

Senior News Line

Details on discounts

By **MATILDA CHARLES**

Many of you had specific questions about my column on senior discounts, so I'll provide a little more information this week.

--The Golden Age Passport offered by the National Park Service:

+ If you're in a private vehicle and the park has a per-vehicle entrance fee, everyone is admitted.

+ In a park where there is a per-person entrance fee, the Passport will allow you, your spouse and children to be admitted.

+ If there are fees for facilities such as parking, boat launch or camping, you'll receive a 50 percent discount. (Sometimes only the Passport owner will get the discount.)

+ If you're a U.S. citizen age 62 or older, you qualify for the Passport, but you have to

go in person. Just apply at any national park, forest, Tennessee Valley Authority site, Fish and Wildlife Service, or Bureau of Land Management where they charge a fee. You'll need identification showing proof of age and residency. A driver's license or birth certificate will do. The cost of the Passport is \$10.

--The 125,000 senior discounts offered by seniordiscounts.com:

This is a searchable Web site, but you need to sign up. The cost is \$24 per year, and the subscription comes with an annually updated guidebook (500 pages) of senior discounts. The guide is divided into both national and state sections, with categories of discounts. Not only that, but you'll get update newsletters (either by mail or e-mail) as new additions are made to the guide. If you don't have Internet access, you can call 1800-372-7513 or write to SeniorDiscounts Card, P.O. Box 14762, Chicago, IL 60614.

--EyeCare America's Seniors gives seniors access to an ophthalmologist (and care for a year) if you don't have

VA medical or an HMO and haven't seen an eye doctor in three years. For more information call 1-800-222-3937.

Matilda Charles regrets that she cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into her column whenever possible. Do not send any material requiring return mail. Write to her in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to letters.kfws@hearstsc.com.

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