



# Brevard County Aging Plan

By Joe Steckler, *President, Helping Seniors of Brevard County*

**F**all 2022 is here, and I decided to look at our county aging plan for help optimizing my resources to manage how I want to live the rest of my life. My concerns were not only for me but for my best friend, my wife, who helped me accrue our assets. To my dismay I found no written county plan, nor any written references to such plan. Though we do have a Housing & Human Services Department and a Commission on Aging, there is no service planning for the elderly—this is difficult to accept in a county with a population over 700,000.

As an elder advocate, I knew that a local nonprofit called Helping Seniors of Brevard had developed a concept paper in 2015 on the need for a county aging plan. I did a little research and learned that, while the paper was submitted to all five county commissioners, its receipt was never acknowledged. Why have our elderly constituents (who make up 25% of Brevard's population) ignored five people who oversee a county budget of \$1.3 billion, yet direct such a minimal amount to affordable housing or nonprofits that assist seniors and caregivers?

My fear over a lack of concern for Brevard's elders was growing, especially since we do everything possible to attract people here. To waylay my concerns, I decided to investigate paraphernalia on the upcoming elections. I could see a lot of information about the Indian River Lagoon, as well as who supports who politically speaking, but I sure did not see a single word about affordable housing, homelessness, or a county aging plan. Do we live in 2022 or 1822? Do we understand that we have an aging population?

I am 88; I served my country for 38 years and have worked 30 years helping the elderly. I have been registered as a Democrat and a Republican, but consider myself more of an independent than anything else, as many Americans are doing today. More importantly, I like to think I can research, listen, read, and watch television in order to make an intelligent choice on election day.

In deciding who to vote for, do not be misled by the hate mail you receive. Who profits by your belief or disbelief of such? A major concern I have is the way campaigns are conducted. For a county that has so many senior citizens, it is amazing to me that so little is said about our lack of affordable housing or a county plan that addresses caring for an aging community. We can do better and should make these issues a concern for those we elect.

Contact Helping Seniors at 321-473-7770, at [www.HelpingSeniorsofBrevard.org](http://www.HelpingSeniorsofBrevard.org), or at P.O. Box 372936, Satellite Beach, FL 32937. ☎

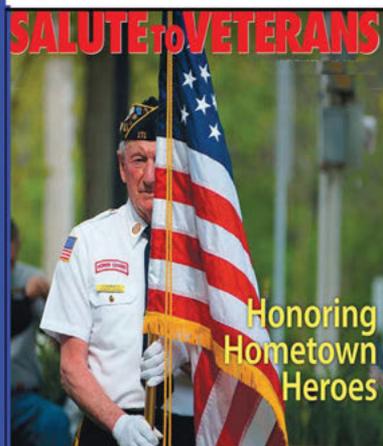


## 2022 MEGA

# SENIOR EXPO

## Wednesday, November 2

### 10 am - 2 pm @ Wickham Park Regional Pavilion



SALUTE TO VETERANS

Honoring Hometown Heroes

- Free Admission
- Meet Local Health Experts
- Free Refreshments
- Popcorn & Snacks Stations
- Great Door Prizes
- Lots of Giveaways
- Medicare Enrollment Options
- Fun, Informative Event

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## 2023 FOUNDATION CRUISE HELPING SENIORS OF BREVARD

Jan 6th & Jan 8th 2023 - 2- 7- or 9-Night Cruise Round Trip Port Canaveral

**3 Cruises to Choose From!**



Sail with your friends and your Helping Seniors friends from Brevard County on the luxurious MSC Meraviglia! Choose our 2-night quick getaway to Ocean Cay Marine Preserve, our 7-night sailing to Costa Maya, Cozumel and more, or come with us for the entire fun sailing!

**Take a 2-night getaway,  
Explore the 7-night sailing  
or join us for 9-nights  
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**BACK TO SEA SPECIAL:**

Limited Time Offer

Book an Outside Cabin  
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**Let's Go Sailing!**

MSC Meraviglia - January 2023  
from Port Canaveral with your friends from Brevard County!

2-night getaway Jan 6<sup>th</sup>; 7-nights sailing Jan 8<sup>th</sup>  
or join us for all 9-nights!  
Call Chris or Betty at 321-978-5211 for Details.



**2022 Foundation Cruise  
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**Special MSC Meraviglia 7-Night/9-Night Cruise Price Includes...**

- Cabin \* All Port Charges \* All Taxes \* Gratuities
- \* MSC Drink Package (valued at \$343/person)
- \* Wifi Package (valued at \$134/person)
- \* All Meals \* All Entertainment \* Special Events \* Private Cocktail Party
- \* Admin Fee \* Fundraising Donation – Helping Seniors of Brevard
- \* Work-Out Facilities \* World Class Spa \* Great Dancing \* Live Bands

Itinerary...

- Fri Jan 6<sup>th</sup> Leave Port Canaveral at 6:00PM • Sat Jan 7<sup>th</sup> Ocean Cay Marine Preserve
- Sun Jan 8<sup>th</sup> Leave Port Canaveral at 6:00PM • Mon Jan 9<sup>th</sup> Nassau Bahamas
- Tue Jan 10<sup>th</sup> Ocean Cay Marine Preserve • Wed Jan 11<sup>th</sup> Fun Day at Sea
- Thu Jan 12<sup>th</sup> Costa Maya Mexico • Fri Jan 13<sup>th</sup> Cozumel Mexico
- Sat Jan 14<sup>th</sup> Fun Day at Sea • Sun Jan 15<sup>th</sup> Arrive Port Canaveral

**EARLY BOOKING INCENTIVE - Book outside & receive free upgrade to Balcony!**

- 2-Night Getaway Balcony at \$264/person (double)
- 7-Night Balcony (w/ Wifi & Drink Package) at \$842/person (double)
- 9-Night Balcony (w/ Wifi & Drink Package) at \$1106/person (double)

Contact: Helping Seniors of Brevard Travel Club Office 321-978-5211  
or Chris Morse 818-430-1480 Cell  
Cruising the Sea of Excellence



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