



Update

April 14, 2009

a newsletter for those interested in
Willow Brook Christian Village and
Willow Brook at Delaware Run

**You are invited to our
Spring Rally
Thursday, May 21st, 2:00 p.m.
at Byxbe's Five Star Banquet Center
next to Willow Brook at Delaware Run
West William Street
Delaware, Ohio
RSVP by calling 740-201-5640
or register online at www.willow-brook.org**

It seems like forever and a day since Willow Brook hosted a Rally. I miss seeing everybody, so we're scheduling one next month. Join us on Thursday, May 21st, 2:00 p.m., at Byxbe's Five Star Banquet Center, next to our new community, *Willow Brook at Delaware Run*, on West William Street in Delaware.

If you have never been to one of our Rallies, here's what you can expect. You'll walk into a banquet room filled with excited chatter among people who have interest in learning about independent-living opportunities at our two Delaware communities. You'll no doubt meet a few of those people before things get started.

To kick off our presentation, I will share the latest news on the construction of our apartments and healthcare centers at Delaware Run. We can't physically walk you through the complex just yet – it's still a hardhat area – but I will lead you on a tour in pictures. (I can all but guarantee *cheers* and *applause* as the photos are flashed up on the screen!) And we'll make an announcement about a time when you can schedule a guided tour – sort of a sneak preview before the official opening this summer.

Then we'll spend some time talking about the global economic downturn as it relates to Willow Brook. I know this is high on everybody's mind, so I plan to offer some financial details from our auditor about Willow Brook's financial health. (I will happily report that Willow Brook is weathering the financial storm in good shape.)

After that, I will discuss Willow Brook's philosophy and history. Willow Brook is a not-for-profit organization, and I will take a moment or two to explain the good things this means to you. As we conclude, I will describe the Willow Brook plan – living options, services, and costs.

And the icing on the cake, so to speak... we'll all enjoy a spectacular strawberry dessert created by our own Chef John Lindeboom. This will be a "taste" of the good dining you can expect in Willow Brook's restaurants.

After the Rally, we'll invite you to tour homes at Delaware Run, and apartments and homes at *Willow Brook Christian Village*.

Should be a wonderful afternoon together!

Please RSVP by calling 740-201-5640. Or you can register online at www.willow-brook.org. As always, your family members and friends are welcome to join you.

A word about prices...

Among Ohio's retirement communities, our homes and apartments are bargains. Our prices are set with an eye toward the resources of those who want to move here. Our goal is to keep Willow Brook affordable for the greatest number of people possible. Some find that life at Willow Brook actually costs *less* than living at their previous home.

And we do something most retirement communities don't do: We publish our prices on our website. I guess that must be something really bold, or dumb, because almost nobody does it. Check ours out at www.willow-brook.org. I believe you will be pleasantly surprised. And I do wish you could easily compare ours with theirs, but you can't. They won't let you. Not without a lot of legwork.

Real estate sales – the good news...

Most people who plan to move to Willow Brook have a house to sell. We've all heard the news about the real estate market – prices down, buyers can't get loans, and on and on.

Well, I am happy to report that the picture isn't as bleak as we may believe. In Central Ohio, prices are down only about 5% from 2007. While this isn't what we want to hear, the news isn't terrible. The average days on the market actually have *declined* a bit to just under 100. This is good news.

But the really good news is that people who have signed up for our Delaware Run apartments are selling their houses. They are living proof that the market isn't dead! We are making some of our twin-single homes available temporarily to those who sell their homes before their apartments are ready this summer. Several have taken us up on our offer, and already have moved into twin-singles. Others are coming soon. It means living out of boxes for a few weeks, but we are making things as pain-free as possible. Toward that end, Willow Brook has promised to cover the cost of the second move when apartments open this summer.

Hey, jump on in! The water's fine!

Spring at Willow Brook...

Spring has come to the Willow Brook communities. Things are greening up and bright flowers are bursting forth after a long, cold winter. At *Willow Brook Christian Village*, we have planted more than 1,500 trees in a woods restoration project. We did this back in the 1990s, and we are just letting them grow naturally. They are blending beautifully into the existing woodland to create a dense green backdrop for many of our homes.

We are doing the same at our new community, *Willow Brook at Delaware Run*. Already hundreds of trees have been planted. Many, many more are planned.

Even more than the trees, at both Willow Brooks, you will find walking trails, ponds and streams. If you have an opportunity, drive through in the next week or two. Both campuses will be at peak spring beauty.

Willow Brook's voluntary leaders...

As a not-for-profit organization, Willow Brook is under the leadership of a voluntary board of trustees – voluntary in the sense that they are not compensated. Not a cent. Sixteen men and women (including two resident representatives) give freely of their time and talents to see that Willow Brook is the best that it can be. They come from various walks of life. We have a banker, an attorney, a comptroller, a physician, a retired school

administrator, a highway contractor, and more. Some have served on the board for 30 years or more. With such competent, professional leaders, it is no wonder that Willow Brook has earned its wide reputation for excellence.

I hope you will plan to join us for our Spring Rally on May 21st. We always have a grand time at these events. We would much appreciate your calling or registering online to let us know you are coming.

If you haven't driven by our Delaware Run campus lately to see construction's progress, I encourage you to do so. We are approaching the final lap for our Village Square project. The building is looking mighty fine, inside and out. I walked through the complex last week – all 157,000 square feet of it. Carpet is being laid and cabinets are going in. It is going to be a terrific facility. I can't wait to show it to you!

On a personal note, two of my kids are set to graduate from Ohio State this spring – Stephen, with a degree in history, and Becky in nutrition. So Janet and I are planning our spring around this. I hope all is well with you and yours.

If there is ever anything I or anyone on my team can do for you, please let me know.

With love to all,

*Larry Harris
CEO*

*Willow Brook Christian Village
100 Willow Brook Way South
Delaware, Ohio 43015
740-369-0048*

*Willow Brook at Delaware Run
100 Delaware Crossing West
Delaware, Ohio 43015
740-201-5640*

Website: www.willow-brook.org