

**South Pacific**

Rehearsals are under way for Globe's *South Pacific*, which opens May 1st at the John Elliott Theatre. Tickets are available at 905-877-3700.

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## Budding ballerinas can read all about dance at the library

As many of you may know, the Georgetown Branch of the Halton Hills Public Library shares a building with the John Elliott Theatre and Cultural Centre. Working in a building attached to a theatre means that there is one very sure sign of spring—dance recitals. Yes, the pitter patter of little tap shoes in the lobby is a sure sign of warmer weather. But being a parent of a budding ballerina, or tap dancer, or highland dancer can be both confusing and demanding. There is a lot to learn: What exactly is a bourree? or What shoes are right for my child?

Getting through all the terminology can be a nightmare. But help is available from such books as Gretchen Ward Warren's *Classical Ballet Technique*. There is also a DVD called *The Video Dictionary of Ballet*, which demonstrates over 800 different movements complete with narrative descriptions.

An essential component of dance is, of

**Clare Hanman**



course, music. The Halton Hills Public Library has an extensive collection of music on CD available to borrow. Categories range from hip hop to classical, folk to world. For example *It's About Time: Practice Music for Highland Dances* by Glen Sinclair can help highland dancers practice at home for their competitions.

When it comes to learning to dance, watching dancers can be both valuable instruction and inspiration. The library has a large collection of videos and DVDs on many kinds of dancing such as ball-

room dancing, tap, highland dancing, Irish dancing, country dancing, ballet, flamenco and more.

One of the toughest decisions parents can face if their child is studying ballet is the decision to study pointe work (dancing on the very tip of the toes). While no book should replace the advice of dance teachers and shoe fitters, *The Pointe Book* by Janice Barringer and Sarah Schlesinger provides a lot of background information and can help answer many questions.

So, if a member of your family is at the John Elliott Theatre for a recital sometime this spring, why not take a few minutes at the library and explore some of the great CDs, DVDs, and books about the world of dance? You'll be able to tell a pas de basque from a pirouette in no time!

Clare Hanman is a circulation supervisor with the Halton Hills Public Library

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