When you're a senior citizen is a case of where you sit

Being informed about senior citizen discounts and activities is no easy task. "I don't know a damn thing about senior citizen discounts or programs," said Farmington Hills resident Alen McLellan, 74.

McLellan, 74.
Inconsistent age requirements about who is a senior citizen are perhaps part of the reason why people like McLellan are uninformed.
Whether or not someone is a senior citizen depends on where he or she is sitting. In Farmington's Burger Chef, a S5-year-old gets a discount. At Wender, sit's 62. At McDonaid's a person just has to be retired.

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another reason why senior citizens may not know about discounts available to them. Golden Platter Restaurand womer Bob Sakellaris mitales that it's better to let suskellaris mitales and for the senior citizens. "If you sak them, they get offende," be explained.

Asking can pay off, said Eva Errick, 60. "People don't tell you (about discounts). I need every penny I've got to get by these days. I always ask for a discount."

Plecemeal availability of information rather than a comprehensive hand-book for growing old in Farmington is another reason why seniors may be uniformed.

of 9, it's 90. At Enlas Brotners, it's 92.

At McDonald's a person just has to be formed.

"If you don't read the newspapers or To get Social Security benefits, the age is 65.

An all-you-have-to-do-is-ask policy is changing all the time," said Erlich's

Check

List

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sister, Sandra Gamman, vž.

"There's already too much daily traffic to keep track of," said McLellan.

traffic to keep track of," said McLei-lan. An Oakland County senior citizen discount directory does crist. It lists area merchants who give discounts to senior citizens. But "so many of the merchants in the Farmington area don't participate," said Famy Hill, said manager of nutrition for Oakland Liv-ingston Human Service Agency. O.I.R. SA is a non-portit, government-subsi-dized organization with programs for senior citizens. "Possibly it's that (merchants) ha-ven't been approached. It might be that they said no." It is the responsibility of

local senior citizens to solicit merchant participation in the directory, she said.
"I haven't been approached," said Bill Stevens, Farmington Hills Auto Parts employee. "We give discounts anywhere from 10 to 40 percent for senior citizens."
Besides the discount directory, there is an activity center for senior citizens. Sometimes called The Gathering Place, the Mercy Center ofters activities such as dancing, swimming and bings. But "there is no comprehensing the such as the senior of the senior services to the senior services to explain some services to people," said Maggie Loridas, senior actult specialist.

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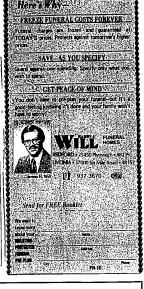
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