

# Artist draws inspiration from family situations



"I've always said I'm in the business of making people cry."

Christine Parsons Wood is a talented local artist whose beautiful water-colours of family homes evoke a powerful sense of nostalgia in many of the recipients. "Often the paintings are commissioned as a gift for somebody who grew up in the house and moved on, and when they see the painting, it brings back a lot of memories," said Ms. Wood, whose interest in

art goes back to her childhood and who is also a gifted cartoonist.

"My critical turning point was at the age of 12, when I decided I wanted to become an architect, and that was also when I developed my cartoon," she said. Coming from an artistic family, she had always been encouraged to dabble in the arts.

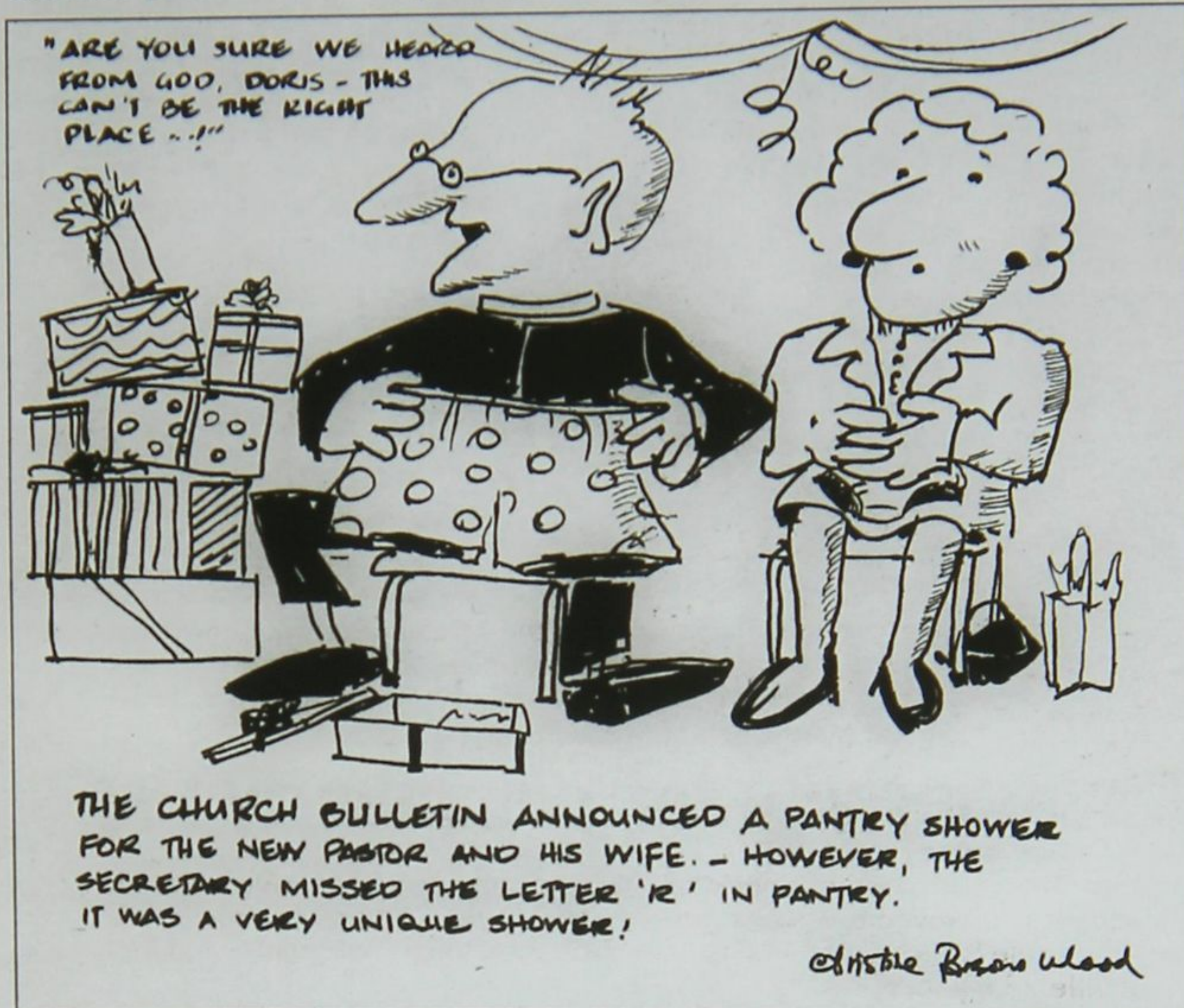
"The year I was 12, we drove through one of the New England states where there was a town called Mushaboom. The name captivated me and evolved into a character called Miss Pikaboom." Intriguing names on signs and everyday events in family life provide much of the inspiration for her cartoons, and she describes Miss Pikaboom as "witty, a little naughty but still respectable. (She) creates humour in the most ordinary of circumstances."

Ms. Wood studied architecture at university, honing her drawing skills in the process, which in turn led her to try her hand at painting houses. "The Burlington Spectator and Hamilton Spectator did an article and I probably got about 35 commissions as a

result. A lot were Christmas gifts and most were of houses, but I also did some pets."

Sometimes clients ask her to include a beloved family pet in a house painting, which gives her

work a particularly personal touch. She welcomes commissions and can be reached at 905-640-5647.



Accomplished artist and cartoonist Christine Parsons Wood has established a fine reputation as a painter of family homes and pets. Above is an example of one of her cartoons based on an actual event at the Stouffville Missionary Church.

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## Welcome home, Luke and Chris

Luke Anderson, who was critically injured in a mountain biking accident October 27, was flown back from Vancouver on Friday, Nov. 29 with his mom, Chris, who has been at his bedside since the accident.

The 24-year-old, who grew up in Stouffville and is a graduate of Stouffville District Secondary School, has been transferred to St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. He will continue to

undergo rehabilitation at a facility in the Toronto area. The Anderson family is very grateful for the outpouring of support and concern since Luke's accident, and they appreciate the community's understanding that they will need some private time to readjust to life at home.

A web site, newvibemedia.com/lucas, has been set up to provide regular updates on Luke's progress.

Warmest Holiday Greetings from  
**Dr. Barbara Frackowiak & Staff**

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