

After almost three years

Release of wife from Poland expected any day now

These very likely, are going to be two of the hardest weeks in Zbigniew "Ziggy" Psarski's life. At any moment the 32-year-old Georgetown resident is hoping to receive a telephone call or a telegram telling him that, after almost three lonely years, he's going to be finally reunited with his wife, Joanna.

She, as of late Tuesday, remained stranded in Poland; a prisoner of international politics and bureaucratic red tape.

But, for the first time since the young couple was separated in June of 1973 Ziggy holds more than a small glimmer of hope. He has received word from Ottawa via

Tom Cossitt (PC-Leeds), that the Polish ambassador had notified the Canadian external affairs department that, as of last Tuesday night, permission had been granted Mrs. Psarski to leave Poland.

All that Mrs. Psarski had to do, according to the Polish and Canadian officials, was to pick up her passport at a police station in Warsaw and arrange her departure.

However when Mr. Psarski telephoned his wife last Tuesday evening to confirm the report he discovered that Joanna had not yet heard the news. And so the day-to-day wait has begun.

Waiting for news has become second

nature for Mr. Psarski since June, 1973. It was then that the recent arrivals in Canada from Poland decided to risk a trip by Joanna back to her homeland to comfort her mother following the death of her father.

Because they had not applied for permission to first leave the country but instead left for a vacation, the Psarskis realized that they were taking a chance on Joanna's return, but her mother's poor health was serious enough that it warranted the risks, they felt.

Polish officials immediately confiscated Mrs. Psarski's passport upon her arrival. Since then she has applied many times for

exit visas but each time she has been turned down.

Many people have attempted to intervene on the Psarskis' behalf including MIP's Cossitt and Dr. Stanley Haldasz (L-Parkdale) and Joe Morrison, president of the Canadian Labour Congress.

Should Joanna finally receive her freedom she will be coming for the first time to her new home in Georgetown. Mr. Psarski moved to Halton Hills from Toronto shortly after his wife returned to Poland in order to be closer to his work as an industrial engineer with a Georgetown company.



Joanna and Ziggy Psarski



AN AMBULANCE CREW rushes five-year-old Ryan Hooper to Georgetown District Hospital after the young Howard Wrigglesworth Public School student was struck by a car on Guelph Street last Friday afternoon.

\$300,000 cut from hospital's budget not a setback: Morris

A \$300,000 cut in the five-year capital budget of Georgetown District Hospital by regional council is a setback to the hospital's construction plans, according to hospital administrator, Fred Morris, but it's not a serious one.

The \$300,000 cut from the hospital's 1976 budget was approved by regional council last Wednesday, but according to Mr. Morris, it was not totally unexpected.

"I would assume that their decision was based on the fact that we hadn't received

approval from the province," he said.

The five-year forecast still contains a remaining \$600,000, and could be altered if the province considers the hospital's increasing shortage of facilities a serious enough problem to warrant spending additional funds.

"If we have to get into a crisis situation before action is taken we will... We're quite prepared to make do with what we have until the crunch comes."

That "crunch" however, may not be far off.

Acton, said Mr. Morris, is not being looked after adequately at the present time because of the Georgetown hospital's cramped situation. He referred to the provincial government's bed-to-population

ratio which is four beds for every 1,000 of population.

Georgetown's is 1.9 for every 1,000 residents taking in all of Halton Hills which is what the region seems to be considering is the hospital's area of coverage.

Even if it was simply, serving the Georgetown area, said Mr. Morris, it would still be well below the provincial standards. In the hospital's future plans is a two-storey addition to the hospital's "B" wing. That would add a further 80 beds.

Mr. Morris said it would also be hoped that the hospital could provide proper psychiatric facilities, the lack of which is putting extra pressure upon hospitals outside Halton Hills.

"If worse comes to worse we may have to turn to the public for funding," he said.

Principals object to \$15 per day cut in supply teachers' pay

A recommendation that supply teachers in Halton take a cut in wages of up to \$15 per day has been strongly protested by north Halton principals in a letter to the Halton Board of Education.

The recommendation, nevertheless, was approved by the board last Thursday and it takes effect immediately. It brings the wage rates for levels 1, 2 and 3 supply teachers down to \$30 per day plus four percent holiday pay from their previous rate of \$45.

Levels four to seven teachers will have their present \$55.00 per day wage scale cut to \$40 per day plus four percent holiday pay.

The north Halton principals, in their letter to the board, stated that any reduction of current rates of payment "will result in many of them withdrawing their services with the result that substitute teachers will not be available to meet the needs within our schools which will disrupt the school program of student."

The letter notes, "We believe that in our substitute teachers we have a most competent team of teachers who are the best possible substitute for regular staff members."

Cutting back on wages and the number of supply teachers might also put an extra load

on principals and vice-principals, the letter states.

"To expect them to assume a substitute teaching role creates an additional workload for the vice-principal and principal beyond those duties which are already his or her full-time responsibilities and beyond those which vice-principals and principals should be expected to carry..."

"We feel such a workload is grossly unfair and the vice-principal or principal so involved cannot do the duties for which he has been appointed which of themselves constitute a full-time responsibility."

Suggestions that students be dispersed among other classes when their regular teacher is absent was also strongly criticized by the 21 principals who signed the letter.

"We are only concerned that there be no restrictions on the engagement of substitute teachers for teachers who are absent for reasons of illness or other causes as provided in our sick leave policy. We are satisfied that our teachers are not abusing this policy and that absences claimed under it are indeed legitimate and unavoidable and uncontrollable. We are quite prepared to forego calling in substitute teachers for all other absences of staff over which we can exercise control."

Legion's project: clean up Remembrance Park

Representatives from the Georgetown Legion met with the town's works and general administration committees Monday night to outline plans they have to beautify Remembrance Park with fountains and gardens.

Past president of the Legion, Norm Ward, told the general administration committee that, although the idea is yet to be placed before the general membership of Branch 120 the Legion's executive felt that it would make a fitting project to mark the Royal Canadian Legion's 50th anniversary.

Denny Wright, president of Branch 120, explained that "it would be beneficial to the entire town to beautify the park." He explained that sunken gardens, floodlit fountains with re-circulating water, and or-

namental pools could all be incorporated into the very tentative plans, as yet, for the park.

He added that, because of drainage problems, the creek that runs through the park has been at a very low level during recent summers promoting the growth of algae.

Councillors all greeted the idea enthusiastically and gave the suggestion their approval in principle.

Councillor Ric Morrow suggested that the region and town engineering staff first investigate the cause of the disappearance of this water supply to the creek that has been worsening for a number of years but which reached dire stages the past two summers.

In the works committee Councillor Ern Hyde suggested that the Legion's organizers consult with a landscape artist in drawing up their tentative plans.



YOU'RE WRONG if you think that's an elephant beside Nancy Veltrick, 13; Donna Horton, 12; Craig Carlisle, 12; and Karl Carlisle, 6. It's a "Burrphant" and the kids made it out of burrs they collected along the bank of the Credit River. It took three hours to collect the burrs and 20 minutes to stick them together to make the "Burrphant", the kids said. Although it's not your average cuddly toy, they think they might just make a whole family and enter it in the fall fair.

Sorry Bill, they didn't want you

The name of Bill "Wicked Willy" Johnson is a familiar one around the regional council table, but it's not often that regional councillors get a chance to vote on whether or not they approve of him or his attitudes towards protection of the environment.

Last Wednesday they had that opportunity and, by an 8-14 vote, they decided they didn't.

At stake was the inclusion of Mr. Johnson's name and those of three other regional residents - Pam Mitchell of Georgetown, Ric Symmes of Terra Cotta and Betty Barhyt of Burlington - on the list of members sitting on the region's special Ecological and Environmental Advisory Committee.

The other three were accepted. Mr. Johnson wasn't. The three additions bring the

committee's membership up to 13 after council, on a motion by Councillor Ric Morrow, had cut out two names from the suggested list presented to council by the planning committee.

Councillor Morrow opposed three of the names suggested because they were non-residents of Halton and because "the committee is overloaded with too many P.I.D's and so-called experts." He pointed to the fact that, with one exception, all suggested members were professionals in the environmental field.

Also, Councillor Morrow added, the north end of Halton was minimally represented "despite the fact that the major part of the region with which this committee will be dealing is comprised of Milton and Halton Hills."

"The people who live there have gained their knowledge of the area by living there and not by reading from some distant book."

The committee will be presenting their conclusions to the planning committee for consideration in the drawing up of Halton's Official Plan.

Oakville Mayor Harry Barret suggested that one of the three non-residents, John Walker, be retained. He explained that Mr. Walker is concerned with the environment through his position with Oakville's engineering department.

The name of Frank Dewitt, president of Dufferin Quarries in Esquewasing, was proposed by Milton Mayor Anne MacArthur as a representative of the aggregate industry in Halton. It also was approved.

Cops solve 71 percent of 199 incidents in February

Theft and liquor offences headed the list of crimes in District one (Georgetown and Acton) of Halton Region in February.

There were 43 cases of theft under \$200 including five incidents of shoplifting and seven cases of theft over \$200.

Liquor offences for the month totalled 34 and 32 charges laid against offenders. Break and enters accounted for 23 incidents during the month while six automobiles and one other motorized

vehicles were stolen. Two cases of fraud were discovered and one charge was laid.

Possession of an offensive weapon accounted for two cases in the month.

Assaults known or reported to the police totalled 11 during the period.

Other criminal code infractions totalled 37 incidents. The total number of infractions of Federal Statutes in the month were nine, eight of which were for drugs.

Provincial statutes broken and discovered or known by the police during the month were 12 while 29 municipal bylaws were broken.

The actual number of offences for the month was 199 cases. The police had a solve rate for the month of 71 percent.

For the months of January and February there were 199 offences handled by District one with a solve rate of 65 percent.

New rates for firefighters

The 1976 rates for members of the Georgetown Volunteer Firefighters Association has been approved by the general administration committee. Overall the new rates will result in an increase of approximately \$8,000 but, as Councillor Ric Morrow commented at Monday night's general admin. meeting, "there isn't another town with

equal population within a 50-mile radius of Toronto that gets as good fire service as we receive from our department."

The new rates, which had previously been approved for inclusion in the town's 1976 budget, show: one district chief receiving \$600, up \$120 over last year; one district deputy chief receiving \$450, up

\$150; three captains at \$250, an increase of one captain and \$70 per captain; three lieutenants at \$200 each, up one lieutenant and \$50 each; one fire prevention officer at \$200, up \$50; five vehicle maintenance personnel at \$240, no change; and 45 firefighters averaging \$949.23, an increase of five firefighters, and an approximate average increase of \$72.

\$110,000 set aside for Glen cemetery won't be spent

A total of \$110,000 has been allocated in the Credit Valley Conservation Authority's 1976 budget for work on the bank of the Credit at the Glen Williams cemetery. However according to Halton Hills Mayor Tom Hill, it's unlikely the money's going to be spent.

Mayor Hill suggested, in fact, to the CVCA's executive last Friday that they leave the project out because the controlling organization of the cemetery, the Glen Williams Cemetery Board, would probably oppose paying their one-quarter share of the cost of the work which would amount to well over \$25,000.

When asked by the authority's chairman Grant Clarkson if the town of Halton Hills might consider paying for the work Mayor

Hill replied that, because the town had no control at all in the cemetery's operations and thus received no revenue from it, the town would not consider itself the benefiting municipality of the work.

He suggested that the town might consider providing part of the \$10,000 spent by the authority on engineering study of the eroding bank at the Glen cemetery.

The Glen project was one of two proposed water management projects for which the CVCA will be applying for to the province for funds despite the fact that the projects will very likely not take place. The other entailed spending \$180,000 in Mississauga.

In total the CVCA has outlined five proposed projects which could cost almost \$800,000.

Maple sidewalk delayed because it's too expensive

The sidewalk along the south side of Maple St. between Market and Main St. in Georgetown that the works committee had considered constructing is an "expensive proposition", Councillor Ern Hyde told members of the works committee Monday night.

He suggested to the committee that since there was no allocation in the budget for the

sidewalk, the committee wait until fall and see how pedestrian traffic manages.

At that time, if it's decided the sidewalk is still needed, the committee will include the cost in the 1977 budget although they are leaving as it stands, the recommendation to have the sidewalk.