

Rochester native Roberta (Bobbi) Wallach is not a “typical” FBH Resident. At 52, she’s much younger than most, and she is more disabled than many, having lost the use of her legs and left hand because of the multiple sclerosis she has had since she was 22.

But Bobbi never stops moving, with the assistance of her motorized chair, which sports a sign stating “Wheelchairs are sexy!” She asserts, “I have one arm, one hand, and my mouth, and that’s enough for me to go far!”

Bobbi is working on a bachelor’s degree in disability rights from Empire State College; she goes to physical therapy three times each week; she takes classes, meets friends, and plans advocacy strategies at the Center for Disability Rights in Rochester; and she has made 9 trips so far to Washington, DC, demonstrating for the Community Choice Act. At FBH, she reads widely, collects stuffed animals, cultivates plants in container gardens, participates in Wii bowling, and maintains her wide circle of FBH friends.

With home care assistance, Bobbi could live elsewhere, but chooses to stay at Fairport Baptist Homes. “I’m happy here,” she pronounces, “This is a good place. I am not at all restricted in my activities. I’ve been here three years and I have a good social network.” Being in a chair doesn’t get her down. Bobbi says, “I can move faster than most people. It’s not hard to stay positive. If you’re happy, then the people around you are happy.”

Bobbi says, “I got lucky in finding this place.” But FBH was equally lucky to have found Bobbi.

*“Being here
is good
for my
spirit!”*

