



Constant Companions Home Care
San Diego and S. Riverside Counties
888.883.8393



Care Notes

A Publication of Constant Companions Home Care



2011

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The VA Aid and Attendance Benefit

The VA Aid and Attendance Benefit is available to many veterans and their surviving spouses. If you qualify, this benefit will assist you in paying for the extra assistance that you may need at home or in any residential setting. We are very excited to be able to provide guidance to this benefit as it has helped several existing clients to continue receiving services that they are receiving from Constant Companions Home Care.

- This benefit applies to veterans and surviving spouses who require assistance in bathing, dressing, meal preparation, medication supervision, meal preparation and assistance with any other activities of daily living.
- Qualifying veterans have served at least **90 days of active duty with at least 1 day during active war time.**
- Qualifying surviving spouses must have been married at the veteran's time of death.



Financial and Medical Qualifications

Financial:

- Assets cannot total more than \$80,000 excluding home, annuities, vehicles, pre-paid funeral expenses and other items.

Medical:

- A primary care physician can certify a veteran's need for personal care services.
- Available to those who need assistance in their own homes, assisted living facilities, board and care facilities and skilled nursing facilities.
- A veteran can receive up to \$1519 per month and a surviving spouse may be eligible to receive up to \$976 per month. A married couple may qualify for up to \$1801 per month.

The Application Process

Applications can take anywhere from 3-6 months to process, however, payment for services can extend back to the date of the initial application. If you are in need of immediate benefits ask if they can expedite the process.

To apply for this benefit contact your Regional Veteran's Administration Office.

Service Eligibility Dates:

- 04/21/1898—7/15/1903
- 05/09/1916—11/11/1918
- 12/07/1941—12/31/1946
- 06/27/1950—01/31/1955
- 08/05/1964—05/07/1975
- 08/20/1990—present

Two helpful websites:

VA Website: <http://www1.va.gov/directory/guide/home.asp>

VeteranAid.org: <http://www.veteranaid.org/apply.php>
GREAT website— it has all of the downloadable forms and assistance in navigating the process.

*If you have any other questions or need further assistance regarding this benefit please call **Gabriela Brown at 888.883.8393.***

When and Where is Home Care Appropriate?

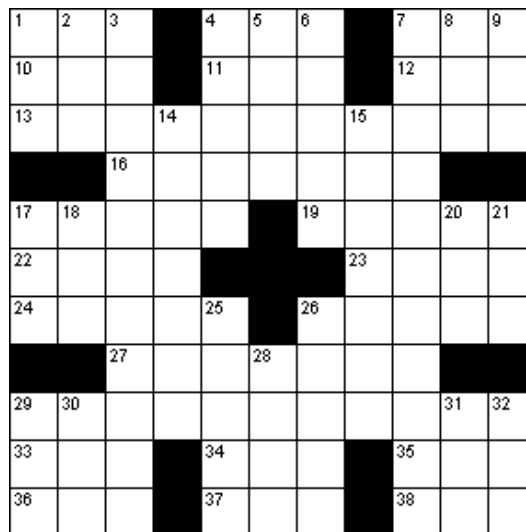


Home care can be performed in any setting that is deemed as a primary residence. We have clients in assisted and independent living, skilled nursing facilities, board and care facilities and private homes. We can provide personal care assistance, meal preparation, housekeeping, assistance with medical appointments and companionship to clients from rehabilitation through hospice. It is the **ONLY** option that provides for personal, **one-on-one** care and support.

All of our caregivers are *employees* of Constant Companions. We do NOT have any 1099 workers. They are screened, insured and supervised. This year we are establishing a program that will require basic Continuing Medical Education courses for continued employment. In 2011, we will focus on hiring CNAs, HHAs and MAs with the goal of converting our entire hourly staff to HHAs, CNAs and MAs by the end of 2011.

Please visit our website at www.constant-companions.com

A Fun Crossword!



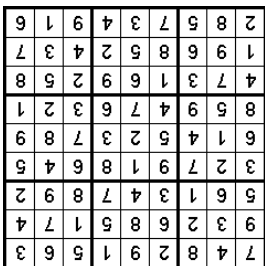
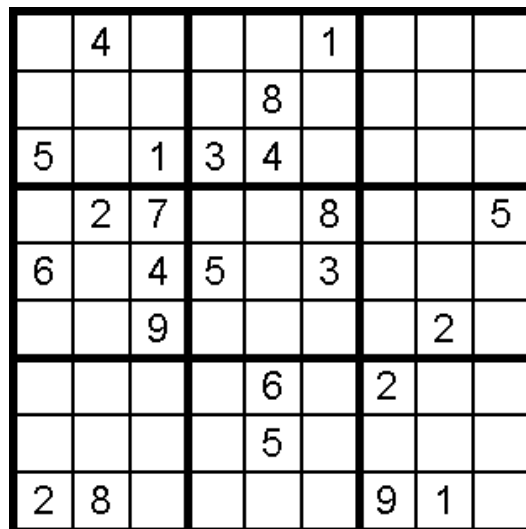
Across

1. Picnic insect
4. Which person?
7. Father
10. Away from the wind
11. Pelvis
12. Three in Roman numerals
13. Pitilessly
16. A very seductive looking woman
17. Ancient Roman magistrate
19. Improvise
22. Be inclined
23. Expunge
24. Cognizant
26. Quench
27. Walks unsteadily
29. Travel plans
33. Scary noise
34. Japanese apricot
35. Greatest possible
36. Possess
37. Barley bristle
38. G

Down

1. Donation
2. Born
3. The act of ending something
4. Complain in a plaintive way
5. Sword handle
6. Classical music theatre
7. Unpleasant
8. Afflict
9. Do It Yourself
14. Very large cooking pot
15. A repairer of horse equipment
17. Estimated time of arrival
18. Morning moisture
20. Sort
21. Honey insect
25. Swelling under the skin
26. Killed
28. Sketched
29. Nigerian tribesman
30. Haul
31. French for "Summer"
32. Third person pronoun female

...or Sudoku



<http://www.crosswordpalace.com/>