

Your Door & More, a Unique Way to Say Thank You!

Finding an original housewarming present or thank you gift can be a challenging task for any real estate agent. Brenda Priest and Lisa Drymon, co-owners of Your Door & More, have the answer. Their newly launched business provides personalized pen-and-ink illustrations of your door, front porch or home, as well as 8"x10" elevation drawings.

Striking a work/life balance was important to Priest and Drymon, who wanted a business that would allow them to be around their young children. The two live in the same Holly Springs neighborhood and have been friends since Drymon moved from New Jersey to North Carolina three years ago. They both have daughters who are the same age and play together.

The pair complement each other perfectly. Drymon is a born sales woman and a former special education teacher who loves to talk. Her background includes working in the food and catering industries, as well as in finance and mutual funds. Priest does the drawings and has a background as an illustrator. She received her bachelor's degree in interior design from the University of Bridgeport and worked in the illustration field for nine years. She learned the dying art of pen-and-ink drawings as a freshman in college from a man who gave her a summer job doing illustrations. She continued to



A personalized pen-and-ink illustration of your door, front porch or home.

do pen-and-ink illustrations of home exteriors, home portraits and floor plans following graduation.

Priest and Drymon sat down about a year-and-a-half ago and began discussing what could be done with Priest's illustrations. They asked themselves what they could do for a business that would still allow them to spend time with their children. They started brainstorming about what could be done with Priest's talent for pen-and-ink drawing and Your Door & More was born.

The original idea was to provide notecards and address labels with full-house portraits on them that real estate agents could give as thank-you gifts for new homebuyers. The illustrations are highly detailed and accentuate the unique architectural details of the

home. They also do change-of-address cards that feature custom pen-and-ink drawings of the home's front door that can be given to clients as a housewarming gift. In addition, Your Door & More does 8"x10" pen-and-ink elevated drawings of homes that are suitable for framing and as gifts.

The business offers a specialized service of floor plan illustration upon request. The floor plans can be combined with a pen-and-ink elevated drawing of the home and be used as a home sales marketing tool. The floor plans and elevated drawings are perfect for use in flyers, brochures and advertisements. The illustrations can be used as a supplement or alternative to photographs of the house for sale.

Your Door & More appeals to those outside of the real estate

industry as well. Drymon and Priest have received numerous requests from people who want to remember a favorite house or the home where they grew up. One woman wanted an illustration of her house for her husband, who had designed it himself. Another person sent them a photo of the log cabin where his grandfather had grown up in the mountains. As long as they have several photographs showing enough detail, they can work just from photos and do illustrations of homes in other states. They have received requests from as far away as Rhode Island.

Drymon and Priest are eager to see how far they can take the business and concept. The pair is open to illustrating any architectural detail on a house. One homeowner wants them to draw the hearth in his 200-year-old home. They will even illustrate the mailbox. They are open to requests from real estate agents, brokers and the public for any architectural detail on a house.

Your Door & More is a unique business idea that is tailored to the needs of both builders and real estate agents. Their carefully detailed pen-and-ink drawings are a thoughtful gift for any homeowner.

For more information on Your Door & More or to schedule an in-home appointment, please visit their Web site at www.yourdoorandmore.com.