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NEW MOBILITY

Every issue of *New Mobility* takes aim at the journalistic cliché that editor Tim Gilmer calls “the inspirational cripple story.” Gilmer, a paraplegic who edits the magazine and runs a 10-acre organic farm from the seat of a manual wheelchair, has little patience for such tired, teary-eyed dispatches. “Most of our writers have disabilities,” he explains, “so we offer an insider viewpoint.” That viewpoint—honest, intelligent, and human (as opposed to superhuman)—is what makes *New Mobility* such compelling reading, both for the disabled and for the “temporarily abled” (that’s the rest of us).

When it comes to the writing, abilities are varied: Many contributors, says Gilmer, are not professional writers, though some, like Lorenzo Milam and Harriet McBryde Johnson, are well known. Regardless, the stories and style are down-to-earth and take on tough subjects. The mix of voices and perspectives captures the paradox of life in a wheelchair: It commands time and energy, but disability doesn’t define every moment. *New Mobility* manages to finesse the distinction, demonstrating that a life on wheels is a rich and complicated one.

Subscriptions: \$27.95/yr. (12 issues); 215/675-9133; www.newmobility.com.