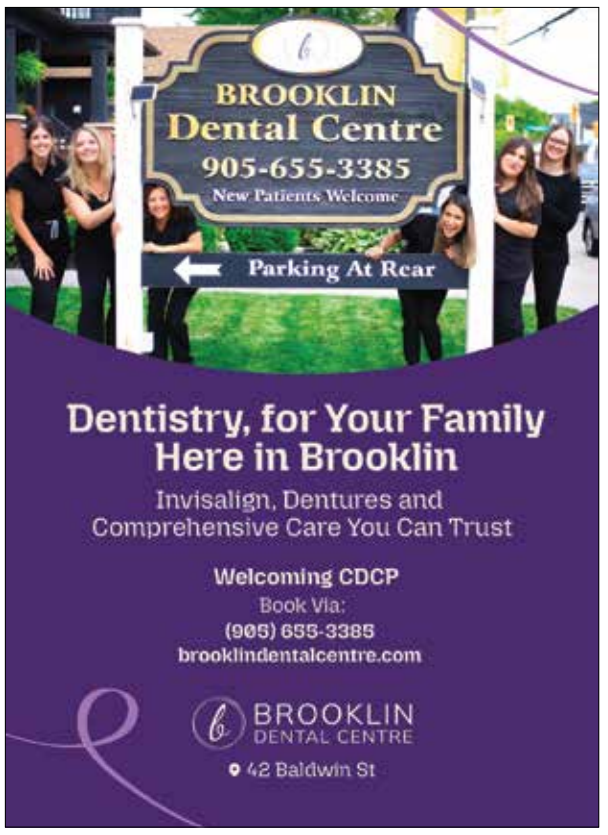
Brooklin TOWN CRIER .com

Friday, November 6, 2026





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Less than half the picture:

Now what?



By Richard Bercuson

The 1972 film "The Candidate" should be required viewing for voters and candidates, if only for its ending. But you can't appreciate the ending till you've watched the entire gem.

Senatorial candidate Bill McKay (Robert Redford) wins against a powerful opponent with the Dickensian moniker of Crocker Jarmin (Don Porter). In the final scene, staff and admirers try to get to McKay for a victory celebration. Overwhelmed and shocked by his win, he mouths the script's final words to his campaign manager (Peter Boyle). "Now what?"

Good question on the heels of last week's election results. For starters, it'd be informative to learn why Whitby voters remain less engaged than most other Durham municipalities. While our turnout of 31.12% was the best of the last eight Whitby elections, it's less noteworthy when stacked against Uxbridge, Scugog and Brock which were all over 40%. Is it the cooler air up north? Ajax and Clarington also had higher turnouts. Only Pickering (29%) and Oshawa (26.92%) were worse.

In an election fraught with all manner of embellishments, grandstanding and bad blood over council and councillor actions, I'd expected a far higher turnout.

While Mayor Roy won, challenger Chris Leahy was hardly a pushover. She had wide support, yet there were leadership questions, not to mention her inadequately dealing with her compensation package which Leahy used as his platform's core. He even wore it on his lapel. Chintzy, but it had an impact.

Roy deserved a second shot at the chair. It's difficult to properly judge someone's effectiveness in such a major role in just one term. Going forward, however, with no Leahy nor any of his acolytes on council, this column's title question is even more apropos.

Locally, after two whacks at the job, Steve Lee is out. Not by a lot though. Was he throttled by resting on incumbency's laurels (winning by acclamation in 2022) or had he overstayed his welcome? Newcomer Jay White won by just 332 votes despite Lee hitching himself to Roy's signage wagon wherever you looked. It's hard to say if the turnout was anti-Lee or pro-newcomer. Now White needs to ask himself that question, too.

Meanwhile, Anastasia Brown, without the benefit of living in the ward (which, in my view, is essential in Brooklin), garnered over 1900 votes, most likely because she rode the coattails of her shepherd Leahy. Where would those votes have gone otherwise?

As for the regional council seat, it was Rhonda Mulcahy's to blow up. Given her popularity in these parts, it wasn't happening. Running against her was weirdly brave. This is not synonymous with smart.

I chose my trustees by burrowing into their BTC statements published in early September, trying to unearth even the smallest of nuggets that wasn't run-of-the-mill blather about it being about the kids. A few were close. None were "wow."

New council. Old mayor.

Now what?

Letter to the editor

On behalf of the residents in Ashburn, we would like to extend our sincere thank you to Councillor Steve Lee, for his hard and dedicated service to the North Ward.

Ashburn could always count on Steve to help us, no matter what the issue was whether it was the Brooklin by-pass, dump truck issues, road or traffic issues, you were there for us.

Steve, a sincere thank you, we wish you the very best in your next endeavor, you will be missed!

Ron Stevens

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BROOKLIN'S HISTORY

By Jennifer Hudgins

Remembering Four Who Didn't Return

Four soldiers who left to serve their country in two world wars never came home, buried in foreign lands far from the families who mourned them. Today, their names and faces appear on Brooklin's streets through the Honour Our Veterans Banner program, alongside those of surviving veterans, ensuring their sacrifices are not forgotten.

As the number of surviving Second World War veterans dwindles, the program helps preserve their memory for future generations. Supported by the Town of Whitby and Royal Canadian Legion branches, Brooklin Branch 152 launched its program in 2016 under Legion President Lisa Dinsmore.

Then Regional Councillor Derrick Gleed and Emma Inkpen of Inkpen Studios championed the project after seeing banners displayed in Uxbridge and other communities. Emma designed the banners and continues to volunteer her time to the project.

The First World War (aka "The Great War") began in 1914 with Britain and its Empire, including Canada, entering right away. The conflict that claimed millions of lives lasted more than four years, officially ending with an armistice on Nov. 11, 1918.

Here are four young men from Brooklin and surrounding communities who gave their lives for their country.

Norman Bailey

Private Norman George Bailey, born in 1890, served with the 2nd Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Eastern Ontario Regiment), and was killed on May 3, 1917, weeks after the Battle of Vimy Ridge. He is commemorated at the Canadian National Vimy Memorial in France although his burial place is unknown.



Norman George Bailey

Frank Holman

Private Frank Holman, born in 1897, served with the Canadian Army Service Corps. He died on February 20, 1919, at the age of 21, several months after the Armistice and is buried at Terlincthun British Cemetery, near Boulogne, in Pas-de-Calais, France. While his death came after the fighting had ended, his remains were never sent home.

WWII

When the Second World War began in September 1939, another generation of young Canadians left their homes to serve overseas. Over 45,000 brave Canadian men and women gave their lives with another 55,000 wounded.

Harvey Johnston

Private William Harvey Johnston, Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders, was the eldest of ten children born to Louis and Edith Johnston of Myrtle Station. Before going to war, he grew up on a farm on Brawley Road. He died on September 6, 1944, at age 21, and was buried at Calais Canadian War Cemetery in Leubringhen, France.



Gordon & Harvey Johnston

His younger brother Gordon also served overseas. In March, 1946, while returning home from Germany, Gordon stopped to visit Harvey's grave after their mother wrote to the Department of National Defence in Ottawa to learn where her son had been buried. It is difficult to imagine the emotions of a brother standing beside the grave of someone with whom he would never again share family life.

Walter Nesbitt

Lance Sergeant Walter Clifford Nesbitt served with the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment. He died on December 23, 1943, at the age of 34, during the Italian campaign and is buried at Moro River Canadian War Cemetery near Ortona, Italy.

He'd married Gladys Maud Lade in 1930, and they had two children, Roy and Joan. Walter farmed on Columbus Road, west of Thickson Road, at what was known locally as the old Potts place.



Walter Nesbitt

The Honour Our Veterans Banner program provides more than a name and photograph; it honours their service and is a visible reminder of someone whose future was cut short by war. Their names are integral parts of our community history.

Attend 2026 Durham Climate Forum

When it comes to climate change, knowing what to expect is only part of the picture. Knowing what you can do matters, too. The 2026 Durham Climate Forum will bring together residents, community leaders and climate experts to explore practical ways to prepare for these challenges and build a more resilient future. This year's theme, Preparing for Change: local knowledge, practical tools and community actions, focuses on helping residents understand local climate risks and discover actions they can take to strengthen their homes, neighbourhoods and communities. Through interactive exhibits, expert speakers and hands-on activities, participants will learn how preparedness, collaboration and local action can help communities adapt to a changing climate.

Who: Hosted by the Region of Durham.
Where: Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road E., Whitby.
When: Saturday, November 14, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
What: Residents of all ages are invited to spend the day exploring climate solutions, connecting with local organizations and hearing from experts working to advance climate resilience across Durham Region and beyond.

Attendees will hear from a diverse lineup of speakers, including Ewa Jackson, Managing Director of ICLEI Canada; Chief Kelly LaRocca of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation; Tara Zupancic, Senior Climate Change and Health Specialist with Durham Region Health Department; Brent Kopperson, Executive Director and Founder of Windfall Ecology Centre; and Jennifer Taves, Senior Manager, Sustainable Communities at Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

Throughout the day, attendees can:
- Explore interactive exhibits and activities focused on climate preparedness and resilience.
- Connect with more than 25 local organizations.
- Learn practical ways to prepare for climate-related challenges at home and in their community.
- Talk with industry experts and community leaders.
- Test drive electric vehicles.

Admission is free.

Register online at:
https://www.durham.ca/news/posts/preparing-for-climate-change-starts-close-to-home/



Meet Jayden and Shane: Stan Lee Super Kids?

Two Brooklin boys are entered in the Stan Lee Super Kid competition, a fundraiser to promote child literacy and narrative arts for kids ages 5-17. Jayden Yeung and Shane McTamney have made it to the next level of the North American competition.

According to the website, "Two kids will have their real-world heroics transformed into superhero identities. One will be voted as our champion, take home $25,000, and star in their own limited-edition comic book. The other will be hand-selected by the Stan Lee Universe team to appear in the comic book alongside the champion."

Stan Lee (1922-2018) was a comic book writer best known for inventing Spiderman, The Avengers, the Fantastic Four and other characters.

Jayden's mother, Vivian, learned about the competition through an Instagram post. "It caught my interest," she said, "because Jayden is our everyday hero that is always looking out to help others. For example, at a local community store, the staff there recognizes and commends Jayden often because when we have visitors and bring new people to the store."

You can vote for Jayden through this site: **https://thesuperkid.org/2026/jayden-c60f**

Shane's mother, Crystal Pearce, describes Shane's mission: "To help people all over the world with his gift of healing. He is 10 years old and goes to Winchester Public School. He has the kindest heart; he is the first person to ask his peers if they are ok when they are sad or hurt and he is always the boy who befriends the 'new kids' in school…Shane wants to donate a portion of his winnings towards the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Canada since he has the biggest, most empathetic heart toward others."

You can vote for Shane here: **https://thesuperkid.org/2026/shane-08cc**



Jayden



Shane

What You Need To Know This Week In Whitby



Get Involved in Your Community

Join one of Whitby's advisory committees or boards. Openings are available on the Accessibility Advisory Committee, Heritage Whitby Advisory Committee, Municipal Licensing and Standards Committee, Committee of Adjustment, Grants Review Committee, Road Watch Committee and more. Apply by November 22 at **whitby.ca/AdvisoryCommittees**

Enjoy Drop-In Activities
Looking to keep the kids entertained? The Town operates a number of drop-in programs for children, including art classes, basketball, preschool playgroups, and more. View the schedule at **whitby.ca/DropInSports**



Sign Up For Preauthorized Tax Payments
Never worry about missing a tax deadline. Monthly Plan: Spread your annual tax bill into 11 equal monthly payments. Arrears Plan: Make monthly payments to help catch up on unpaid taxes. For more information, email tax@whitby.ca or visit **whitby.ca/Tax**



Pumpkin Disposal
When it's time to part with your pumpkins, put them out with your yard waste on the same day your garbage is collected. **whitby.ca/Waste**



Official Election Results
See the results of Whitby's Municipal election at **whitby.ca/VOTE**

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Local Dancers Stepping Up and Out

Submitted by Madison Mapes

Congratulations to our Whitby Dance Company (WDC) graduates on their exciting post-secondary dance accomplishments! We are so proud of them as they continue pursuing their passion for dance beyond the studio.

Jehvon Miller, WDC Class of 2025, has made Rush Dance Pak while studying Early Childhood Education at Durham College. Grace Guzzo-Foliaro, WDC Class of 2026, has also made Rush Dance Pak while pursuing a Bachelor of Health Sciences, specializing in Human Health, at Ontario Tech University.

Ciara Henderson, WDC Class of 2026 has made the University of Guelph's Gryphsteps Hip Hop Team while pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in History.

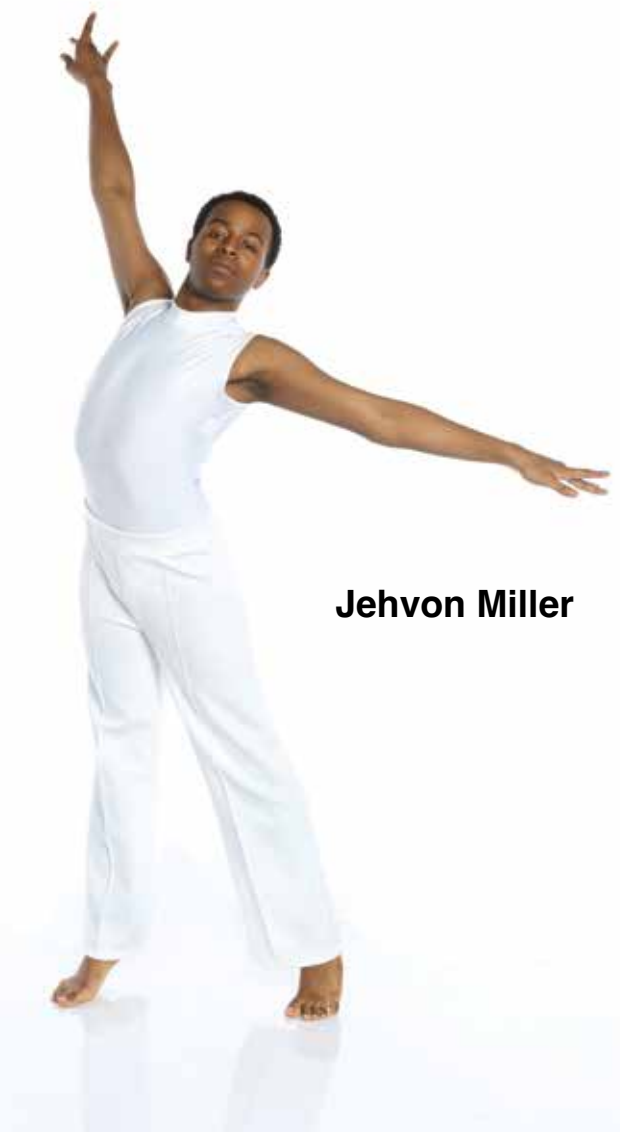
We are also thrilled to celebrate our 2026 graduates, Shayla Moore and Carina Zheng, on being accepted onto The Dance Force at Western University. Shayla is studying Media and Communications with Ivey AEO, while Carina is pursuing a degree in Social Sciences with a focus on Psychology.

Throughout their time at WDC, these dancers were part of both our recreational and competitive programs, creating countless memories and earning numerous special awards and overall awards along the way. Their dedication, hard work, and passion for dance have made us incredibly proud.

Even after graduating, the dancers remain a huge part of our WDC family. They continue to support our dancers at events and competitions and serve as incredible role models for our students. It means so much to see our graduates stay connected to the studio and inspire the next generation of WDC dancers!

Congratulations, Jehvon, Grace, Ciara, Shayla, and Carina! We are so proud of everything you have accomplished and cannot wait to see what this next chapter brings. We will be cheering you on every step of the way!

Madison Mapes is the Competitive Team Director at Brooklin's Whitby Dance Company



Jehvon Miller

Whitby team wins gold in New York

(submitted by Rob Swan)



The Whitby Wildcats U13A Blue team traded turkey for gold on Thanksgiving weekend in Niagara Falls, NY.

The Wildcats went undefeated in their five games, outscoring their opponents 26-5.

The team faced an all-American division battling teams from New York State, Pennsylvania, Florida, and Connecticut.

An incredible weekend of fun, teamwork, determination, discipline and heart from the players. Congratulations to the players, coaches and families on an amazing tournament and a well-deserved championship!

In the photo (Brooklinites indicated with *):
Top row (left to right): Tom Robertson*, Brady Lucenti*, Tyler Anderson*, Leo Zullo, Nixon Radovski*, Liam Lawlor, Noah Manji, Liam Nolte, Lincoln Blakey*, Jeevan Bains, Ben Wirch

Middle row (left to right): Colin Downey, Brady Morine, Billy Betts*, Mason Swan*

Bottom row (goalies, left to right): Brodie Hurst, Mason Gillespie*

Coaches (left to right): Rick Radovski*, Rob Swan*, Graeme Robertson*, Derek Morine



Here's Jay White



Below is the transcript of a recent conversation with newly elected North Ward councillor Jay White. It's been edited for clarity and length.

Describe Monday (election day).
Oh man, Monday was a bit of a tough one because it was the first day in the last number of months where there really wasn't much more I could do, I felt that I kind of turned every stone and I'd really come to terms with the fact that I'd done all that I can to engage and pull myself out there in a manner that would have either people putting their faith in me or not. So yeah, there was a bit of a come to terms with the end of the campaign and be comfortable with that regardless of what the potential results were going to be. I just was hoping for the best, but anticipating the worst, I suppose.

Describe the moment when you realized you won
A bit surreal, I guess. The results that I had seen through the evening seemed to be a little bit delayed. I guess because I was getting some updates from other people, you know, friends, acquaintances, who were sending the updates on things. And so when I was looking at the numbers towards the end, they were close but I was getting some congratulatory messages from people and I was very candidly responding. Like, is it over? Is there something I'm missing? it was kind of surreal because I was a bit confused by the early congratulatory messages from some people before physically seeing the green highlighted results. So relief…and appreciation for the fact that I was able to earn the support of as many people as I did in order to gain the victory.

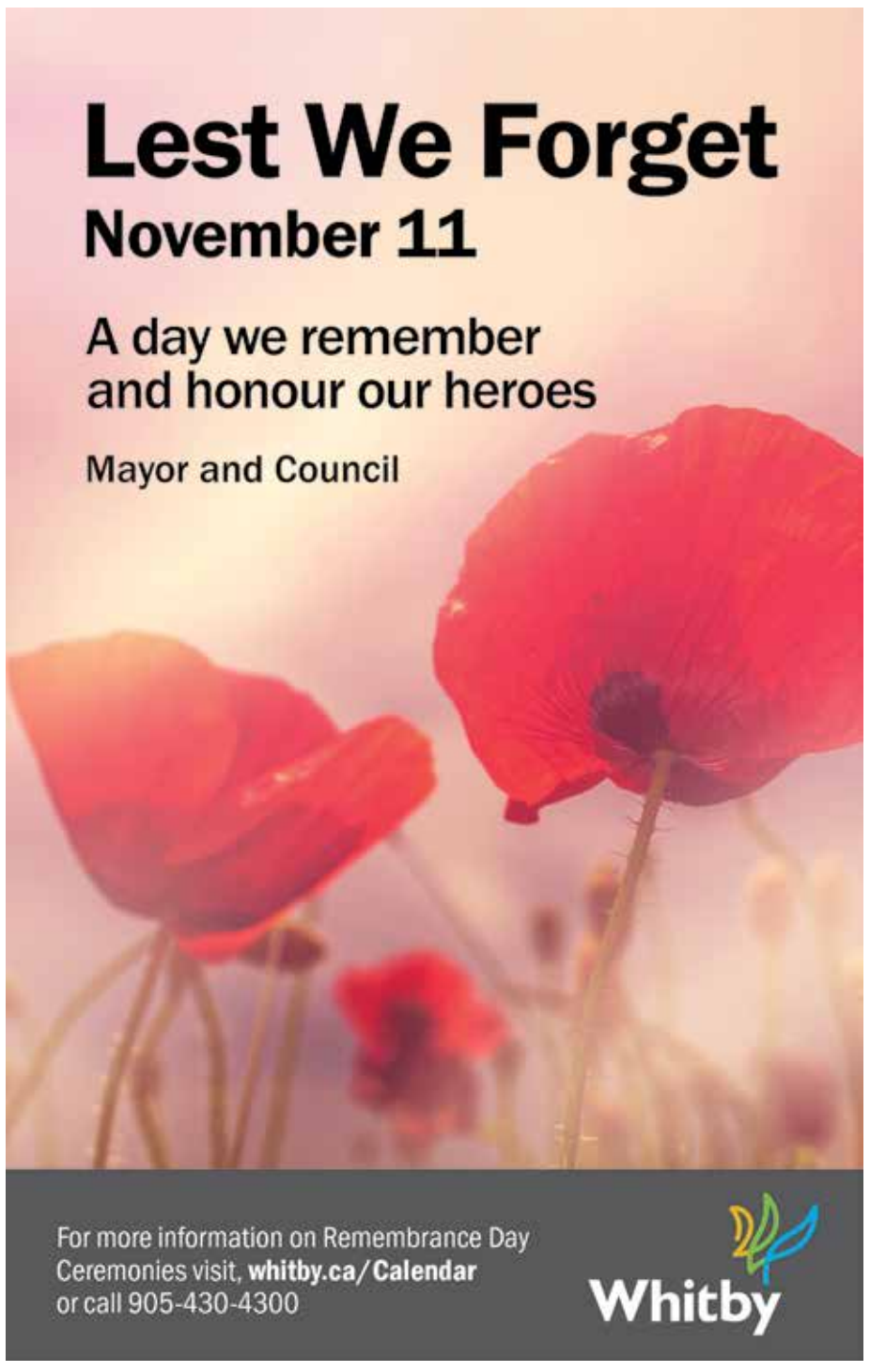
What did you learn that you probably didn't realize about the candidacy process?
I think people have this perception of it being this vicious sort of a very combative, competitive scenario. And it's easy to speculate on what it's like, but physically and mentally enduring it is a different experience because you do end up in a situation where there are people that maybe take issue with you without having had a chance to get to know you. It's different than my experience with business advertising where your business is at the forefront and you're behind the scenes. It's kind of this shield in front of you as an individual, whereas with politics as a candidate, you are putting yourself out there to people to be judged, to be criticized, to be glorified. I think both sides of it, at times, made me a bit uncomfortable. It just takes some time to sort of adapt to it. But up front, it was a bit challenging.

What did you learn about yourself during this?
I've always felt much more of an empath in terms of I've always had that sort of sensitivity to certain situations and things when you read stories in the newspaper or hear things in the news. And when you go through a process where you're engaging with people daily and people from all different walks of life, different scenarios, you really do get a full sense that the community is made up of a vast array of different situations. Not all of them are always great. There are people out there struggling for different reasons…people are looking for representation in different ways than maybe others.

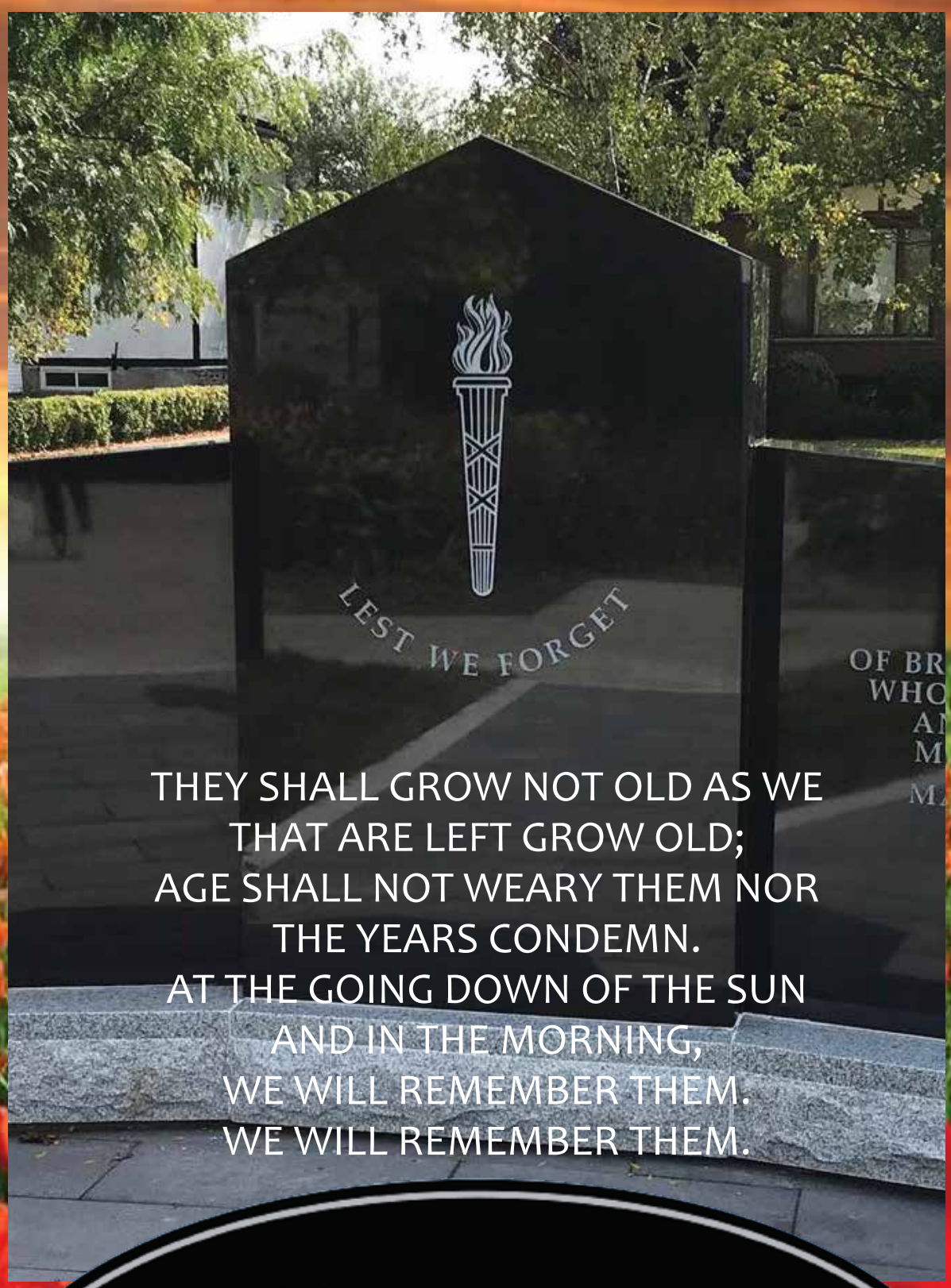
Emotional toll? Towards the end of the campaign, I think it did. After months of doing it, not so much in the sense that it impacted me personally, but I just think that from all of the stories that I heard from all the perspectives that I was hearing, trying to come to terms with the fact that you're never really going to make everybody happy.

What is one fact about you that is perhaps unusual or interesting that no one would ever find in your bio or resume?
In my early adulthood, I'd had aspirations of becoming a police officer. I'd always thought that particular role was something that I would do well at from a public service standpoint in terms of character and so forth. Journalism and policing were my two earliest aspirations.





Lest We Forget...



THEY SHALL GROW NOT OLD AS WE
THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD;
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THE YEARS CONDEMN.
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Brooklin Family Dentistry embraces cutting-edge technology to ensure the highest quality of care for its patients. From digital X-rays that minimize radiation exposure to intraoral cameras that provide a detailed view of oral health, every tool is carefully chosen to enhance diagnosis and treatment. The incorporation of advanced software streamlines administrative processes, making appointments seamless and convenient.

At **Brooklin Family Dentistry**, oral health is viewed holistically, recognizing its interconnectedness with overall well-being. The dental team takes the time to understand each patient's unique needs and concerns, crafting personalized treatment plans that prioritize both oral health and comfort. From preventive care to restorative procedures, every treatment is designed to promote long-term wellness and preserve the natural beauty of the smile.

Central to **Brooklin Family Dentistry's** philosophy is a commitment to patient-centered care. Every interaction, from the initial consultation to follow-up appointments, is guided by empathy, respect, and open communication. Dentists take the time to educate patients about their oral health, empowering them to make informed decisions and take control of their smiles. For nervous patients, options such as nitrous oxide are available to ensure a stress-free experience.

Schedule your next appointment with us today at **(905)995-5353** or stop in and say hello. You can also visit us online at **brooklinfamilydentistry.com.**

Brooklin Family Dentistry is open Monday to Wednesday from 9am to 8pm, Thursday from 9am to 5pm and Saturday 9am to 5pm.

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