

LETTER to the EDITOR

Robey: Let's Get on Board With Limestone

I have been dedicated to public service in Howard County for [more than] 50 years. Born in Daniels, and a graduate of Howard High School, I joined the Howard County Police in 1966. I was appointed chief of the Howard County Police in 1991 and held a variety of public offices, including being elected county executive and state senator from Howard County District 13.

Now retired, at 76 years young, I still volunteer my time and services to my community in Howard County, where I have lived my entire life. Each year as I get older, I think about how I can continue to dedicate my life to my passion of serving others in our community.

That is why I am writing in support of the proposed continuing care retirement community in Howard County, called Erickson at Limestone, in Clarksville.

I am very familiar with Erickson Living, and the communities they manage and build. Both in my professional work, but also in my personal experience, Erickson communities, like the [project it is] proposing for Howard, allow people who are typically in their 80s and 90s to engage, socialize and participate in all that our great community has to offer.

Having been to their communities many times before, their campus-style properties remind me of college for seniors. They have restaurants, pools, clubs, pubs, workshops, theaters and transportation, as well as doctors and nurses — all available to residents every day of the year. Erickson's three Maryland communities also act as their own voting precincts and achieve the highest voter rates in the entire state, again exemplifying the way in which Erickson campuses promote social engagement.

I am fortunate to live with my wife Janet in our home, in Elkridge. And, it is my goal to live the rest of my life here in the community I have called home for all of my life. None of us know what lies ahead, especially as we age late in life; I know my family, and many of my friends and neighbors, would greatly benefit from this new community.

They have my support, and they should have yours, too.

—*Jim Robey, former Howard County executive*