

# Town designated as 'Underserviced' doctor area

Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh announced Monday that the Ontario government has made it easier for the Town of Halton Hills to recruit new physicians.

The Ministry of Health has designated the town as an underserviced area with regard to the number of physicians serving local needs. The Underserviced Areas program identifies a need for nine general or

family practitioners in Halton Hills.

"The designation will help our recruitment effort by covering the costs of travel and accommodation of physicians who visit the community, in addition Halton Hills will be listed in a document that is widely circulated to doctors looking for a place to practice," Mr. Chudleigh said.

Representatives of Halton Hills will be

invited on the annual recruitment tour visiting the Ontario's five medical schools. If recruiters are unsuccessful after one year the Ministry will provide a grant of \$15,000 payable to a new physician over four years, as a further enticement.

Health Minister Elizabeth Witmer said that ultimately the underserviced designation for Halton Hills will help enhance the

delivery of health services and provide better services to local residents.

"This is the first step in addressing the chronic need in our community for better access to doctors," said Mr. Chudleigh. "This is good news, however the job is not done. We have to roll up our sleeves and use the tools provided by the province to bring new physicians to town."

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## Funeral Services Monday

Monday was a solemn day in Acton as funeral services were held for the three teenaged boys killed in last Thursday's train/car collision.

Many people, especially school friends and acquaintances, attended each of the three separate funerals. The downtown area was alive with young people dressed in their best, going to pay final respect to their friends.

An estimated 500 people attended the service for Mark Everson Monday morning in the Salvation Army Citadel on Mill Street. Friends and family filled all levels of the citadel including the lower basement where the service was relayed by television cameras. Some chose to sit on the floor at the front in order to be closer to their friend.

The service was conducted by Captains Lynda and Lise Hale.

Later in the day services for Travis Toth and Rory Dick were both held at Knox Presbyterian Church at the corner of Main Street North and Knox Avenue. Streets around the church started filling up with parked cars more than an hour prior to the services at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. More than 600 swelled the church to capacity at both services.

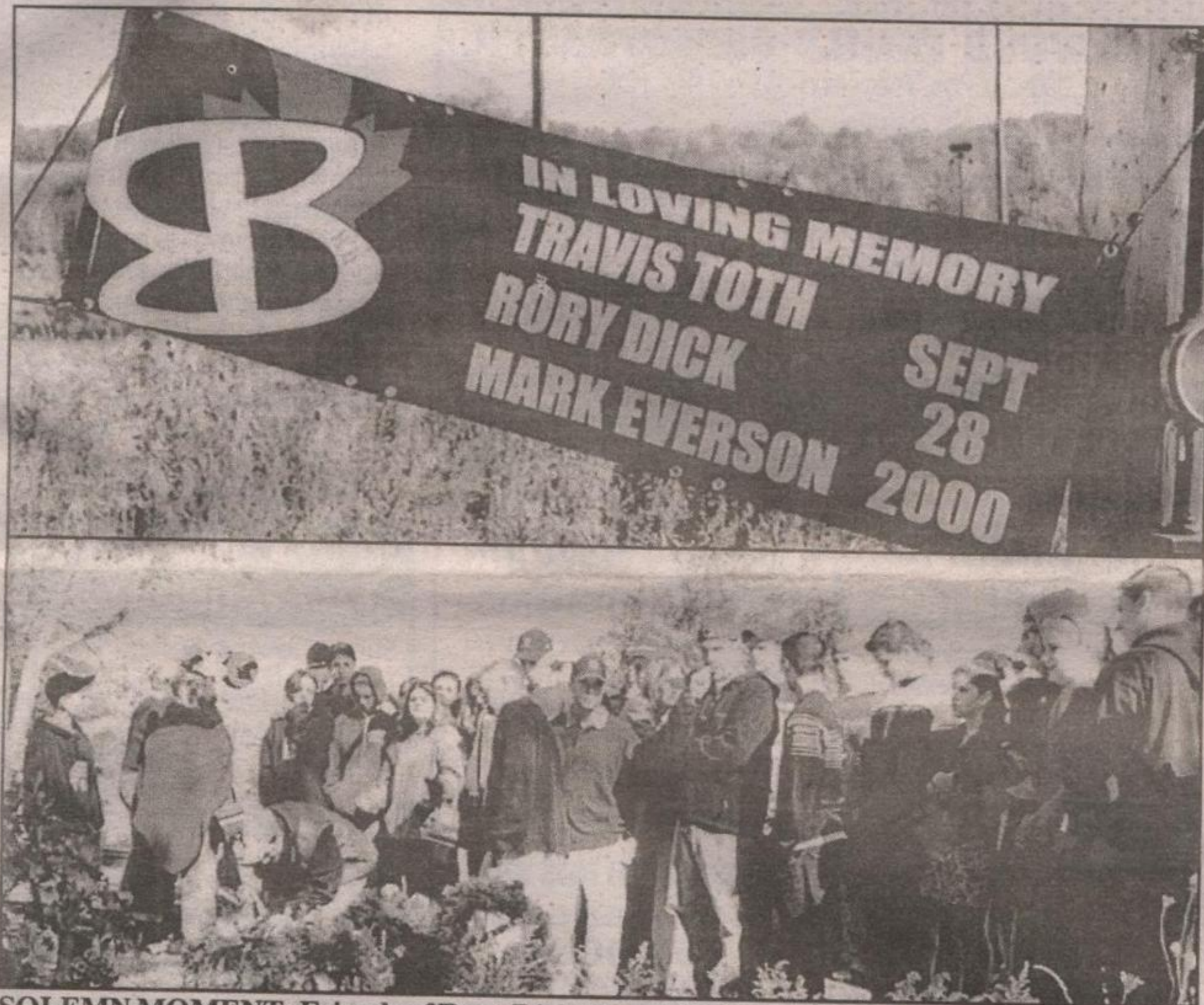
Reverend Pieter van Harten, pastor of Knox, officiated at both services.

**THE NEW TANNER**  
**will be closed on Thanksgiving Monday, October 9th**

# Acton mourns loss of three teens

## Tragedy on 4th Line shocks Town, area

BY ANGELA TYLER  
 The New Tanner



**SOLEMN MOMENT:** Friends of Rory Dick, Travis Toth and Mark Everson gathered at the Fourth Line railway crossing to remember the three and to lay tributes of flowers, word of thoughts and candles. On the opposite side of the track, a banner was erected with their names on it. - Angela Tyler photo

Emergency vehicle sirens rang through the East end of Acton last Thursday. Shortly after 8 a.m. the news on the radio was filled with reports of a train and car collision on the Fourth Line, south of Highway 7. Ten months ago, at the same crossing, another Amtrak train bound for Chicago collided with a dump truck.

### Three Friends

It was a typical school day, like any other for Rory Dick, Travis Toth and Mark Everson. Three best friends who were inseparable. Rory had just been given his mom's red Volkswagen Jetta two weeks earlier. Before that, Rory would drive his mom to work then head on to school in Milton. He was a grade 12 co-op student at E.C. Drury High School. This year, his mom got a new car and Rory took to car pooling with his good friends Mark and Travis. Travis had previously attended Acton High School.

It was his first year in Milton. Rory took the two boys to school; then he would pick up another friend who worked with him at his co-op with Mattamy homes in Burlington.

However, Travis and Mark shared Rory's true passion as well. The athletic boys enjoyed snowboarding and skateboarding. Mark and Rory had been planning for the winter with thoughts about season passes for Glen Eden and looking into the future at opening a board shop in British Columbia. "It was their dream to go out west," said Rick Everson, Mark's father. Toth, too, had always been active in sports leaning towards hockey and some baseball.

Kathy and Rick Everson said the boys were all good kids. "Mark was a good clean living kid," said his father. A small smile came over his face when he remembered how Mark introduced Travis to his girl friend in their home. Sentiments of three easy going, well-liked boys were echoed by Colleen Dick. She remembered how Rory had a talent for making people laugh. Loving the outdoors, Mark had been a Canadian archery champion and an avid fisher

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# Students demand 4th Line gates

BY MAGGIE PETRUSHEVSKY  
 The New Tanner

Students throughout north Halton are demanding Halton Hills council get barrier gates put up on the Fourth Line railway crossing where three Acton teens died on their way to E.C. Drury High School Thursday morning.

A petition calling for the immediate installation of gates at the site which claimed the lives of Travis Toth, Mark Everson and Rory Dick, was presented to Council Monday by E.C. Drury student council president Megan Bauer and public relations representative Shannon Keller.

Bauer gave Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson 35 pages of signatures from students at Drury High, Milton District and Georgetown High schools.

Bauer was not aware of any Acton students signing the petition but believed Acton High School was doing its own memorial activities for the boys.

A spokesman for the school said Acton students also signed the Drury petition and school authorities were unaware of any special activities being conducted through the school in connection with the boys' deaths.

Bauer told council a meeting has been scheduled with MP Julian Reed to present the petition and solicit his

support for installation of barriers at the crossing. The group will also attend next week's Regional council meeting in an effort to gain Regional support for their cause.

Mayor Serjeantson told council and the Drury delegation that Town staff have already met with Halton Regional Police Service, Julian Reed, and Transport Canada. Further meetings are scheduled "within a week or so." Representatives of the Goderich-Exeter Railway, which rents the tracks on which the accident occurred, have assured the mayor they will attend when requested when a meeting date is set.

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