

# Outlook on Lifestyle

## Palliative care group closes door

Over the past months we have witnessed the demise of several organizations. Prominent among these was one dealing with palliative care. Despite its million dollar plus annual budget, the folding of an in-

dividual organization is not usually significant when viewing the larger picture.

Recent changes in the tax laws may add increasing pressures on existing organizations. Charities depend on donations. The income tax act allows donors to lower their taxes payable by substituting a percentage of tax with donations. This per cent is being lowered. Forecast effect is a \$50,000 decrease in contributions. The government is unlikely to fill this void.

Another change is the company



Against the odds

PAT WOODE

cars. Until last June, limited domestic use did not seriously affect this taxable benefit. Now among other changes, driving to and from work is considered a domestic use.

Unless one lives very close to work or takes alternative transportation (family car, public transit) to and from work, it will become nearly impossible for many to keep the business use portion of driving over 90 per cent (the higher the domestic use - the higher the taxable benefit).

While this means that those without company cars no longer subsidize the commuting to and from work of those who have company cars, it will also make fewer vehicles available for those who wish to do volunteer work. The fami-

ly car will spend more time on the road and company cars more time in the laneway. Many two car families will become one and one half car families.

If you were unable to watch Against The Odds, Halton Cable 4, on Wednesday, then tune in Nov. 19 at 6 p.m. My guests are Mr. Bill Roberts representing the Town of Milton and Val O'Hara, co-ordinator of elderly services, Region of Halton. The topic is local and regional transportation for the disabled.

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