A Senior Media Services Special Feature

ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES GUIDE

	ALZHEIMER'S CARE	24-HR STAFFING	RN/LPN ON STAFF	INJECTION CARE	RESPITE CARE	PETS	ADULT DAY CARE	PRICE RANGE	MEALS	Features
Patriots Landing 1600 Marshall Circle DuPont, WA 98327 253-964-4900 info@patriotslanding.com	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	\$2,250- \$8,000	1 to 3	Spacious and attractive apartment and cottage-style liv- ing. Independent, assisted living, and secured memory care. Apartments range from studios-2 bed cottages, 24/7 LPN, 100+ activities a month. On-site fitness, pool/ sauna, shuttle to JBLM, pet-friendly, dog park, putting green, billiards.
Weatherly Inn Lake Meridian 15101 SE. 272nd St. Kent, WA 98042 253-630-7496	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	\$5,430- plus	3	Weatherly Inn Lake Meridian specializes in exceptional memory care. Customized care plans, LPNs on-site 24 hours a day, and enriching activities. Warmth and com- fort in every detail, making it feel like home.
Fieldstone Memory Care Puyallup 2121 S. Meridian Puyallup, WA 98371 253-904-3541	Y	Y	Y		Y			\$5,995- \$7,495	3	Gourmet dining, fall sensors in rooms, full private bath- rooms, 7 days a week activities, salon, laundry and housekeeping included, 24/7 on-call nurse, custom care plans.
Harbor Place at Cottesmore 1016 29th St. NW. Gig Harbor, WA 98335 253-853-3354	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	\$3,845- \$6,125 IL \$4,045- \$6,325 AL	3	As Gig Harbor's premier continuum of care campus, we offer independent retirement living, assisted living, inpatient/outpatient rehabilitation and skilled nursing. Visit our website, harborplaceretirement.com, for more details.
Weatherly Inn Renton 4550 Talbot Road S. Renton, WA 98055 425-577-1718	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	\$4,800- plus	3	Weatherly Inn Renton specializes in exceptional inde- pendent living, assisted living, and memory care. New community opened in 2023. Near Valley Medical Cen- ter. Elegant yet inviting decor and community spaces. Customized care plans, LPNs on-site 24 hours a day,. enriching activities and outings. AC and washers-dryers in apartments.

CHOOSING From page 4 Call the facilities.

Once you've identified a few good assisted-living facilities, call them to see if they have any vacancies, what they charge, and if they provide the types of services your father needs. **Tour your top choices.** times of the day and different days of the week to get a broader perspective.

On your visit, get a copy of the admissions contract and the residence rules that outline the fees (and any extra charges), services and residents' rights, and explanations for when a resident might be asked to leave because their condition has worsened and they require more care than the facility can provide. Also, find out their staff turnover rate, COVID infection-control procedures, and if and when medical professionals are on-site. To help you rate your visit, Caring. com offers a checklist of questions that you can download and print at Caring.com/static/checklist-ALtour.pdf.

How to pay.

Monthly costs for assisted-living ranges anywhere from \$2,500 to \$6,000 or more, depending on where you live, the facility you choose, and the services provided. Since Medicare doesn't cover assisted-living, most residents pay out-of-pocket from their own personal funds, and some have long-term care insurance policies. If your dad has limited financial resources and can't afford this, most states now have Medicaid waiver programs that help pay for assisted-living. Or, if he's a veteran, he may be able to get funds through the VA's Aid and Attendance benefit. To find out about these programs, ask the assisted-living facility director, or contact his local Medicaid office (see Medicaid.gov) or the regional VA benefit office (800–827–1000).

During your visit, notice the cleanliness and smell of the facility. Is it homey and inviting? Does the staff seem responsive and kind to its residents? Also be sure to taste the food and talk to the residents and their family members, if available. It's also a good idea to visit several times at different

Jim Miller is a contributor to NBC television's "Today" and author of "The Savvy Senior" book. Send questions for him to Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or at SavvySenior.org.

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Serving the needs of assisted-living communities

The American Health Care Association (AHCA) represents assisted-living providers through its National Center for Assisted Living. NCAL is dedicated to serving the needs of the assisted-living community through national advocacy, education, networking, professional development, and quality initiatives. AHCA can de reached at ahcancal.org and 202-842-4444. AHCA says the philosophy of assisted-living is built on the concept of delivering person-centered care and services to each individual resident. Person-centered care means that the care and services meet residents' specific needs and preferences. The communities offer a unique mix of companionship, independence, privacy, and security in a home-like setting.

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