everyone seemed very excited to hear about the new group.

We have had many exciting ideas about things to do with PEOPLE FIRST. We made up membership notebooks for each member. They contain all the information about how to conduct meetings, how to be an officer, how to participate in meetings, etc. We made a list of topics we would like to discuss at future meetings. These would include things that concern us in our daily lives.

We had the idea to have a raffle at each meeting to earn a few dollars for our treasury. Pyper and I went out in the community and asked merchants/sponsors for gift certificates or merchandise to be used for our raffles. Our members love this part of the meetings, because some lucky person goes home with a prize after buying a raffle ticket for \$.50 each.

The Arc of Weld County wrote a grant, which helps to fund our group, but we hope to have some small fundraisers of our own this year. There are issues in Greeley and Weld County that are affecting our lives right now and we hope to go and speak to some of our city leaders very soon regarding those issues.

We extend an invitation to other PEOPLE FIRST groups to come to any of our meetings! We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month. For info, call The Arc of Weld County at 970-353-5219 or e-mail: [arcweldnow@aol.com](mailto:arcweldnow@aol.com). I look forward to hearing from other PEOPLE FIRST members.