



HCCA

Howard County Citizens Association

Since 1961... The Voice of the People of Howard County

May 14, 2026

GOOD EVENING

I AM PAUL VERCHINSKI, A RESIDENT OF OAKLAND MILLS SINCE 1973. I COME BEFORE YOU AS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION (HCCA) AND AUTHORIZED TO SPEAK FOR HCCA.

CA IS A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION THAT HAS A SIGNIFICANT ROLE FOR THE RESIDENTS OF COLUMBIA. IT IS ALSO SUBJECT TO THE MARYLAND HOMEOWNERS ACT. PRIOR TO REBRANDING, CA WAS KNOWN TO US OLD TIMERS AS THE COLUMBIA PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION.

I PERSONALLY HAVE SERVED ON THE OAKLAND MILLS BOARD FOR 6 YEARS SO I AM VERY FAMILIAR WITH OUR ANNUAL CA REPRESENTATIVE ELECTION. I HAVE ALSO BEEN APPOINTED AND SERVED ON THE CA SENIOR ADVISORY AS CHAIR WHICH LED TO THE ADOPTION BY THE CA BOARD OF AN OLDER ADULT PLAN IN 2014. THAT PLAN IS STILL IN EFFECT TODAY.

I REVIEWED YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS WEB PAGE AND IT TROUBLES THE HCCA. YOU NOTE THAT "OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS A GROUP OF RESIDENTS ELECTED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE VILLAGES". THE OPERATIVE WORD IS "ELECTED"

YOU HAVE PHOTOS OF THOSE VOLUNTEER RESIDENTS DULY ELECTED EXCEPT FOR OAKLAND MILLS, LONG REACH, AND RIVER HILL WHICH ARE SHOWN AS "VACANT". HCCA IS PERPLEXED SINCE THOSE 3 VILLAGES ALONG WITH THE OTHER SEVEN HAD BEEN ELECTED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE VILLAGES AND SEATED ON THE CA BOARD.

NO REASONS ARE GIVEN TO THE RESIDENTS OF OAKLAND MILLS, LONG REACH, AND RIVER HILL AS TO WHY THEY WERE DISENFRANCHISED.

HCCA, FOUNDED IN 1961, HAS FOSTERED GOOD GOVERNMENT POLICIES IN HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND CA AND ARE CONCERNED ABOUT RESIDENT DISENFRANCHISEMENT OF A THIRD OF COLUMBIA'S VILLAGES REPRESENTING ABOUT 40,000 RESIDENTS. WE WOULD LIKE SOME ANSWERS FROM THE CA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION REGARDING RESIDENT DISENFRANCHISEMENT IN THE AFFAIRS OF CA.

AS ALL OF YOU KNOW, I AND OTHER CA LIEN PAYERS WORK THRU OUR CA VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES ON CA ISSUES OF CONCERN.

OAKLAND MILLS, LONG REACH, AND RIVER HILL HAVE ALL ELECTED OUR CA REPRESENTATIVES AND EXPECT TO SEE THEM SEATED TONITE FOR THE COMING CA BOARD YEAR.

YOU HAVE STATED AS CHAIR THAT THE THREE DULY ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES CONSITUTE "A CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER" TO CA. THIS IS STRAIGHT OUT OF CLANCY'S NOVEL ON AGGRESION LEADING TO WAR. THIS IS RIDICULOUS OR IS CA STATING THAT THEY ARE AT WAR WITH ITS VILLAGES?

WE WOULD REMIND YOU AGAIN THAT YOU ARE SUBJECT TO THE MARYLAND HOMEOWNERS ACT WHICH ADDRESSES ELECTIONS.

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS WEBSITE STATES "YOUR INPUT MATTERS" CONCERNING SPEAK OUTS. OUR QUESTION IS DOES IT INDEED MATTER?

THANK YOU