

**From:** [Betty Stidolph](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Senior Needs  
**Date:** Monday, March 6, 2023 2:50:06 PM

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To Whom it May Concern:

What Seniors need in our community is a very important issue and should be given great consideration. In my opinion things such as food security should be on the list. Our community used to have places Seniors could dine to include Mountainview and St Paul's Church. I believe those choices have disappeared with nothing to replace them. These were also places where Seniors were able to connect and socialize which is very important. The Meals on Wheels (MOW) program, according to some Seniors in town, has deteriorated and the meals aren't as tasty as they used to be.

I also believe more attention should be given to nurturing and growing the CNA and nursing programs. There is an increased need for assisted living and homecare which includes hospice and our local workforce is severely limited. There is one skilled nursing facility in our town and the staffing of that is also in jeopardy. Moving people to the appropriate level of care is dependent on staffing. If you can't get a person into a skilled nursing facility for rehab or line up home care they have to stay in the hospital which is not only expensive but inappropriate. Availability of respite care for people taking care of family members is also needed. I think we need to have our eye on the aging mental health community and their needs. This community requires a whole different level of care and expertise.

Wasn't there a survey done by the Commission on Aging regarding the needs of Seniors in our community? Maybe that survey needs to be updated?

Increasing the availability of specialists in our community ie: Ophthalmology, Rheumatology, Gastroenterology, Cardiology would also be a way to help our aging population so we wouldn't have to leave town for a higher level of care.

From food insecurity to transportation there are many ways to support Seniors. I am not saying we couldn't use Senior focused activities but I don't think pickleball is the solution.

Sincerely,  
Betty Stidolph

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USA

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