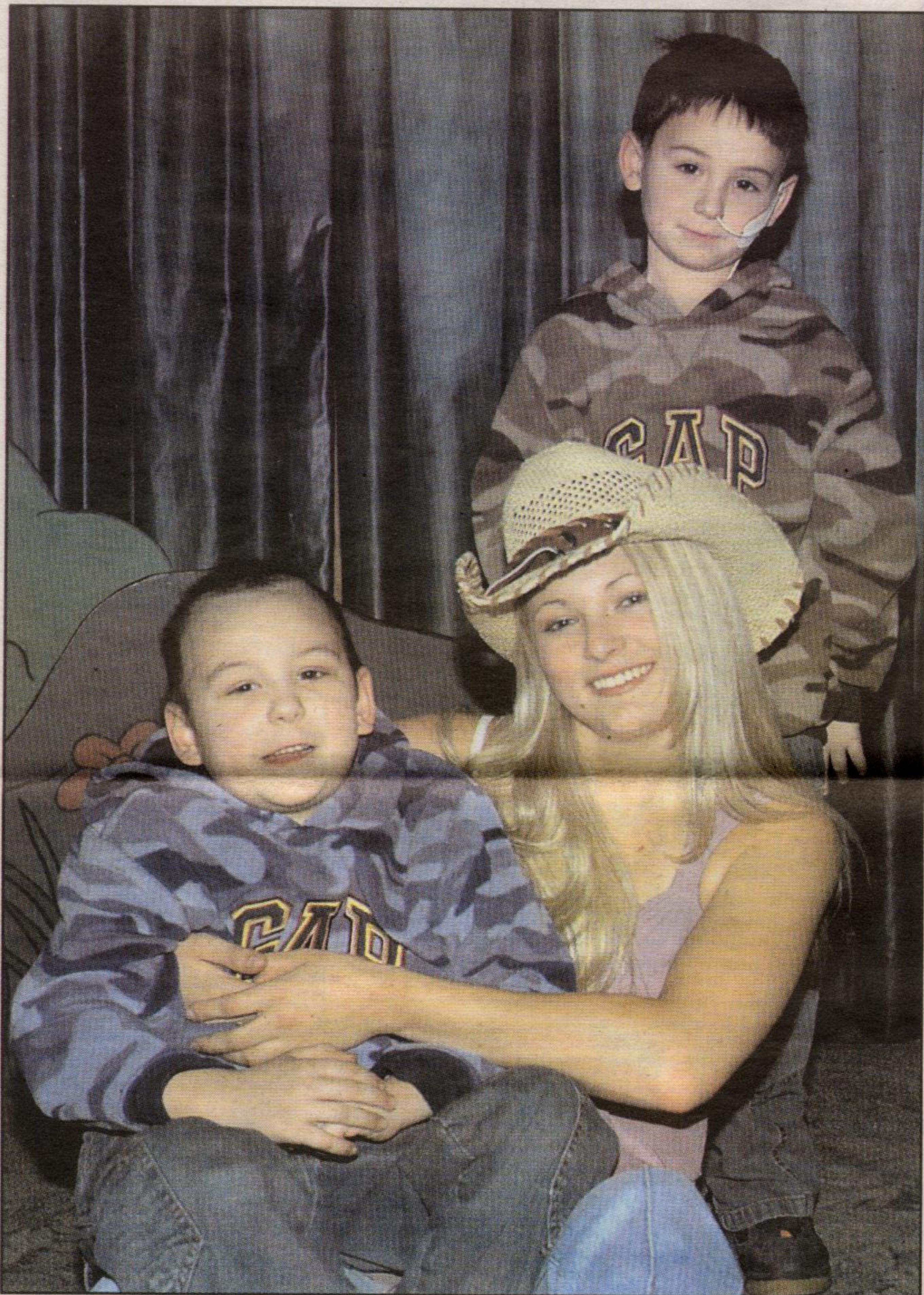


# recreation & entertainment

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN HALTON

## Alysha performs for Sick Kids

Alysha Brooke performed an acoustic set at Sick Kids' Hospital in Toronto on February 11. Alysha got the idea to perform at the hospital because two of her nephews suffer from leukemia and are undergoing treatment. Party Packagers donated cowboy hats that Alysha signed and gave to all children who were able to get time away from their treatment to attend. Those who could not attend in person were able to watch Alysha on the hospital's closed circuit TV system.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Pictured with Alysha at Sick Kids' are her two nephews, brothers George-Anthony Kotselidis (age 5) and Demetre Kotselidis (age 6)

## Milton composer welcomes the quiet in her new hometown

BY JENNIFER ENRIGHT

Writing music may involve the use of sounds, but it's the sound of quietness that makes it all possible for Lynne Moquin.

When the 46-year-old composer decided to leave Toronto last year to move away to a smaller community, she wanted to find a quiet refuge where she could create music, away from the constant hum of traffic that she was familiar with. Nowadays, she resides in Milton on a street where she can hear the birds in her backyard and the odd car driving by, but not much else. She prefers it that way. "I love the quiet here that nurtures creativity."

A typical day for her may seem difficult for some of us to imagine. But Moquin is familiar with the mystery that surrounds music. As a composer and a teacher of music, she takes pains to make music as accessible and understandable as possible. Moquin specializes in teaching adult students, and she finds that many are fighting feelings of self-doubt, afraid they don't possess the talent required to play music. And she also spends a lot of her time striving to create music that "doesn't seem a self-indulgent spinning out of inner whatever" but is "inspiring and useful to listen to."

Moquin, who has received composition degrees from the University of Toronto and the Royal Conservatory of Music, has written works for orchestra, band, and chamber ensembles. And her resume includes an impressive list of compositions for films, video, television ads as well as orchestral arrangements for songwriters. She's composed music for an Indie film entitled *Dog Hill*, about dog owners walking their pets in Toronto's High Park, and the music has a playful, almost whimsical quality. In another work for a car ad, the style is evocative of more traditional classical music. As the soundtrack plays, you see an expensive vehicle driven up to a large, stately house. Then there's the "slow moving ethereal" music she created for a sculpture exhibit hosted by the Sculptor's Society of Canada.

Moquin has always loved music, but she knew that it wasn't enough to merely play music. In her 20s, she decided to study composition because she had "a strong desire to capture what was in my head."

Like a lot of composers, Moquin works in her "own little space," a small living room area that looks out onto a Milton street. There are no instruments, except a Kawai piano.

Moquin does most of her work using a computer that rests on a desk in her living room, close to the piano. She identifies the notes, composing music at her piano and then creates arrangements for the orchestral

instruments. Using a midi keyboard that looks much like a synthesizer keyboard, she plays individual orchestra parts into the computer to create a sound track.

Today, she says computers have revolutionized the music industry to the extent that composers "don't really need anything just a computer." That has changed things a lot, and made it possible for her to live outside of Toronto. But the difficulties of being a female composer in a business dominated by men remain. Moquin admits that people are often surprised to find out that she is a composer and she states frankly that it's "still a struggle for women in the arts."

But the challenges haven't kept her from creating music. She says there's something special that happens whenever she sits down to compose, and she finds it gratifying when she receives a positive response to her work. "I capture these ideas and present it to people as a gift. It's like a sculptor breathing life into something. I do the same thing, only with musical notes."

To contact Lynne Moquin, call 416-788-3290 or send a message to ear4piano@yahoo.ca.

## film review

BY LAURA COOK

### Coach Carter

Inspired by a true story, "Coach Carter" is the motivational story of a basketball coach who takes things beyond the court to save the young men on his high school basketball team. With a son the same

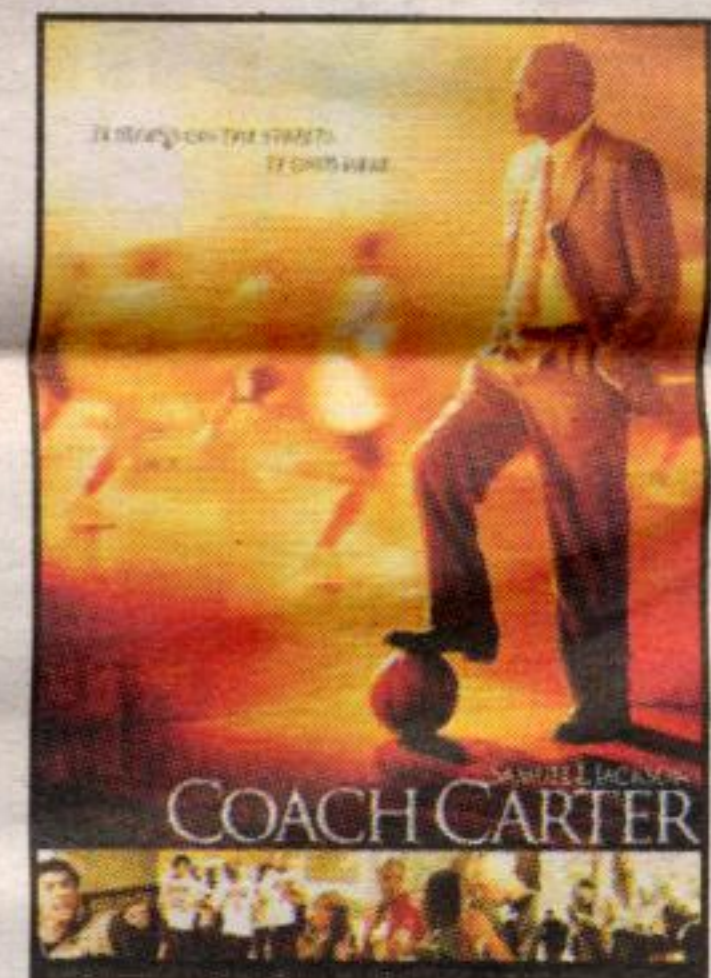


Photo © Copyright Paramount Pictures

age, Carter is determined to make a difference in the lives of his players the only way he knows how, through basketball. Growing up in the inner city of Richmond, Carter realizes the harsh reality of what his players go through every day to survive. When Carter takes the job as the basketball coach at his old high school Richmond, he decides that his players must all sign a contract promising to keep up their grades, regularly attend classes and keep a clean appearance. When his son hears about Carter's contract, he eagerly withdraws from the prestigious St. Francis School for the chance to play ball on his father's team.

Although Coach Carter received both praise and criticism for his unusual methods in the film and real life, his method of taking an inner city group of kids and turning them into young men worked because he put their grades before the game. In the film, Coach Carter is played by the stern looking Samuel L. Jackson who manages the local sports store in addition to coaching the basketball team. Paired up with Debbi Morgan, Jackson's character gives audiences a striking look at what it means for a family to grow up in a harsh neighbourhood and come out in one piece.

This film has an MPAA rating of PG-13 because of the violence, sexual content, language, teen partying and some drug material. Although it is runs for a hefty one hundred and thirty seven minutes, audiences are sure to love the plot and the message conveyed through the film: hard work and discipline pay off!



PHOTO BY JENNIFER ENRIGHT

Lynne Moquin specializes in teaching piano and theory instruction for adults. But she's open to instructing beginners of any age or musical background.

## Top 10 Rentals

THE MAGIC OF THE MOVIES AT HOME

This week's Top Ten Movie Rentals brought to you by



- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. The Notebook   | 6. Shark Tale        |
| 2. Saw            | 7. The Grudge        |
| 3. Taxi           | 8. The Forgotten     |
| 4. Ray            | 9. Cellular          |
| 5. Shall We Dance | 10. Without a Paddle |

## New Releases

### Taxi

Queen Latifah, Jimmy Fallon, Gisele Bundchen, Ana Cristina De Oliveira, Ann Margret, Christian Kane, Adrian Martinez, John Rothman, Jennifer Esposito, Bryna Weiss, Joe Lisi, Boris McGiver.

Plot Outline: Belle is New York's fastest cabbie, whose taxi-driving expertise not to mention her loaded-to-the-max vehicle comes in handy when a fumbling young undercover cop must crack a bank robbery plot hatched...

### Saw

Tobin Bell, Cary Elwes, Danny Glover, Ken Leung, Dina Meyer, Monica Potter, Shawnee Smith, Leigh Whannell, Mike Butters, Paul Gutrecht, Michael Emerson, Benito Martinez, Makenzie Vega, Ned Bellamy, Alexandra Bokyun Chun.

Obsessed with teaching his victims the value of life, a deranged, sadistic serial killer is abducting morally wayward people and forcing them to play horrific games for their own survival.