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INSIDE



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Rookie racer enjoys good year

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WEDNESDAY...

Look for a full report on the Georgetown Raiders' Jr. A Hockey League games against Brampton, Oakville and Hamilton.

For breaking news go to: www.independentfreepress.com



Celebrating Diwali

Marissa Balam performs a traditional Hindu dance during the Diwali Festival of Lights celebration at Christ the King High School last Thursday. The event was presented by the Diversity Awareness Team at the school. For more photos see page 7.

Photo by Ted Brown

Group asks Town to establish plan for 'culture'

CYNTHIA GAMBLE
Staff Writer

A collection of artists, performers, heritage advocates and interested citizens have formed an advocacy group calling on the Town to formulate a Strategic Action Plan (SAP) for Arts, Culture and Heritage.

"Culture is all around us and you have to be aware of it as a community and you have to sustain it and support it," said Laurent Thibeault, chairperson for the advocacy group at a recent council meeting.

The group evolved from public consultation over the Town's SAP for recreation, recently approved in principle by council. That report recommended that cultural activities, while mostly recreational, should be addressed in a separate plan.

"It came out very strongly throughout the public consultation (during the SAP process) of a need for a separate document that specifically addressed that area of leisure for the public," said SAP consultant Todd Brown.

Thibeault said an Arts, Culture and Heritage Action Plan (ACHAP) will address all the "culture" in the town including visual arts, architecture, dance, theatre, music, film, libraries, etc.

"As we deliberated as a group we started from scratch and we said, 'what do we mean by culture?' Well culture is one of those amorphous things, but it is also very, very critical," he said. "Typically it's about identifying a unique character of a place, a community. It's about values and aspirations and it gives meaning and purpose to our lives."

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