

New chair could bring better life for woman

By: [Name] for Golden Newspapers

EARBORN HEIGHTS

Patty Thomas has known Earborn Heights resident Pauline Hardeman for 12 years. And through those years, they have traveled together, spent holidays together and become very good friends. The hardest part is that Hardeman can't come into Thomas' home because her electric wheel-

chair is just one inch too wide to fit through the front door.

"It's such a shame that so many places, including my own home, are off limits to Pauline just now," said Thomas, who works with disabled people and befriended Pauline, a disabled adult who has had some hard knocks throughout her life.

"Pauline was born with a number of physical disabili-

ties," Thomas said. "And early on in her life, she didn't receive the best care for them. She has undergone many surgeries, lived in nursing homes and institutions and suffered great hardships financially. But Pauline has the most positive attitude of anyone I have ever met."

Hardeman has made many friends with that untiring spirit. Many of them are banding together

to raise \$10,000 to get her a new wheelchair, one that will be a bit smaller and able to negotiate through more doorways.

"Pauline is missing so much because she simply can't get into a building or place, and we want to help her change that. Her love of living and enjoying her life is very strong and we need to help her," Thomas said.

Thomas is leading the charge to raise the \$10,000

Hardeman needs.

For those who are interested, make checks payable to "Friends of Pauline" and send them to Patty Thomas, 32231 Schoolcraft Road, Suite 200, Livonia, MI 48150. Questions can be directed to Thomas as well as (734) 458-8140.

"Thanks to everyone who can help us help Pauline," Thomas said. "If anyone is deserving of this benefit, it is she."



PAULINE HARD