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Joe Steckler



### Don't Be an Ostrich

The facts I have researched for this article should prompt seniors to question why more of our elected officials are not involved in the battle for affordable housing. This question might also be directed to county staff who work in areas affecting seniors and those who need affordable housing.

First, we need a way to pay for affordable housing. No private investor will build and operate housing at a loss. Elected officials need to work out a solution and, like it or not, this means government involvement and a

tax. Passing a tax is one thing, keeping it on its directed path quite another, but it can be done if private citizens are involved.

Second is the problem of taxes. The County has a 1 cent sales tax that generated about \$161 million from 2020-2022 for Brevard Public Schools, in addition to the normal taxes we pay annually. Then we have the lagoon tax, which brought in a like amount. Our elected officials are to be commended for their interest in schools and the lagoon. I wish they would show as much concern for seniors who have outlived their retirement savings. Who could have predicted how long we now live or the high cost of food we see today?

We cannot keep burying our heads in the sand like the proverbial ostrich. To build or acquire more affordable housing will cost money. The can being kicked down the road has turned into a very large can, moving faster, and it needs to be stopped. Solving the problem will require convincing our elected officials that our current modus operandi must change.

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

**The Sebastian Church of Christ**  
 1045 Main St., Sebastian, Florida 32976  
 (772) 913-0775  
 Minister: *Doug Tackett* (904) 910-7061

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Sunday Bible Study.....10:00 A.M.  
 Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.  
 Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00 P.M.

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