A Serious Gap in Handley's Tribute

By Nicholas Bozza | Thorold Election Commentary | October 29, 2026

A SHORT READ: 419 body words | approximately 2 minutes, plus illustration-viewing time

Today I must make a retraction and correct a serious omission in my tribute to Thorold Deputy Mayor and Councillor Jimmy Handley: I overlooked the gap between his front teeth. The satirical illustration has been redone. Responsible article writing means acknowledging "gaps" in my work—even the ones staring me right in the face.

Jimmy, please accept my sincere apologies for the oversight. The before-and-after pictures appear below. This corrects your illustrated, "Colgate-accredited" smile—an entirely imaginary accreditation. In my fictional dental department, I'm still waiting for Colgate's final ruling, but I'm confident Jimmy will get a positive result. My tribute to your service stands.

In my imaginary investigation, I took Jimmy's photograph and cartoon to the NASA dentist. Using NASA's latest state-of-the-art digital calipers—custom-made by Elon Musk—he confirmed that the gap was accurately and proportionately portrayed. His verdict: "A Successful 'Space' Program."

I then had ten imaginary dentists recheck it. Ten out of ten agreed. Finally, dental professionals have reached a unanimous decision without recommending more floss. In my imaginary call to Colgate, they agreed: "Ten out of ten dentists can't be wrong."

Jimmy, I'd say "enjoy the pic," but with that space between your teeth, you probably don't need a pick. And in the post-space version, no dental posts were added.

Meanwhile, I've renewed my imaginary subscription to Clarence, the angel from It's a Wonderful Life, for another four-year term as Thorold's personal guardian angel. In this fictional sequel, he endorses this article and remains available to advise the UN-FAB FOUR as they return for another term. Wings are not included; those have to be earned—like Jimmy's. Apparently, even heaven won't let me put those on the subscription.

Then came an entirely imaginary phone call from Zuzu Bailey, the little girl in the Christmas classic. In my invented conversation, she asked me to pass along a message: "God bless Mr. Jim Handley—and may he enjoy a wonderful life after this council term."

That deserved a cartoon: George Bailey, played by James Stewart, holding Zuzu amid the familiar Christmas crowd, with Clarence and Jimmy wearing their wings. The bell rings, and Zuzu calls out, "God bless Jimmy Handley!" In this imagined send-off, both angels have their wings—and Jimmy finally has an evening free of council paperwork.

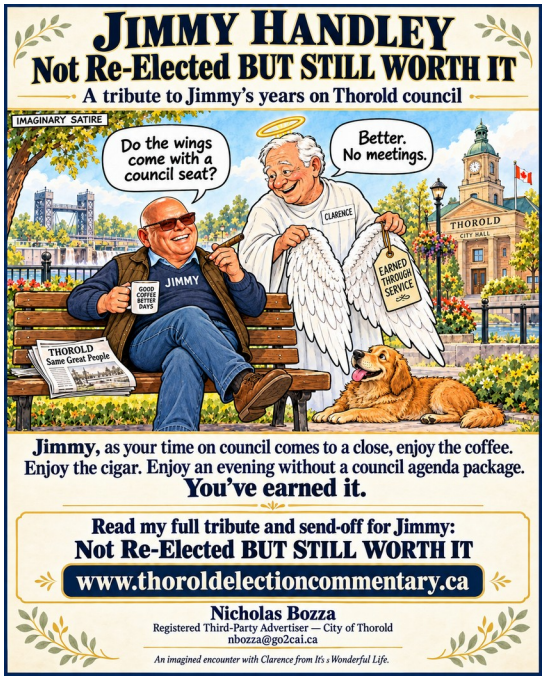
As for my new pronouns? Stay tuned. Subscribers will receive the announcement. I considered an Amber Alert, but in my imaginary alert department, the UN-FAB FOUR have already reserved the system for whenever they vote in unison. An ordinary email will have to do.

Nicholas Bozza | Registered Third-Party Advertiser—City of Thorold
nbozza@go2cai.ca | www.thoroldelectioncommentary.ca

BEFORE AND AFTER

A gap in my reporting—now corrected. No dental posts were added. For added satire, I've even left a "proportional" gap between the pictures. The arrow's "actual size" claim is a joke, not a measurement.

BEFORE THE SPACE



Original illustration: the gap was overlooked.

IMAGINARY SATIRE • Fictional Clarence encounter.
Nicholas Bozza
Registered Third-Party Advertiser—City of Thorold
nbozza@go2cai.ca
www.thoroldelectioncommentary.ca

↔

ACTUAL SIZE OF THE SPACE*

*Imaginary measurement. Actual satire. Just kidding!

AFTER THE SPACE



Corrected smile: gap restored, sparkle added.

IMAGINARY SATIRE • Fictional Clarence encounter.
Nicholas Bozza
Registered Third-Party Advertiser—City of Thorold
nbozza@go2cai.ca
www.thoroldelectioncommentary.ca

See the send-off illustration on the next page.

SATIRE NOTICE: All imaginary scenarios in this article and its cartoons are invented and untrue as accounts of real events. No NASA dentist examined the artwork; no Musk-made calipers or ten-dentist panel verified it; and Colgate provided no accreditation, ruling, statement or endorsement. No Colgate ruling is actually pending. Clarence's encounter, subscription, endorsement, advice and heavenly arrangements, and the Zuzu phone call, blessing and farewell scene are fictional. The Jimmy-specific dialogue attributed to Zuzu and Mary was invented for this tribute; it is not a quotation from the film or its performers. No Amber Alert was requested or arranged, and no exclusive alert rights are claimed. The cartoons, wings, sparkle, "proportional" gap and "actual size" arrow are illustrations and jokes—not photographs, verified measurements or evidence of real events. Jimmy's wings celebrate service and the end of his council term; they do not signify death. "UN-FAB FOUR" is the author's political label; the alert joke alleges no secret agreement or misconduct. The correction concerns Jimmy's illustrated smile; the tribute to his service stands. Jimmy's imagined thought about stolen ideas is fictional dialogue, not his actual statement or an allegation that any identified person stole his ideas.

References and credits: Author-supplied photograph, original tribute and cartoons. Cultural reference: It's a Wonderful Life (1946), including George Bailey (James Stewart), Mary Bailey (Donna Reed), Zuzu Bailey and Clarence. The new farewell scene is a fictional tribute, not a scene from the film. No actual endorsement, sponsorship, approval or affiliation with NASA, Elon Musk, Colgate, the film's cast, their estates or rights holders is claimed. Word count and reading time exclude titles, captions, illustrations, references, notices and sign-offs.

A WONDERFUL SEND-OFF FOR JIMMY

An entirely fictional Christmas farewell—with wings earned through service. Mr. Potter is absent. This scene was imagined in Thorold, not Bedford Falls or Pottersville. In this invented moment, Jimmy is thinking: “I wonder what life would be like if no one stole my ideas?”



FICTIONAL SATIRE • This imagined scene and Jimmy-specific dialogue did not occur. No film-cast or rights-holder endorsement is claimed.
Nicholas Bozza | Registered Third-Party Advertiser—City of Thorold
nbozza@go2cai.ca | www.thoroldelectioncommentary.ca