

SERVICE PROVIDERS: YOUR NEIGHBORS' RECOMMENDATIONS

This is a listing of the comments sent to COMMUNIT-E by residents of Friendship Heights and Tenleytown/AU Park about service providers with whom they've had personal experience over the last 2 years. The resident's contact information is shown at the end their comments. It's organized alphabetically by category of service. Below is an index of the categories and the pages on which the entries for each category begin. Suggestions of how the list can be made more useful are welcomed.

Please note that inclusion in this list is no guarantee that a vendor will perform well for you, nor that there's anything wrong with a vendor that is not listed.

INDEX – WHERE TO FIND

A ccountants - 2	Floor Install/Refinish - 12	O rganizers - 23
Acupuncturists - 2	Furniture Repair/Refinish – 13	P ainters – 23
Appliance Repairs - 2	G arage Door Repair - 13	Personal Trainers – 24
Auto Body Repair - 2	Graphic Designers - 13	Pest Control -24
Auto Mechanics - 2	Gutter Cleaning/Repair - 13	Pet Services - 25
B abysitters/Nannies - 3	H andyemen - 14	Piano Tuners - 27
Bicycle Repair - 3	Heating & A/C – 15	Physical Therapists - 26
C arpenters - 4	Home Inspectors – 16	Picture Framers – 27
Carpet/Rug Cleaners & Installers - 4	Housekeep/Cleaning - 16	Plasterers - 27
Caterers - 4	I nsulation Contractors - 17	Plumbers – 28
Ceramics Repair - 5	Interior Designers & Decorators - 17	Power Wash./Deck Clean. – 28
Chimney Cleaning & Repair - 5	Ironworking - 17	R oofers – 28
Computer Repairs & Help – 5	J ewelry Appraisers/Designers – 17	S ecurity Services – 30
Concrete/Paving - 6	Jewelry, Watch, & Clock Repair – 17	Shoe Repair - 30
Construction - 6	Junk Haulers - 18	Siding - 30
DC City Gov't - 7	K itchen Remodeling – 18	Snow Shoveling – 30
Dentists - 7	Knife & Tool Sharpeners - 18	Solar Panels - 30
Doctors – 7	L amp Repair - 19	T ailors & Seamstresses – 31
Donate Items - 9	Lawn & Yard Services – 19	Tax Preparers – 31
Driving Instructors- 9	Lawyers - 20	Tile Work - 32
Drycleaners – 9	Locksmiths – 20	Tree Services – 32
E lder & Nursing Services - 10	M asons – 20	Tutors – 32
Electricians – 10	Massage Therapists – 21	U pholsters – 32
Electronics' Recycling - 11	Mold Removal - 21	W ater Treatment - 33
Electronics' Services - 11	Movers/Haulers – 21	Wet Basements – 33
F ences – 11	Music Teachers – 22	Window Repair/Replace – 33
Financial Advisors - 12	N otary Public -22	Window Washers - 34
Firewood - 12		

ACCOUNTANTS –

I highly recommend Bradley Ralph. He's excellent! You can reach him at 301/980-2852. Bari Biern Sedar biernmail@aol.com September 2007

ACUPUNCTURISTS –

I would recommend Wei Xu (202) 669-8566 She is on 5100 MacArthur Boulevard and has helped two or three people I know. Good luck! Laura Garces Fischer Laura.garces@verizon.net February 2014

I can highly recommend Sung Hong (at Wisconsin Ave), phone 240 478 2624. Heike Lingertat hlingertat@comcast.net February 2014

Kelly Welch and Kate Yonkers - are absolutely terrific! Highly recommend both! <http://acupuncture-dc.net>
Ksenia Grishkova grishkova@gmail.com February 2014

APPLIANCE REPAIRS –

Sewing Machines - I've had good luck with Brother Sew and Vac on Connecticut. gtextra@earthlink.net March 2013

Sewing Machines - I have always found Brothers in Cleveland Park very good. Ann Ingram anningram@mac.com March 2013

Sewing Machines - I have been going to Brothers Sew & Vac on Conn Ave., NW across from the Uptown Theater for many years. They are close, very reliable & pleasant: 3317 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20008, (202) 686-9500. Kate McLynn kdmclynn@starpower.net March 2013

AUTO BODY REPAIR –

I recently had the pleasure of working with Bethesda Collision Repair Center, Inc at 5202 River Road, Bethesda, MD 301-654-3333. Hugh Maplesden was professional and very pleasant. He gave me choices about the repair and parts. The work was done on time and well done - even cleaned and washed the inside and outside of the car. I'm in love with this place but hope I don't need to go back. Nancy rikernancy@yahoo.com March 2013

In and Out Auto Body in Rockville has done a lot of work for me - ask for Luis. Prices are reasonable and work is of good quality. 301 340-0393. squasher@starpower.net May 2014

I've used Modern Body Shop in Bethesda twice and their workmanship is superb. I had some 'hidden' damage and they went to the insurance company and got that fixed too. Nothing gets by the lady there! John Kelly lasjkelly@gmail.com May 2014

AUTO MECHANICS –

I highly recommend **Marvin Yoon** at Bethesda Collision Repair Center, Inc. Complete Auto Services. They recently worked on my '98 Honda and not only did a great job at a competitive price (I called around a bit) his customer service is amazing! He even called to follow up afterwards. They also wash off the car once the work is completed. 5202 River Rd. A 1, Bethesda Md. 20816; 301-654-3333. bcrc@bethesdaautoservices.com (next to the McD's and across from the Whole Foods on River Rd.) Please let him know I referred you if you go there. Cheers! Natasha hopewellhenry@yahoo.com January 2012

I go to A+ Auto Services in Rockville near the Shady Grove metro station. 301-340-8100. Prices and service are very good. They specialize in Hondas/Acuras. Brian Pinnell bpinnell@me.com January 2012

We take our 11-year-old Honda to River Road Auto Haus and are very happy with the service. It runs beautifully. Kathy Smith ksmith1804@starpower.net January 2012

Try Mike Cunningham at Bethesda Import Specialists. His shop is just off River Road. Kate Laguarda kate.laguarda@gmail.com January 2012

BABYSITTERS & NANNIES –

Our fabulous babysitter is available weekdays from 2 pm over the summer, and in the fall is free all day on Tuesday, Thursdays and Fridays. Alejandra (Ale) has eight years of experience working with children, is full of energy and is totally responsible. She can work with kids of all ages. She has lived in the US for 12 years, is a part-time student at the University of Maryland, she speaks excellent English and Spanish, drives carefully, and is documented. Very highly recommended. Your kid(s) will fall in love with her. You can reach her at alemonroy83@gmail.com, or at 202 492 8280. Dan and Paige dan@froomkin.com July 2013

This fall, as our two daughters head to school full time in first and fifth grade, we are hoping to help our full-time nanny of five years find a new position in the upper NW DC area. Our nanny, a U.S. citizen originally from the Philippines, is extremely reliable, warm hearted and easy-going. She speaks English very well. She owns her own mini-van and is a solid driver. In addition to childcare, she has helped with numerous household errands and tasks. There is true, mutual affection between our whole family and our wonderful nanny. We hope to help her find a new, long-term, full-time, live-out position beginning September. If you are interested in speaking with me about her and/or setting up a time to speak with/meet her, please contact me at susanvanmeter@verizon.net or 202/744-2453. August 2013

Hi -- our former au pair Iris has finished her internship year and is available for babysitting-- on a regular schedule or for occasional needs. She is wonderful with kids, an excellent driver, and very responsible. Can't say enough great things about her. She lives in AU Park -- feel free to contact Iris directly, yannette24@yahoo.com or (202) 503-7484; or contact me for a reference. Judy Bake judybaker16@gmail.com November 2013

Our fabulous babysitter, Carol, is now available 5 days a week and is flexible. We would still like to use her 1 or 2 afternoons a week if it works out. Carol has been with us for over 6 years, and she is like a member of our family. Our kids are older now, so we don't need her as often. She is honest, reliable, fun-loving and very hard working. She is very smart too. She often stays over when both my husband and I are out of town, and everything always runs like clockwork. She does not smoke, nor does she drive, so she will need to have access to the metro or bus stop (preferably near Tenley, Cleveland Park, Chevy Chase, but she is flexible). Carol is fabulous with babies and small children, as well as with older kids too. She does light housekeeping and very proactive with things around the house too. Her number is 202-498-1949. SMBennett2@aol.com November 2013

BICYCLE REPAIR –

I've had very good experiences with Hudson Trail Outfitters on Wisconsin Avenue for bike repairs -- several different times. Kathy Smith ksmith1804@starpower.net 2005

It's a little farther afield, but I had a terrific experience at Performance bikes in Rockville's Congressional Plaza. It's large, clean, easy to get to/park near, and handles everything. I recently took my bike in after several years in the outdoor shed, expecting a "tune-up" bill of \$75+. The shop had it for 30 minutes, declared that all it needed was cleaning, oiling and some air, all of which are provided as free services, so they went ahead and did it. Big Wheel Bikes in Bethesda quoted me either \$49, \$69 or more depending on what I needed. So I'd recommend Performance. (I only went there originally because they are Thule dealers and I needed a rack.) Rick Dulaney DULANER1@WESTAT.com 2005

The Pro Shop on M Street, near Key Bridge has an excellent mechanic -- Courtney. One of the best mechanics in the area, he does most of the instructors' repairs that we cannot do in MPD. Another shop - Revolutions, just a few doors down, has excellent service, has always been helpful. There are other shops in DC but these are in 2D. Sgt. Mike Wear

CARPENTERS -

I recommend Mike Ryan. He has years of experience, does excellent, meticulous work. He has done many things for us over the past 20 years. Email: Mikeryanww@verizon.net or call him on (202) 316-3927. Let him know Les and JoEllen recommended. Les and JoEllen rufushound@gmail.com September 2012

We have a fabulous master cabinet/furniture maker in the neighborhood, Geoff Seeley. He does terrific work. He can be reached at seemark88@gmail.com. He does wonderful work, on time, is easy to work with and certainly worth talking to about your project. Lorna Watson waldodog1@aol.com September 2012

I strongly recommend Geoff Seeley. 202-363-4151 He does excellent work and is very easy to work with. Kathy Smith kathysindc@gmail.com September 2012

If anyone is looking for a fine carpenter to do any work around their home or build furniture, please let me recommend Mike Ryan. He is an excellent craftsman; very detail oriented and does spectacular work. He can be reached at (202) 316-3927 or mikeryanww@verizon.net. He's done many things for us over the years. Les and JoEllen rufushound@gmail.com August 2012

I have had a wonderful experience with Trent Brooks ([202-271-0355](tel:202-271-0355)), who was recommended to me to create some built-in bookshelves in my study. He did a fabulous job. I've generally subscribed to the notion that with contractors, one wants three things (on time, on spec and on budget) and can generally count on getting only two. With Trent I got all three! He sweats the details and is the best kind of perfectionist in his work. I recommend him heartily. If anyone would like to see photos of the shelves, feel free to drop me an e-mail. Scott Seligman heyscott@ymail.com October 2012

Mike Mackison, 301-204-1056, is a great carpenter. Randy Hill cicada17@starpower.net June 2014

CARPET/RUG CLEANERS & INSTALLERS –

I want to recommend a great carpet shampooing service right here in the Palisades neighborhood. Des Pettis has both a house cleaning and carpet shampooing business. She will bring her equipment and supplies to you or use any special supplies that you prefer to provide her with. Her rates are lower than any commercial

competition because she doesn't have the overhead. She is very conscientious and detail-oriented, and her work is superior to any service I have used in the past. Des is, as you would expect, a native English speaker and tech savvy so communication is never an issue. Contact her directly at: Des Pettis, 202-486-2307 cell/text, bluedes47@yahoo.com. Charlotte Perry charperry@gmail.com June 2013

CATERERS –

Rockland's BBQ in Glover Park/Georgetown. Charlotte Perry charlotte@luxbnb.com June 2012

O'Brien's in Rockville used to cater and their food is good. I've been there since they changed hands. John Kelly lasjkelly@gmail.com June 2012

Two suggestions: Rockland's and FreshStart Catering, a branch of DC Central Kitchen. Kate McLynn kdmclynn@starpower.net June 2012

Hill Country Barbecue on 7th Street in Penn Quarter has great authentic BBQ and sides based on recipes from the Central Texas Hill Country. Here's a link to the catering website: <http://www.hillcountrywdc.com/catering-and-events.dc> . Debra Lacy dlacy@lacyltd.com June 2012

Excellent barbecue and sides at Urban Bar-B-Que Company , 2007 Chapman Ave. in Rockville. See www.iloveUBQ.com or call 240-290-4827. Sally Kranz sallygkranz@aol.com June 2012

CERAMICS REPAIR –

I highly recommend Nonomura Studios on Connecticut Avenue in Cleveland Park. I have taken two antique pieces there - they are real experts, very expensive, but worth every penny. They also verbally appraised my pieces and were eager to discuss them. Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com January 2009

I recommend Prof. Turker Ozdogan. Please call him at 703-289-2469. Pat Talmon Patrick.talmon@verizon.net January 2009

CHIMNEY CLEANING & REPAIR –

Our chimney was destroyed by the earthquake. Suburban Chimney did a fantastic job rebuilding it. Tony Serrano is the owner and does the work with his crew. Excellent job, very professional and a sweet man. Tony's cell is 301-523-7171. He also cleaned and lined the chimney in preparation for a gas fireplace install. rikernancy@yahoo.com March 2013

COMPUTER REPAIRS & HELP –

Ivan Babinoto (dba HotPC) is terrific. He has helped me out for a number of years and now is starting his own business instead of working for a computer company. He has completely revamped my 2 computers and helped me in numerous ways to decipher programs and set things up the way I want them - far better than Geeks does and at a much lower cost. His e-mail is babinoto@gmail.com, and his phone is 202 657-5123. Susan Ellis susanwashdc@comcast.net September 2012

I recently used Ivan to repair four computers--a desktop and three laptops. I thought his prices were reasonable, and he was fairly good at explaining what was wrong with each to a non-techie. One older laptop could not be repaired, but he recovered what was on the hard drive. I definitely would use his services again.

Laura St. Martin watsaint@gmail.com September 2012

I would like to recommend Jonathan - a great guy for solving tech problems around the computer and other devices. He created a web site for us and it was a pleasure working with him. Are you stuck with some technical problem in your house - with your computer, TV or your sound system? You would like to move forward and you don't know how. Or have you just bought a new computer and would like to learn how to use it better? If this is the case, Jonathan is your guy. Jonathan can diagnose and repair computer problems and even custom build your own computer. He can also create you a custom website using WordPress. Jonathan's gift is to give you easy, step-by step instructions and tips so you could solve many of your computer issues by yourself in the future. Jonathan is 14 y.o. For the last two years he has been responsible for his school's technical equipment. He also assembled over a dozen of new computers for his school. Please email Jonathan at jtechDC@gmail.com. Mary Dolan dolanhogrefe@yahoo.com January 2013

I have just had the most wonderful news. This tech guy (contact info below) has managed to recover ten years of family photos! Even the Geek Squad told me it was impossible--and charged me. I even went to the Genius Bar at Apple and they weren't quite sure how to do it. But this guy saved the day! He's young, smart, funny, patient, helpful, honest, local and only \$50 an hour! AND he makes house calls. He does all sorts of regular tech support and training, but since my problem was supposed to be impossible to solve, I think he's a resource too good not to share. Jesse Bickford, jesse.bickford@gmail.com, \$50 an hour--worth every cent. Sue Bell suecharliebell@gmail.com June 2013

Apple Technician: Justin Polin, (justin.polin@gmail.com) might be just the one you are looking for! He's knowledgeable and not sky-high on his rates. Ann Ingram anningram@mac.com November 2013

I know that listserv members periodically seek help with their computers, so I want to be sure Ivan Babinoto is on your radar. He kept an old computer in great shape long after its time should have passed, and has been helping me this week as it threatens to die (securing files, cleaning things up, backing up when there's no room, and guiding me in buying a new one). All at a very reasonable rate and with great accessibility. He's at Babinoto@gmail.com and 202-657-5123. Lois Frankel hartfran@yahoo.com February 2014

CONCRETE/PAVING –

I highly recommend Edgar Granados for concrete work and flagstone. He just repaired some broken concrete walkways around my house and also replaced my old cracked concrete front walkway with a flagstone walkway. He does beautiful work. He brings an assistant but closely supervises the work himself. He is very prompt and offers reasonable prices. He can be reached at 202-439-3082 (cell phone). Michelle Brotzman Michelle.Brotzman@verizon.net September 2007

CONSTRUCTION –

We highly recommend Julio Delgado for exterior and interior painting and related work. He is professional, prompt, organized and neat, and does beautiful, high quality work. We have had him do some small household projects as well, and have been very satisfied with his workmanship. He also does remodeling, e.g., kitchens, bathrooms and basements, and has references for those types of projects. Lilly Abbey/John Kostyack kostyack@msn.com February 2013

In May 2013, Jordan Jones and his team from JDS Home Improvement did a great job on our home improvements. We own an 80 year-old Tudor style home in the AU Park area of DC that needed 3 full entry-

door replacements, 1 door repair and other minor repairs. JDS did a great job. The doors, hardware, painting, and quality of craftsmanship complimented our existing home, made it safer and more enjoyable to enter. Great customer service too. We recommend their services. We had interviewed several carpenters. JDS had the smartest and highest quality approach. To Contact JDS: Jordan Jones, Tel 240.388.8275, Email jordan@jdshomeimprovement.com, Web <http://www.jdshomeimprovement.com>, Scott Holliday sbholliday4@yahoo.com May 2013

Two years ago, on a tip from friends, we used Behrouz Shah (IDEA Builders) to gut and rebuild our 1928 bathroom. His very reasonable bid was for labor only: it was up to us to pick out and pick up the tiles, fixtures, and glass door for the shower (the latter obviously delivered and installed by the firm). After much research, we used The Tile Shop (on Frederick Rd. in Rockville), Home Depot, and Dulles Glass and Mirror. In the end, for a little schlepping, we saved thousands. Remember that with the "name" firms, you're paying for a showroom/staff, a markup on the fixtures, and the convenience of simply saying, "I want this, this, and this." Shoddy work, especially tile work, usually shows up within a year or two. Behrouz uses his own crew. Two years out, and everything is perfect. IDEA Builders: 703-928-6813 David Winn hdcwinn@verizon.net October 2013

DC CITY GOVERNMENT –

Parking Tickets - You have to write a letter appealing your ticket, see the instructions on the ticket. I have nearly 100% success rate when I appeal the tickets I receive. Make a copy of your pass and the letter you send. Then send it via priority mail with receipt that it was received. Then wait, which can be up to six months. Keep track of your tickets. I know this is a pain to do, but your only other option is to pay the ticket, which, of course, is what they want you to do. Ann Eichenberger aeichenberger@gmail.com February 2012

Parking Tickets - You can now appeal tickets through the web which I have used a few times and works great. Scan the documents, upload them and you get a receipt. If you join the eTIMs system (<http://dmv.dc.gov/serv/ticket/EmailTicketAlertService.shtm>) it will email you once the appeal is decided and also email you when you get tickets in the future. Adam Tope adam@adamtope.com February 2012

Street Lights - Call 311 to report street lights out. You will be given a service request number. The light should be replaced within two days. They come at night to do the repairs. Please report the yellow and black number on the pole and tell if the pole is wooden or metal. Also give the address of the house closest to the light pole. If it is not fixed within two days, call back to speak to a supervisor and give your service request number. That should work. Samantha Nolan nolantutor@yahoo.com February 2012

DENTISTS –

When I came back from living overseas the first time, my teeth and gums were not in good shape. I started going to Bernard Kirshbaum at the Watergate Dental Office, and, at 78, I now have an excellent set of teeth and gums. He has always been straight with me, including when he told me I didn't need the gum surgery that a periodontist had urged. He was right. You may find him a bit pricey, but to me it is an investment in good health that has paid off handsomely. Bernie likes to play golf, so he is only there 2-3 days a week. I don't know if he takes new patients. The phone is 202-965-5400. Jim Phippard jphippard@msn.com July 2011

Regarding dentists, Dr. Ralph Mazzuca is excellent and has been our family dentist for more than 30 years. He is located on Wisconsin Ave. in Friendship Heights, in the building above Rodman's. His office telephone is 202-537-1088. I usually go on Saturday mornings - I believe he is closed on Wednesdays and/or Thursdays. There is free parking on Saturdays and Rodman's validates parking during the week. Roshini Ponnampurama roshini2@msn.com July 2011

I HIGHLY recommend my dentist, Dr. Judy Penski, who is very conveniently located at 4545 - 42nd Street, NW, 202-244-6650. Conservative is not the word that I would use to sum up her approach, but she does focus on prevention and healthy teeth versus than repair. And an ounce of prevention costs less than that pound of cure! Now my teeth and gums are so much healthier. And she is straight about what is cosmetic and what is for health. Furthermore, you couldn't find someone who is better about treating you, rather than a one-size-fits-all approach. Kate McLynn kdmclynn@starpower.net July 2011

DOCTORS – (arranged by specialty)

DERMATOLOGIST - I have been seeing Dr. Arthur Ugel for many years and been very happy with his care. He's at 5454 Wisconsin Ave., 301-652-5155. Jo Levine joannelevine202@gmail.com October 2013

DERMATOLOGIST - I agree. I too have been going to Dr. Ugel and he is top notch. Kenneth Hurley kenwashdc@yahoo.com October 2013

DERMATOLOGIST - TamjidiSkinInstitute.com Pantea Tamjidi, M.D. FAAD, (female), Dir. Emily Porter Gerson, M.D. top ratings by doctors in Washingtonian magazine and checkbook.org (2011), 5454 Wisc Ave., Ste 1045, Ch Ch, MD 20815, 301-652-4828 x2 9-5 M-F, info@TamjidiSkinInstitute.com. Dr. Tamjidi, my doctor (and the other practitioners I met there) is wonderful and are Care1st BCBS in-network providers. Leonard Leonardleonard1@earthlink.net October 2013

DERMATOLOGIST - Dr. Ugel did not diagnose shingles when my husband's symptoms appeared. I do not recommend him. Dr. Tamjidi is outstanding. Jacqueline Epstein triosuite@starpower.net October 2013

HYPNOTIST - Tell your friend to call Irit Horn at the Washington DC Hypnosis Center (301) 717-1207 or log on to [www. HypnosisWashingtonDC.com](http://www.HypnosisWashingtonDC.com). Irit is excellent! Good luck to your friend. Laura Garces laura.garces@verizon.net August 2013

MAXILOFACIAL SURGERY - Robert W Emery DDS 202-386-7100. Highly recommended after using another surgeon. Martin Rothfield martinrothfield@his.com January 2012

ORTHO - I love Vincent Desiderio, who is at the Foxhall building on New Mexico Ave, 686-1286. He is an orthopedist. On his list of P.Y. referrals is Tom Welsh, 301-654-7383, in the basement of Highland House in Chevy Chase. He is in the offices of Kibbe & Terle, but is not part of their practice as also is Dr. Desiderio not part of Dr. Rothschild's practice though' he shares office space. Tom Welsh has cured me of "frozen" shoulder, sciatica, and helped me recuperate from a "thrown-out" back, broken leg, and broken wrist. He is very knowledgeable and does not keep you coming back forever. Once you have shown some improvement and are doing his prescribed exercises properly, he says "goodbye". Ann Ingram anningram@mac.com October 2010

ORTHO - I would like to second the recommendation of Dr. Desiderio (Foxhall Square, 2nd floor). I and other family members found him excellent for sprained ankles, frozen shoulders, and back trouble. He is very experienced and skilled and not overly aggressive. I can recommend physical therapist Lydia Ilieva, of Physiotherapy Associates, on the third floor of Foxhall Square, very highly. I have been going there, off and on, for various injuries, over about two years. Lydia is a very caring, capable, but no-nonsense therapist. Once one gets used to the "multiple patient"/open gym/multi-tasking format, everything works fine. R Ponnampurama roshini2@msn.com October 2010

ORTHO - Dr. Desiderio is indeed an exceptional doctor. He has treated me for a variety of sports-related injuries (back, shoulder, tennis elbow, hamstring, among others), always with skill, intelligence, and compassion. squasher@starpower.net October 2010

ORTHO – KNEE SPECIALIST - I recommend Dr. Vincent Desiderio. 202-686-1286. Carolyn Parr carolynparr@hotmail.com May 2014

ORTHO – KNEE SPECIALIST - Dr. Vincent Desiderio has been exceedingly rude to a client who has Alzheimer's disease. I understand my experience is not an isolated one. I suggest Phillip Bobrow, Summit Orthopedics, across from Saks in Chevy Chase. 301-657-9876. He is very kind and promptly returns phone calls. He did my total knee replacement and I was walking with only a cane in two weeks and no cane in nine weeks. His staff is very polite and helpful. Ann Eichenberger aeichenberger@gmail.com May 2014

ORTHO – KNEE SPECIALIST - I had an unsatisfactory experience with Dr. Desiderio several years ago. At that time he had two offices. I consulted him about a knee problem, first at one location and then at the other one. Although his office had assured me that my files would be transferred from one location to the other, nothing of the sort happened. When he examined me the second time, he had no idea he had seen me a few weeks previously and no information on my first visit. Thus, we had to start from scratch. Dr. Desiderio showed no concern over the inconvenience to me or the expense to me and my insurance company. Michael Calingaert mcalingaert@brookings.edu May 2014

ORTHO – KNEE SPECIALIST – Lyn Taecker has compiled a list of comments from a number of neighbors on this topic. To obtain the list, email her at lyntaecker@gmail.com. May 2014

PODIATRIST - We recommend highly Dr. Michael L. Gittleson, D.P.M. The Barlow Building, on Wisconsin Ave., Chevy Chase, Suite 640, tel. 301-986-4900. Prof. Aurelia Roman romana@georgetown.edu June 2014

PRIMARY CARE - I like Physician Associates in Chevy Chase. My doctor is Dr. Nino and I think she is very good. Extremely thorough. They have a number of different types of doctors in the practice, which is useful if you need a quick consult. Avis Sanders avis.sanders@gmail.com August 2013

PRIMARY CARE - Nicole Singh, 202 296-0670. Don't know about insurance but she does accept Medicare. She is great, thorough, and accessible. Jack Benoit benoit@atlantech.net October 2013

PRIMARY CARE - Dr. Sima Nourani-Zenez at Johns Hopkins group at Sibley. triosuite@starpower.net October 2013

DONATE ITEMS –

From time to time I see usable clothes and household items placed in alleys for trash pickup. It's a real shame because someone could use these items and charities could benefit from them. Also, they just add to the landfill burden. When placed in the alley, they usually get rained on and ruined for anyone to ever use. The trash collectors are not allowed to take them for personal use. Here are two places that will come and pick up such items. You just need to call them and they'll give you a date when the items can be put out for their pick-up. You can ask for a receipt and deduct the value of these items from your taxes. They are very liberal about what they will take. Vietnam Veterans Association, 1-800-775-8387; and National Children's Center, 1-800-296-1122. Kathy Smith ksmith1804@starpower.net February 2012

I agree with Kathy's point, and let me add another possibility: The Opportunity Shop of St. Alban's Church is run by volunteers, and all proceeds go to grants to city charities, mostly ones that deal with the hungry, homeless, children and the aged -- more than \$150,000 each year. If it is too much trouble to drop off gently used items, I will gladly pick them up from your home and take them myself. --Jo Turner jombturner@gmail.com February 2012

AMVETS is another charity that will pick up and leave a receipt for tax use. Their number is 1-800-526-8387. Mary Abate mary.m.abate@usdoj.gov February 2012

DRIVING INSTRUCTORS –

Someone requested information on a driving instructor for their teenager. I highly recommend "Officer Wilson", a retired policeman who teaches teens to drive. (His son also teaches this.) He was incredibly good with our son. He even goes with his students when they take their test. Everyone at the test site knows him - and they also know that if he taught this kid, this kid knows how to drive! His # is 202-581-6256. His son's # is 202-438-9038 - Glenn Wilson. AndrewsSachs@aol.com

DRYCLEANERS –

Polyclean on River Road will do bulk dry cleaning. Tory Ruttenberg vrutten@aol.com July 2012

Valley Cleaners, on River Road right next to Talberts Ice & Beverage (in the same building, actually) will dry clean in bulk (16 pound increments). You might need to dry clean two or three to get your money's worth. Fred Vinson fvinson@flash.net July 2012

ELDER & NURSING SERVICES –

Individual or round the clock team of CNA certified healthcare helpers now available after helping my mother until her recent death and me, following shoulder replacement surgery. Expert in providing home health and basic nursing care and management, the absolute ultimate in kindness, dependability and honesty with decades of individual experience for in home care and/or companionship. Email me for references and/or further details or call Winifred Barriteau, the team leader directly at 202-726-7886. Sarah Horset shorsey@erols.com April 2012

ELECTRICIANS –

I heartily recommend Kevin Rozier. A highly experienced professional, conscientious, and reasonably priced. He can be reached at 202-841-8021. Jenny Bland jcrabland@hotmail.com September 2013

I also highly recommend Kevin Rozier. He has done all my electrical work for almost 15 years. Fernando Manibog fmanibog@gmail.com September 2013

I second the recommendation for Kevin Rozier - he can do anything and is reasonable, thoughtful and can solve your problems. A great guy and ask him about his daughter! Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com September 2013

I second the recommendation for Kevin Rozier, who has done three different jobs for us in recent weeks. In addition to his considerable skill and conscientiousness, he's nice as can be. 202-841-8021. Lorie Leavy ljeavy@gmail.com September 2013

Kevin Rosier's telephone number is 202.841.8021 He hid an electric heavy-up for our home and is inventive at pulling wiring from where it is to where you want it. Dennis Shumaker 4dennis.shumaker@gmail.com September 2013

I strongly suggest Chris Ecker. Tell him Ron Parver recommended him. He is a delight to work with. 202 359 1930. Ron3637@comcast.net January 2014

We have been using Robert Isner who was recommended on this list. He is a one-man operation but provides excellent service and reasonable prices. 301-894-5216, 301-675-5782. We give him five gold stars!
Alan Henney alan@henney.com January 2014

We recently used Kevin Rozier, who has been recommended before on this list serv. He is at 202-841-8021. We found him competent, personable, and fairly priced. I would use him again. Susan Beale
lilybygate@gmail.com January 2014

We own a home in the AU Park/ Tenley Town area of DC. Our home is over 80 years old and requires a highly skilled electrician to make changes/improvements/fixes. Echo Electric Co. did several projects for us in Winter 2013/2014 as part of home renovation including (1) running new circuits and wiring for the addition, (2) installing 7 recessed lights in the basement, (3) installing 3 sets of 4' fluorescent lights, (4) adding new switches and wiring to allow access to lights from other floors (so we can walk into light when coming down stairs). We recommend this company. Their quality of work was excellent. Echo is located in Kensington, MD and service MD/DC/VA. Their number is (301)949-8050. Sincerely, Scot and Metri Holliday
sbholliday4@yahoo.com January 2014

I just wanted to reinforce the already sterling recommendations for Mr. Rozier who is an electrician. He is included in the tradesmen recommendation list. I have had him come twice and each time he was prompt, professional and gave excellent advice. His work is great and his prices seem fair. Sue Bell
suecharliebell@gmail.com February 2014

Linda Miyoshi in Bethesda is wonderful. Her mobile number is 240 353 2790. Her office is close to the Bethesda library. Neela Ranade neela_ranade@msn.com February 2014

Yesterday Cesar Polania came to my house and besides doing work that I asked for (changing fixtures, basically) he also gave me advice about the electrical system in my home. He discouraged me from a big re-wiring job that was unnecessary, told me that I didn't need to replace a perfectly good fixture (a bad bulb was at the root of that problem) and generally was informative, on time and courteous. He is licensed and insured. I wholeheartedly recommend him. Cesar Polania 240 603 3243. Vivian Ronay viv@vivianronay.com May 2014

ELECTRONICS' RECYCLING –

If you're talking about PC Computers see #1 below otherwise see #2. #1.) Did you get a new PC, Monitor or other PC hardware this Holiday Season and don't know what to do with the old stuff? Why not donate it to Project Reboot? Reboot refurbishes PCs and distributes them to needy families. Reboot is located at 4 Choke Cherry Road, Rockville, MD. You can drop off machines, monitors, keyboards, mice, speakers, etc. on Mondays and Tuesdays from 1PM to 4PM, and Wednesday from 10AM to 4 PM. We are in desperate need of working monitors - CRT or LCD it doesn't matter. For more information go to www.cpcug.org/reboot. #2.) Household Hazardous/Electronic Waste & Shredding at Ft. Totten Trash Transfer Station 4900 John McCormack Drive, NE. Randy Hill cicada17@starpower.net January 2009

The Best Buy store in Tenleytown operates a recycling service for almost every type of electronic equipment, even old landline phones. Just drop off the item at the customer service desk. Janet Bachman
jbachman47@gmail.com June 2014

ELECTRONICS' SERVICES –

VHS TAPES TRANSFERRED TO DVD - I recommend David at Transvideo: 919 North Kenmore Street, Arlington 22201. 703-525-0297 david@transvideo.net. Highly recommended. Works out of his house. Bill Harwood wharw32487@aol.com September 2006

I use a company called cdBBQ, www.cdbbq.com, to convert my LPs and audio cassettes to CDs. They do a great job. Bill Adler billonline@adlerbooks.com October 2006

FENCES –

I know a fellow that does great fences and trellises. He does conventional ones and also does near furniture grade work for outdoors. Think "Japanese" quality. His name is Jim Evans and he is at [301-972-8439](tel:301-972-8439) and [301-525-4834](tel:301-525-4834). I think he has some fencing up in AU Park too. Rick Holl rickholl@ymail.com October 2012

I had a very good experience with Accokeek Fence, which I found on this list serve. here's the link: www.accokeekfence.com. Lois Schiffer Loisschiffer@msn.com October 2012

Nino Vidal of All American Fences ((703) 731-7035 / (571) 267-9986) was referred to me by several friends. Earlier this month he replaced the large front section of my fence on 49th at Alton Pl. His crew was wonderful and worked tirelessly. He was the most reasonable of the bids I received. I cannot recommend him highly enough. Julie Mack juliemack1@verizon.net May 2014

FINANCIAL ADVISORS -

My recommendation for financial advisor is Russell Wild. He has handled my portfolio for ten years or so and has done very well. His web page is: www.Globalportfolios.net and email: www.russellwild.com. susanwashdc@comcast.net June 2012

If anyone is in need of a financial advisor, I would like to suggest contacting Will Bruno, a fellow Tenleytown resident who has been helping me and my family get our financial house in order. He is professional, well informed, friendly, and generous with his time. In my particular case, I wasn't looking to hand over my portfolio to someone to invest or manage. I handle our investments myself but was in need of some big picture advice on improving our cash flow, implementing a tax-efficient college saving plan, and putting my family on a budget. Will has provided solid advice, done some financial modeling for us, and recommended concrete actions that are going to immediately save us hundreds of dollars a month while increasing our overall financial security. My family's finances were relatively solid to begin with, and our needs are relatively straightforward. I get the impression Will is capable of dealing with much more complicated and involved situations. He helps people with large asset bases to develop and implement comprehensive financial strategies. He also specializes in retirement planning. Will's email is William.Bruno@axa-advisors.com and his number is 202-669-0280. I believe he will give you an initial consultation for free. Please feel free to contact me for additional reference info. Jason Y. Kim jasonykim@verizon.net February 2013

FIREWOOD –

We are pleased with the wood and service provided two weeks ago by Jerrell Johnson, 202-680-4028, and his son Jerry Johnson, 202-744-3821. Sally Haskell sallyhask@yahoo.com December 2013

We have used Darrell Jasper of D and R Seasoned Firewood Service for several years and have been satisfied. He will even take the trouble to put your old wood on top when he reloads your woodpile! Cell 540-718-8665. Bob Jayes and Ginny Callanen rjayes@mfa.gwu.edu December 2013

For years, we've bought wood from Roy Searle – reasonable prices, and a great job of stacking. Unfortunately, we don't have a card from him, but if he comes by your house, I recommend trying him. In addition, we recently bought a couple of racks from John Backe, who also did a super job of stacking and whose wood is clearly seasoned. Home phone: 540 547-2744, Mobile: 540 760-9675. (He also does yard, tree and masonry work.) Enjoy your fires! Betty & Fred Bullock fabullock@erols.com December 2013

Try FiveStar Firewood (www.fivestarfirwood.com). They supply USDA-certified kiln-dried wood to many restaurants in Fairfax/NOVA. I just took delivery of a half-cord myself a little over a year ago, and it should last another couple of seasons. I recommended them on this listserv last October, and I do again. They offer the best wood I've ever had the pleasure of setting alight. No paper or kindling necessary, a simple paraffin starter and one match is all it takes. Eric Kohis Sapru-kohis@rcn.com December 2013

FLOOR INSTALLERS & REFINISHERS –

I thought you'd like to know that I used and am very pleased with Rawlings Floor Covering in Alexandria. Phone 703-548-2218. They did a great job and were very nice to deal with. David, their salesman and chief of installation, had some very creative ideas that I appreciated. They did all the work themselves, including moving appliances. Although we did not use Georgetown Floorcoverings (they did not bid on the job -- maybe it was too small for them) they were very nice about allowing me to take samples home and keep them as long as I needed to. We replaced the existing vinyl flooring with new vinyl in the kitchen and two bathrooms. If anyone is thinking about doing this I'd be happy to talk to you about what I learned about vinyl and linoleum. Kathy Smith kathysindc@gmail.com July 2012

Universal Floors did a great job refinishing our floors. They did our main floor. We moved small items to the basement, but they took care of everything else, including the piano. Pat Mullan mullandoty@aol.com March 2013

I would not recommend Universal Floors. We were not pleased with their quality of workmanship. They gouged the floor in several places. When they nailed the toe molding on their nail gun nicked the baseboards in a number of places. They left globs of dust on the floor and covered it with the polyurethane. They did a half-ass job in removing the old finish from the risers on the stairs leaving a mottled finish. They gouged the bathroom thresholds when they scraped them, in the floor sanding process they knocked out the wood filler filling the nail holes and didn't replace it. Several pieces of the toe molding popped off because they didn't nail in on properly - the old molding stayed on for 40 years without popping off! Maybe this is the standard these days. We were disappointed. Your mileage may vary. Randy cicada17@starpower.net March 2013

I highly recommend: Steve Rados, Friends and Family Flooring LLC, 301-758-8675, "Let me help you find a solution", www.friendsandfamilyflooring.com. Steve did wonderful work with our old wood floor. Very professional, reasonably priced, quick and tidy. Zlatana Jovanovic-Dicker zlatanajd@gmail.com March 2013

FURNITURE RPAIR/REFINISHERS –

I recommend Schoenbauer. They did a very nice job restoring two vintage bureaus I inherited from my grandfather. A. David Adesnik adesnik@gmail.com December 2011

GARAGE DOOR REPAIR –

I just wanted to say that I had a bad experience with Clozermatic, that did not return my calls and kept me waiting a whole day for nothing. When they finally came in January they did a bad job. However, I wish to recommend BBB garage door repair (301) 309-9100. The receptionist is very pleasant and she sent someone immediately yesterday when the garage door wouldn't close! Laura Garcés Fischer laura.garces@verizon.net
May 2014

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS –

If anyone needs a graphic designer for web designs, logos, business "stuff" or even personal designs, contact John Alspaugh email: johnshel@starpower.net or phone him at 240 432 9939. He is a delightful young man, with lots of great ideas, not at all pushy. He has done a lot of creative work for me, for my son's business and for Cure Autism Now. December 2005

Someone asked a short time ago about a designer for a business logo. You might try local designers from Design 35 a dynamic duo of two women who have been in business for a while doing that sort of thing - including a fair bit of work for the American Association of Museums. Try Christiane Riederer van Paar at d35@design35.net or 301-320-0882. She's a lovely person and she used to live in the 'hood too! Lotte Lent lottelent@starpower.net
March 2007

GUTTER CLEANING & REPAIR –

Most people I've heard from in the area seem to be happy with Winston's. We have used them once and thought they did a good job. Ross Filice rwfilice@gmail.com April 2012

We use Winston's & recommend. Ellen Swann ellen.swann@yahoo.com April 2012

I've used Winston's for years and feel they do a good job, making sure water flows freely through your gutters and drain pipes. Harriet hdwinell@aol.com April 2012

HANDYMEN –

I highly recommend Mike Hotka. He lives in our neighborhood and can do darn near anything that needs to be done. He's completely trustworthy and reliable, and his rates are reasonable. His phone number is 202-364-8577, email mikehotka@gmail.com. Janet Bachman jbachman47@gmail.com July 2013

I have used a wonderful guy, who happens to be a neighbor - Skip Holmes. He can be reached at [202-302-0252](tel:202-302-0252) or skipholmes@gmail.com. Some of the many projects he has done for us over the past year include: installing 2 garbage disposals, installing new door to garage and special order storm door, boxing in some new A/C vents, creating closet, plant/TV shelf and cabinets underneath, rehabbing bathroom skylight, moving and created new wall outlets, not to mention installing a totally new kitchen! Call me if you want more details [202-244-6214](tel:202-244-6214). Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com July 2012

I would just like to, once again, say how pleased I was with the work of Pat Turvey 703-241-1061. He's done 3 or 4 jobs for me over the past few years. No job is too small and he's good at whatever he does. He is reasonable and scrupulously honest. I got his name, originally, from the COMMUNIT-E community recommendations last. My thanks to whoever put it there first. Kathy Smith kathysindc@gmail.com October 2012

We'd like to second the recommendation for Dean Hauer (202-338-3104). He's done work for us over the years and meticulous, skilled and reasonable are definitely the words to describe him. He repaired, patched and plastered our bathroom ceiling 10 years ago, and we just had the bathroom remodeled and everything needed replacing --except that ceiling! JoEllen and Les rufushound@gmail.com March 2013

I would like to post a recommendation for Mike Hotka. I recently received outstanding service from him! He came to me through a neighbor's recommendation and has lived up to his reputation as trustworthy, capable and reasonably priced. He touched up my cabinets doors, did some painting and general repairs around the house. His communication was clear and he met all of his commitments. And all very reasonably priced. He was wonderful to work with! Contact him at mikehotka@gmail.com. Leslie Deich ldeich224@yahoo.com July 2013

I just used Chris Stancil who advertised in the NW Current. I was very pleased with his work. His email address is stancilva@gmail.com. Virginia Howard Virginia.howard@ymail.com August 2013

Dusan Home Improvements did a great job tiling two bathrooms in our AU Park home as well as a variety of other projects. I recommend Dusan without reservation. (301) 933-0203. squasher@starpower.net

I have used Travis Roach for a few jobs including digging up asphalt and moving a fence. His rates are fair and he works hard. You can reach him on 443-975-4064. Lisa Lindy lisalindy@gmail.com October 2013

I can whole-heartedly recommend Dusan Bucany (301) 675-4324 who is very good and very pleasant and whom I have known for years,
Laura Garcés Fischer laura.garces@verizon.net May 2014

Dusan is the best. Crew is great and real craftsmen. After many poor jobs it was a pleasure dealing with him and crew. Coletta Kemper coletta.kemper@ciab.com May 2014

Juan Sanchez is Multi-talented and very careful. Super pleasant. 301-455-4718. Carolyn Parr carolynparr@hotmail.com May 2014

A handyman named Larry Paxton, who we found using this list serv, recently rebuilt our fence that was falling down. He did an excellent job under difficult circumstances, and I wanted to recommend him. His business card says "no job is too big or too small," so I think he does all types of contracting and carpentry work that you may need. His phone number is [240-675-1978](tel:240-675-1978). If you call him, please let him know Deborah Raviv referred you. Deborah Raviv debweiner@starpower.net May 2014

I have used Larry Paxton for years and I wanted to second this recommendation.. He really can do anything !!!
Barbara Elsas Barbara.elsas@gmail.com May 2014

We recently undertook renovation of two upstairs bathrooms in our AU home. Through pure good luck, we ended up working with Doug Hagedorn, a handyman and real craftsman who is relatively new to the area We cannot say enough positive things about him. He's responsible, reliable and highly skilled in home improvement. He takes great pride in his work and wants to be sure it's done right--a challenge when laying tile in a house built before the right angle was discovered. His prices are very reasonable. If you can invest some extra time for thoughtful, meticulous work, we recommend you talk to him: Doug Hagedorn, Hagedorn Handyworks 703-915-2451 or doughagedorn@gmail.com. Feel free to contact us as well (202-237-6705). Paul and Rosemary Amidei amidei@verizon.net May 2014

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING –

We just got estimates from four different companies for a partial A/C system replacement, and ultimately worked with Rod Miller. My husband is an engineer and understands the technical aspects pretty well (and does

his own research), and Don from Rod Miller was the only one who really gave us an honest assessment of what needed to be done and knew what he was talking about. They did the job quickly and very well. The price was competitive with the others. We highly recommend them. Katharina billandkatharina@gmail.com September 2012

For AC- we use Howard Heating & Cooling- a smaller company-- phone 301-277-3818. They were the only company of 3 or 4 we contacted that could figure out & repair a problem we had a few yrs ago. Courtney Leatherman c_leatherman@ix.netcom.com October 2012

For A/C, call Ed Penfield at Airways Unlimited (301-589-6401). They are incredibly responsive, reasonably priced, and completely trustworthy. We have used Ed and his team for both emergencies and routine maintenance and I can't say enough good about them. Ed is the kind of guy who'll give you his personal cell phone to call after hours and will come to your house at any hour if needed, but won't gouge you for doing so. Five star service. kipgregory@gmail.com October 2012

I second the suggestion of Ed Pennington, owner of Airways, Unlimited. Linda Hughes hugs4linda@gmail.com October 2012

We think your best bet is M.P. Energy Services, Inc. in Silver Spring. They replaced our central heating/AC system a year ago and we're very pleased with both the price and quality of the work of M.P. (Marlon Pujol) The phone number is 301-774-2299. Aaron & Jackie Epstein aajacks@starpower.net October 2012

B&B Heating/AC in Beth./R-ville did a great job replacing my old boiler with a high efficiency gas furnace a few years back. Don dvater4527@aol.com April 2013

I have had a continuing relationship with Sila since they installed my additional upstairs air conditioning system (on a 1920s bungalow with radiators and limited heating ducts). Their service and professionalism are outstanding. They did a great job and I use them now for both heating and AC maintenance. Staff are conscientious, respectful of the house and always on time. I love my new AC! Nancy Adams njadams1@verizon.net June 2013

I can't say enough good things about our experiences with Sila in our 1909 house. I got several other bids which were fairly close cost wise, but all the other companies said it would take at least two weeks of work, a lot of disruption. Sila said 4 days and had it done in 3. Every aspect from the estimator to the installers was a pleasure, and the system works great. Allison Hampton barnes.hampton@erols.com June 2013

Sila is wonderful. As well as our next door neighbor's, they put A/C in our 1928 house last Christmas - just in time for last year's horrible summer. Call me with any questions. Barbara Dinsmore, Veazey Street 202-244-6214 . barbaradinsmore@msn.com June 2013

We have a contract with Cropp-Metcalf; no problems yet. Sarah Horsey sarahrhorsey@gmail.com July 2013

We have used Climate Heating & Cooling for the past 14 years. Very good company. They recently fixed our old central air unit. lmarnaccio@yahoo.com July 2013

HOME INSPECTORS –

Alan Beal of Mid-Atlantic Inspections is terrific. His number is 202-607-4153. The website is www.midatlanticinspections.com. kjstanley@aol.com November 2007

I second the recommendation of Alan Beal. We had him do a pre-offer inspection on our house (built in the 1880s) last spring. He is very thorough and knowledgeable. My real estate agent says he has killed a few deals

for him because he is so good. He will point things out to you at the time of the inspection and then send you a written report by email. Norma Scogin n_scogin@hotmail.com November 2007

HOUSEKEEPERS/CLEANERS –

Genoveva Saavedra is a wonderful cleaning lady. She's worked for us for many years as well as in 3 other houses in our street. She's dynamic, pleasant and takes pride in her work. She's also completely trustworthy. She now has availability on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. You can contact her via my email or at 703 371 2434. She's from Peru but understands and speaks English relatively well. Fabienne Spier fabienne922@gmail.com August 2013

I most highly recommend Ligia Galvao. She's great. Ligiagalvao@hotmail.com. Lisa O'Donoghue-Lindy Lisalindy@gmail.com November 2013

We have a wonderful married couple who work together when cleaning our house. They clean well and are very careful and trustworthy. We have given them a key to our house so they can let themselves in when it is time to clean. Call Bruno and Solange Chavez 301/949-2438. If you have more questions for me send a message to cynthia.l.grant@gmail.com. Cynthia Grant November 2013

We have had a wonderful experience with Rosa Castillo and her crew for nearly 5 years and recommend her highly. Rosa, who speaks excellent English, has two other women who work with her and they are all excellent. The fact that there are three of them means that they do not have to spend the whole day at your house. To contact Rosa call 240-671-2028 (cell) or 301-946-4572 (home). Kay Springwater rspringwater@starpower.net November 2013

We have a wonderful married couple who work together when cleaning our house. They clean well and are very careful and trustworthy. We have given them a key to our house so they can let themselves in when it is time to clean. Call Bruno and Solange Chavez at 240-478-1726. If you have more questions for me send a message. Cynthia Grant Cynthia.I.grant@gmail.com November 2013

INSULATION CONTRACTORS –

I can heartily recommend Dan Roberson of Quality Insulation, who just did our attic today. We had quite a bit added to a finished attic - which means that parts of it were difficult to access. From the estimate 3 weeks ago to the excellent work today by his crew of 3, Dan provided ready explanations and an excellent price. He even added insulation to an area where he thought we already had some (but didn't) at no additional cost. We are very pleased with his service. Lyn Taecker lyntaecker@starpower.net April 2010

INTERIOR DESIGNERS & DECORATORS –

Shari Daniels in Bethesda at 301-654-1654. Company name is Dzyn Studio, syd4dzyn@aol.com.. Lisa Berger Lberger728@aol.com

I know a fantastic interior designer who owns Yardstick Interiors. His name is Steve Corbeille. He can be reached at 1 (301) 349-3449 or by e-mail: scorbeille@aol.com. He is discreet and open to the views needs and financial capacity of his clients. He was recommended to me by the interior design center in SW Washington. Laura Garcés Fischer laura.garces@verizon.net August 2012

IRONWORKING –

I had a metal smith make one for our front stairs and it is pretty wonderful - come by if you want to see it. We are at 3726 Veazey Street, NW. He can do anything. The genius is Robert Lukinic and he lives way out in Bryans Road, MD. Phone is 202-215-6817. He did work for us thru a landscape designer, but I believe he also works independently. Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com January 2009

Radiator Covers - Skip Holmes and he can be reached at 202-302-0252. He has just made about 10 for someone from this listserv. Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com December 2011

JEWELRY APPRAISERS & DESIGNERS –

I can highly recommend Emma Villedrouin who lives here in DC. Emma was one of the artists we featured at the Trunk Show put on by the Smithsonian Women's Committee at the National Building Museum last fall. Her work is beautiful. You can check out her web site emmaville.com. Good luck. Kay Springwater rspringwater@starpower.net January 2009

If you like contemporary jewelry, I recommend you talk to Denise Graham. Her designs and use of materials are wonderfully creative and eye-catching. She lives on 44th Street, phone 966-9040. She has Parkinson's, so it can be a little hard sometimes to understand her speech, but it hasn't in anyway affected her talent. Janet Bachman jbachman47@gmail.com January 2013

JEWELRY, WATCH & CLOCK REPAIRS –

The best repair shop we know -- and used recently -- is the Kensington Clock Shop at 10426 Armory Ave., Kensington, 301-942-3794 or 301-942-3774. And be sure to take time to see their exhibit -- a museum, really - - of marvelous and diverse clocks for sale. Aaron & Jackie Epstein aajacks@starpower.net December 2009

I used Kensington Clock Shop for repair and servicing for a grandfather's clock for over 20 years and have always had excellent service. Dona Lenkin lenkind@mail.nih.gov December 2009

If you have an old and valuable clock, I would call Doug Whitesell. He lives way out in VA, but does come in to work on clocks at the White House and State Dept from time to time. He is excellent, is from a long line of clock restorers, appears on time and is very pleasant and interesting, etc, and I can't recommend him highly enough. He can be reached at 540-687-5550 and please tell him that I recommended him to you. Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com December 2009

JUNK HAULERS –

We have used 1-800-Got-Junk several times. They are not cheap, but they are reliable and careful, and they take small loads. Their prices are based on the volume of the stuff they take. Joanne Levine joannelevine@earthlink.net May 2007

I use Morris Brown who lives in the neighborhood and has made cleaning peoples' messes his vocation. He is reasonable and honest. He has hauled debris and junk for me and my friends, clients and contractors for over three years and we have not had a problem once. You can call him on his cell at 240-938-3485. PS. He is strong, smart and works very hard, we need more young men like him. Rick Holl rickholl@ymail.com February 2013

KITCHEN REMODELING –

I reiterate my recommendation for Mike Smith, a contractor who has done several renovations for me, including a kitchen and a bathroom. Mike is skilled at all trades and has a creative eye. He's very reliable and communicative, as well as unusually dedicated to the job. The best way to reach him is by phone--301 807-5240. Please use my name when you contact him. Lynne Heneson lheneson@aol.com January 2011

I have the perfect company. George of Atech Home Improvements did a recent and total remodel on our kitchen and 2 bathrooms. They are licensed, insured, very reasonable and finished on time and under budget. They replaced all kitchen cabinets, tile, counters and appliances and the whole project including basement remodel and 2 bathrooms took only 1 month. George had his guys coming in shifts to replace all flooring, paint all surfaces and install all upgrades while he performed all of the electrical and plumbing tasks himself. The final project was excellent and the price unbeatable. They also have over 50 five star ratings on Service Magic and the Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval. I have previously recommended him to friends and family. Jeff Phelps geekxpert@gmail.com January 2011

I recommend you call Peter Glaser at [202-446-3833](tel:202-446-3833) or email him at peterglaser@msn.com for your kitchen design/build. Peter has been doing kitchen and bathroom remodels in the neighborhood for over 30 years, is himself an old-school trained Master Tile Setter, and he has specially trained crews doing very high quality work. In addition to his workmanship winning the 2009 COTY (Contractor Of The Year) Award, Peter has trained a lot of the independents in the area through the years. He's also done a lot of kitchens for Designers and Custom Builders. All told he's done hundreds of kitchens and bathrooms through the years, from low budget re-do's to expensive custom projects. He is extremely knowledgeable and can design/build. One of the plus points I've found with him is that he does not sell cabinets or tile - therefore he has no bias in these areas. He's worked with everything from prefab Home Depot cabinets to custom built from local craftsmen, and every kind of glass, marble, stone and ceramic tile. He can direct you to the best sources for the materials you want, and he'll work with you to save money on them. I haven't found a better resource for kitchen, bathroom or basement remodels in the Tenleytown area. I've also seen some of the custom work Peter has done, and it's no surprise to me that he won the COTY Award. But his prices are very reasonable, especially when contracting direct with consumers, as he's set up on a wholesale business model due to doing so many projects for custom builders. Steve skoplo@yahoo.com March 2013

KNIFE & TOOL SHARPENERS –

Thanks to all of you who provided me information on the man who comes around in a truck and sharpens knives, lawnmowers, clippers, etc. His name is John Vecchiarelli and his phone numbers are 301.935.4730 or cell 240.463.0506. He welcomes all business! lenkind@mail.nih.gov July 2008

Strosnidars in Bethesda sharpens knives and tools, including lawn mower blades. ACE Hardware in Tenleytown sharpens knives only. Janet Bachman jbachman47@gmail.com October 2008

LAMP REPAIR –

Gaylord's in Bethesda. Ellen Swann ellen.swann@yahoo.com January 2013

Artisan Lamp on the 3300 block of Connecticut Avenue has been helpful to me too, excellent and prompt with repairs. Elaine Greenstone ehgreenstone@aol.com January 2013

Artisans Lamp on Connecticut Avenue, across from the Uptown Theater. lyndaCouvillion@yahoo.com January 2013

LAWN & YARD SERVICES –

We have used Barbara's Balman Landscape Design for many years and she has transformed our garden! She is very knowledgeable about the plants that grow in this area and about how to care for them. She knows what lawns do better than others and favors sustainable and ecologically balanced environments. She spares no time in addressing concerns and discussing them. And finally she is extremely reasonable. Work phone: (202) 744-9515. You will certainly not regret consulting her! Laura Garcés Fischer laura.garces@verizon.net April 2013

Gardner: Please contact Frank Diaz of Josephine's Garden at Josephinesgarden@yahoo.com or by phone at 202/468-9422. Samantha Nolan nolantutor@yahoo.com May 2013

E and K Landscaping . They do a number of houses in our neighborhood, reliable, on time, will give you a quote. Phone number is 301 655 7695. Owner is Jose Velasquez. Lorna Watson waldodog1@aol.com May 2013

I have employed Herman Ramos for the last seven years or so and have found him to be knowledgeable, reliable and a pleasure to work with. His number is 240/413-7618. Please use my name. Nancy Stanley redrufus818@yahoo.com May 2013

I recommend Integrated Plant Care in Rockville, 301-881-8130. The owner, Paul Wolfe, is knowledgeable and pleasant to deal with, and his firm does a good job. Joanne Levine joannelevine202@gmail.com August 2013

The best landscape designer we have had in the 'hood is Barbara Balman: understanding, artistic and very reasonable. Call her at (202) 744-9515. No way you could be disappointed!!! Laura Garcés Fischer laura.garces@verizon.net January 2014

We have used J&G Landscape (Jeff Potter 301-343-9798) and found their work exceptional and their prices reasonable. Jeff can listen to ideas and come back with drawings that are exactly what was requested. He also suggests great ideas to augment what's requested. Also J&G has an excellent group of sub contractors to complete their skill set. We are at 4340 Chesapeake St if you'd like to see some of their landscape and masonry work. The back yard is the more impressive but is unavailable for causal observation. John Kelly lasjkelly@gmail.com January 2014

I have been using a very reliable and very reasonably priced gardener for regular lawn and yard maintenance for 3 years now. Julian Santos can be reached at 301-525-2536. He speaks English, is pleasant to work with, and will return your call. He recently left his weekday job to build up his gardening service business. Charlotte Perry charmperry@gmail.com April 2014

LAWYERS – (arranged by specialty)

Civil Disputes - We had a similar nightmarish experience with a contractor, Nicholas Carson (dba Carson Assoc.), whom we eventually fired. Although we didn't attempt to recover any money, we were greatly aided in the disentangling process by Jason Pardo, then with the firm of Jackson & Campbell. He was extremely knowledgeable and pleasant to work with, and I would recommend him unhesitatingly. He has since formed his own firm, Pardo & Drazin, in Friendship Heights. Here's a link to his profile: <http://www.pardodrazin.com/jasonapardo.html>. His direct number is (202) 683-1561. Lorie Leavy ljeavy@gmail.com January 2012

Labor Law - Joel Bennett is a top labor lawyer. I have used him in the past and highly recommend him. <http://employmentlawyer.biz/> Don dvater4527@aol.com August 2013

Wills & Estate Trusts - I can recommend the lawyer I used: Quinn O'Connell. He's right in our neighborhood, in the building above Rodman's, 5100 Wisconsin, suite 514. Phone = 537-1820. He interviewed me thoroughly to find out what I needed and wanted, shared personal experiences, and did a great job. Janet Bachman jbachman47@gmail.com June 2014

LOCKSMITHS –

We recently used Tivoli Locksmith due to recommendations in this site's tradesmen listing. They were excellent – they came when they said they would, were completely professional, and were very friendly. We strongly endorse them. Telephone numbers: (202) 338-5335, (202) 829-9222, cell (301) 270-4783. Bobby Turnbull bobbyturnbull@comcast.net January 2013

I highly recommend D&S Locksmith Service (Dan Viriya) 301-320-3538; 301-346-6981 cell; very affordable and ethical; wonderful man; he recently replaced my lock and did a great and comprehensive job. He got superb ratings for price, average ratings for quality in Checkbook 2012. Leonard leonardleonard1@earthlink.net January 2013

Our recent experience with Tivoli was also an excellent one. Ron Springwater rspringwater@starpower.net January 2013

I highly recommend D&S Locksmith Service (Dan Viriya) 301-320-3538; 301-346-6981 cell; very affordable and ethical; wonderful man; he recently replaced my lock and did a great and comprehensive job. He got superb ratings for price, average ratings for quality in Checkbook 2012. Leonard leonardleonard1@earthlink.net April 2013

I highly recommend Tivoli Locksmith Services. The locksmith's name is Joseph Ngana. Joseph repaired two broken locks. He came on time, and was very professional, efficient and friendly. Another locksmith recommended a \$400 job years ago, which I did not accept. I showed the problem to Joseph today. He made the repair and now it works perfectly fine. His number is 202-338-5335. Fernando Manibog FManibog@gmail.com September 2013

MASONS – (Stone & Brick)

I used Carl's Masonry [\(301\) 519-2233](tel:3015192233) to do some repointing at my house. They were the only people I could find interested in taking a small job. They just did the cracks where the house had settled and fixed my front steps. It cost about \$1,000. The only other person wanted \$20,000 or more and wanted to repoint the whole house. I got another estimate from a well recommended mason who said that the house did not need a total repoint, but they didn't want to do the job as it required going up 3 stories and they weren't doing work that high anymore. Sarah Morse morsekathan@gmail.com November 2012

We used J&G to do our blue stone and our daughter's blocks. They are complete landscaping company. In fact the masonry team that they had do our walls said to use their guys for the blue stone because they're cheaper and do a better job. If you want to see what they did for use send me an email. Jeff is the person that we worked with and their contact info is: J&G Landscape Design, 301-476-7600, jpotter@jglandscape.com, www.jglandscape.com. John Kelly lasjkelly@gmail.com March 2013

I echo Michelle Brotzman's strong recommendation of Edgar Granados found in the Tradesmen list. Mr. Granados just completed replacing all of the mortar around the slate on my front porch and sidewalk. He also had to replace some slate that had broken or otherwise deteriorated too much to salvage and rebuild a couple of steps. He and one co-worker did all of the work themselves, which was excellent. They were meticulous, efficient and cleaned up carefully. Mr. Granados told me the slate would look like new when he was finished. I was skeptical but he was correct. The porch and sidewalk do look like new. Once I saw the quality of their work, I added a few other tasks: stepping stones to the alley, stones under the deck, etc. which were completed with attention to detail. Finally, Mr. Granados and his co-worker are both very pleasant and I found their prices to be very reasonable. You can reach him at his cell: 202-439-3082. Ann Phillips phillipsannl@gmail.com August 2013

Following recommendations found in Communit-E, we engaged Edgar Granados, 202-439-3082, to lay out and install a large stone, circular path in our backyard garden. His workmanship was excellent. He understood the technical aspects and made good suggestions about the esthetics and artistic needs. He is pleasant, prompt, courteous, friendly, and easy to work with. His price was quite reasonable. For more info or to come see the stonework itself, call 202-364-3068. Ron and Kay Springwater rkspringwater@starpower.net September 2013

MESSAGE THERAPISTS –

I can wholeheartedly recommend Patricia Huggins: 202-460-8713, phugg05@yahoo.com. She mostly works out of her home (614 Rock Creek Church Road NW) but also schedules sessions on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 3000 Connecticut Ave NW. Patty is a wonderful person and has deeply powerful hands. --Tom Bethell tombethell@gmail.com March 2010

I can highly recommend Lisa Bregman; she lives in the neighborhood and does wonderful work. She can be reached at (202)686-7202. Beth bk@bethlaw.com March 2010

MOLD REMOVAL –

We used American Restoration Service (<http://www.americanrestorationservice.com/>) for mold inspection and removal in March 2011 and were very pleased with their work. They were very careful about sealing off the work area, creating negative air pressure, etc., and they did an excellent job of laying new tile and fitting new molding to replace the glued-down vinyl flooring that had to be removed. In fact, we liked the crew so much we inquired whether they were available for general handyman work (unfortunately, no). Lorie Leavy ljleavy@gmail.com May 2012

MOVERS/HAULERS & DELIVERY SERVICES –

Just (as in Tuesday) used a company called Get Up and Go Movers to unload a U-haul truck, which I had the pleasure of driving from NJ to DC (moving my mother-in-law). Matt and Everett unloaded the truck including some heavy furniture. Mark B. Cole, Get Up and Go Movers, 202-210-8251, mail@getupandgomovers.com . Rochelle Rubin rubinre@gmail.com October 2012

I recommend Town and Country Movers, in Maryland. We and some friends have used them, with very good results. Also, they are affiliated with a company, whose name I don't recall, that advises people on moving and downsizing, and helps with unpacking and rearranging households. Joanne Levine joannelevine202@gmail.com February 2014

I had a very good experience with My Truck Buddy www.mytruckbuddy.com. I needed 2 large pieces of furniture moved from Fairfax to my home in AU Park. Moving companies were not interested in such a small job. One moving company recommended My Truck Buddy. They were simple to deal with and picked up the furniture with only a day's notice. They don't pack boxes, but they had blankets and wrap for the furniture. It all went very smoothly and I thought the price was reasonable. Kathryn Ray KCRDLB@gmail.com February 2014

MUSIC TEACHERS –

My wife Heidi and I highly recommend piano teacher Ruth Rose, who has taught our daughter Catherine (now aged 11) for the past four years. Following a short, unsatisfactory experience with another teacher, Catherine has had a very happy, productive time with Miss Rose, which has included mastering a varied repertoire and performing in quite a few recitals and competitions in the DC area. Ruth Rose, who was trained in Amsterdam, has a degree from John Hopkins' Peabody Institute, and is well-known on the Washington-area performing-artist scene, is now accepting enrollments for the fall. She is conveniently located near the Van Ness Metro Station. Her phone: (202) 362-2493. Please e-mail (hdcwinn@verizon.net) or phone (202-364-4350) us for further details. David Winn June 2008

My daughter's guitar instructor-- Brian Gross -- will be offering group lessons beginning 4/12. My daughter has taken private guitar lessons from Brian for almost five years and is very happy with his teaching. Contact Brian at 301-320-6999 or bgmojohands@yahoo.com. jfkhoury@erols.com April 2010

NOTARY PUBLIC –

The UPS Store on Wisconsin (at Veazy) has a notary. Naomi Mezey naomimezey@gmail.com April 2014

UPS Store on the American University Campus. The UPS Store at 4200 Wisconsin also offers notary services, although I'd call first to make sure the notary is there. Emil Skodon skodon@yahoo.com April 2014

Most banks provide notary public services that are usually free to their customers and a nominal fee to others. Maria Creighton mcreig4508@rcn.com April 2014

PNC Bank on Connecticut Avenue near Chevy Chase Circle - Morrison or McKinley Streets - has several notaries. I used one within the last month. Kay Springwater kspringwater@starpower.net April 2014

Wells Fargo in Spring Valley has a notary public. Also, there are mobile notaries who will come to you. You should be able to find one by googling "mobile notary DC". Catherine Mary Rafferty cm.rafferty@verizon.net April 2014

TD Bank has notary services. lmarrinaccio@yahoo.com April 2014

Recently I had something notarized at Wells Fargo Bank on Massachusetts Ave. in Spring Valley. They have 2 notaries so one is likely to be there, but call first. Gloria Buckberg albuckberg@aol.com April 2014

TD Banks give complimentary notary service even if you are not a customer! Laurie England leng2007@aol.com April 2014

ORGANIZERS –

I can recommend Tracy with Out of the Closet Organizer. She was efficient, helpful, encouraging, pleasant and it worked so well. Here's her contact info: www.outoftheclosetorganizer.com, 571-331-3350. I happened to get

an email from her today, first time in a year, so I thought I'd also pass it on. From Tracy: " I'm offering a great deal on organizing for the month of July only. Schedule 4 hours and receive your 5th hour at no charge. This is a \$75.00 savings who doesn't love a savings? This must be booked in the month of July but only valid through August." Connie Rhind Robey c_rhind@yahoo.com June 2013

PAINTERS –

Just wanted to give an amazing shout out to Dan Llacera, he painted the interior of our house yesterday and did a fantastic job, completely meticulous, he also has a great eye for color (he helped me pick the color!) moved all the furniture and put it back, even vacuumed behind the couch! I highly recommend him if you need some painting, he also does hard wood flooring and a few other things! Dan Llacera: 302-245-0800, dllacera@aol.com. Sincerely, Deena dekot70@aol.com December 2012

We highly recommend Julio Delgado for exterior and interior painting and related work. He is professional, prompt, organized and neat, and does beautiful, high quality work. We have had him do some small household projects as well, and have been very satisfied with his workmanship. He also does remodeling, e.g., kitchens, bathrooms and basements, and has references for those types of projects. Lilly Abbey/John Kostyack kostyack@msn.com February 2013

I just had some extensive outside trim painting done by Parcan Home Improvements, 3904 Huntington St., 202-686-0535. I was really, really impressed by the care in prepping and in the overall professionalism of Mr. Parcan who worked along with one assistant the entire time. In addition to painting they did minor repairs and window re-puttying, without my asking, as they saw the need. I strongly recommend him for anyone who wants a really thorough paint job. I expect this job to last much longer than any of the ones I've had done in the past. Kathy Smith kathysindc@gmail.com June 2013

I finally found a painter I can wholeheartedly recommend. Mauricio Hernandez is a gem. He and his small crew, some of them family members, helped write finis to a nightmarish remodeling job we underwent a few years back. In addition to painting interior walls and trim, Mauricio performed drywall repairs; sanded, stained, and sealed shoe molding; stripped the old paint from door hardware; repaired damage to woodwork; and re-caulked a leaking shower. He also took several sets of interior shutters offsite to be spray-painted, and they returned looking factory-finished and working smoothly. He similarly spray-painted a 1980's Danish modern china cabinet, giving it new life as an attractive transitional piece. All work was carefully prepped and meticulously done, and the crew stored away their materials and vacuumed floors and surfaces at the end of each day. After completion I was given a day to inspect the work and compile a punch list of items, which Mauricio cheerfully returned to address. He's not inexpensive, but I felt we more than got our money's worth. Mauricio's cell number is (703) 474-4622. Feel free to mention my name. Lorie Leavy ljeavy@gmail.com August 2013

Celso of CCColors is reliable, nice, cooperative, reasonably priced, and does excellent work. (301) 356-0585. Friends who told us about him, and we, have used him repeatedly. Nancy Gordon nancymg@mac.com December 2013

For years (and past two houses) I've had the pleasure of using Marvin Palacios and family: (marvinpalacios@verizon.net). Mobile: 3016749224. His work is excellent - and I'm pretty picky. I've given him my house keys with zero worry and he takes the room apart and puts it back together with no help from me. Very happy to recommend him! Ingodshands59@gmail.com December 2013

Juan Sanchez does careful, beautiful work. Former decorator in Peru. Will leave your place sparkling. Ph 301-455-4718. Carolyn Parr carolynparr@hotmail.com December 2013

We recently had the inside of our house painted, including all the trim, and our painter, Alex, did an excellent job. I wanted to highly recommend him to the neighborhood. Alex's contact information is below, and his email address is: kagopcsa@yahoo.com. Alex was really wonderful to work with, he did an excellent job, his rates were reasonable, he was always on time, and he always cleaned up after himself and made sure you were happy with his work. We learned about Alex through recommendations from this list serv, but I wanted to send out an e-mail after our recent experience. Alex Wallpapering & Painting Solution LLC., 703-444-3263. Deborah Raviv debweiner@starpower.net May 2014

PERSONAL TRAINERS –

I strongly recommend Betsy Wittleder at Northwest Sport and Health at 4001 Brandywine St. I used her for several sessions and found that she was very good and very attuned to the issues of aging bodies. She's not a kid. She can be reached at 202-244-6090. Northwest Sport and Health has a number of group classes. There are three "Muscle Up" classes on weekdays at 10 am (Mon., Wed., Fri.). Sounds like these might be what you're looking for. But first you should have a few sessions with a personal trainer to figure out your needs and fitness level. Kathy Smith kathysindc@gmail.com October 2012

I highly recommend Mark Shafer at Elements of Motion. It is located at the corner of Brandywine and Wisconsin (NOT Sport and Health). I also am "of a certain age" and Mark has patiently brought me gradually into super form. He will work with your own goals but is mindful of different capacities at different ages. Truly outstanding. Nancy Adams njadams1@verizon.net October 2012

Highly recommend Brian 202 3654586 who will actually come to your house to work with you to prevent those first awkward sessions when you feel like you don't even want to be seen at the gym. He is a terrific guy, personable, reliable and in great shape---and works with the individual and any issues they may have. Lorna Watson waldodog1@aol.com October 2012

I heartily second the suggestion for Betsy Wittleder at NW Sport and Health (Brandywine Street). She worked gently with me and gave me a lot of encouragement when she was my personal trainer for 6 sessions. Mary Ann Ryan maryannryan@starpower.net October 2012

If you are interested in a group experience with a superb trainer, not held in a gym with machines, Caroline Gichner may be your answer. At 9 AM to 10 AM on Wednesdays and Fridays, she holds a small class in everything for the body (and the spirits!) at the United Methodist Memorial Church on Nebraska Avenue. She is a responsive, sensitive, cheerful, and attentive teacher, so knowledgeable about the body, so effective in instructing each of us about what is happening as we do aerobic and other exercises. The classes are fun at the same time, encouraging, productive. A leader in the health field, and with her reputation of the highest order, she does lead other classes for various institutions. Her telephone number is 362-4393. You can learn much more by calling her as she warmly welcomes calls, responds to messages left. Her e-mail address is: cgichner@aol.com. Elaine Greenstone ehgreenstone@aol.com October 2012

You might try out TNT at Tenley Sport and Health. It is group training, which makes it fun and less expensive. The trainer is named Pat and he teaches in the morning and in the evening. Avis Sanders avis.sanders@gmail.com October 2012

PEST CONTROL SERVICES -

We have been very happy using Capitol Pest for years, for ants, termite prevention and the occasional mice. They are located just past Little Falls off of River Road on Butler Road. 301 657 4481 They know my house

well. Their guys are knowledgeable and trustworthy. Bernie McDermott bmcdermottds@aol.com March 2014

We had a good experience with Innovative Pest Management for rodents. The number I have is 202 232-4948. Gwen Bradley gewndolynbradley@yahoo.com March 2014

I use Richard Langis who owns Colonial Termite and Pest Control. I had carpenter ants 8-10 years ago. He located the nest and was able to completely exterminate them. I have not had a repeat. Reach Richard at 301 670-6916 or 301 258-0669. Linda Hughes hugs4linda@gmail.com March 2014

PET SERVICES – (arranged by type of service)

LOST & FOUND - If you have lost or found a pet, please contact the **DC Humane Society at [202-234-8626](tel:202-234-8626)**. They do a fantastic job of record keeping and matching lost and found pets. And don't forget them if you are in the throes of adopting a pet - they also usually have a guinea pig or rabbit or two if that is your thing. Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com November 2013

DOG WALKER - After more than 10 years, my dogs' incredible walker/caregiver has room for a few extra clients. Lynn has taken care of my dogs for the last eight years (willful puppy, geriatric sweetie-pie, and extremely skittish rescue). I cannot recommend her highly enough. From kittens and puppies to geriatric seniors in need of special care, she lovingly cares for them all. You can reach her at (202) 363-1597. Please let me know if you have any questions. Juliemack1@verizon.net March 2012

DOG WALKER - Chris Aden is excellent. His telephone number is 1-402-960-8381; email is topherj@yahoo.com Ann Ingram anningram@mac.com August 2012

GROOMER - I've just discovered the Doggie Washerette at 7714 Georgia Avenue NW. It's a self-service laundromat for dogs. Its much easier than washing the dog in the bathtub or shower and cheap (\$20.00 for 15 minutes of washing time, and the staff (the owner's son) is very helpful in explaining how it works. In non-rush hour it only takes about 15 minutes to get there from Chevy Chase/Friendship Heights area. Check out the cute website at www.doggiewasherette.com and support a new small business. Sunderwood4104@gmail.com May 2012

SITTER - We are fans of Tails of the City. www.tailsofthecitydc.com . Or email tailsofthecitydc@aol.com. They are dependable, reasonable, and neat. Andrew squasher@starpower.net May 2012

SITTER - I highly recommend cat sitter "Shani Madden," who can be reached at 703-868-3038. lhertz@msn.com May 2012

SITTER - Chris Aden, 1-402-960-8381 or christopheraden070@gmail.com. Superb! Daisy adores him. Ann Ingram anningram@mac.com August 2013

SITTER - We just had Katherine Goodfellow, owner of PranaPets, stay at our home with our dog while we were on vacation for two weeks. It worked out very well, and she was very nice to work with. You may reach her at info@pranapets.com. Elizabeth Vaden vadenfamily@verizon.net August 2013

VETERINARIAN - We highly recommend our veterinarian, Rhya Marohn, who handles all of our annual check-ups and routine care by visiting us at our house. She has been taking care of our two cats and one dog for about 3 years now and has been great. For obvious logistical reasons, having someone come to our house is fantastic - but she also provides very good and reasonable care - we appreciate someone who is not quite as aggressive as some area animal hospitals - and her fees are also very reasonable. She is also available year-round via email for advice and to fill various prescriptions as needed (we have a dog with diabetes who also

has food allergies etc). She can be reached at drmarohn@gmail.com, 301-332-8563, and www.athomeanimalcare.com. Ross Filice rwfilice@gmail.com December 2012

VETERINARIAN - We are fortunate to have, right here in T-town, on Brandywine, just off Wisconsin, Friendship Hospital for Animals. I know some in the neighborhood think they're too expensive, but we've always taken our cat there and we find them to be wonderful. They're open 24/7. Carolyn Long carolynlong@earthlink.net June 2013

VETERINARIAN - We take our dog to Kenwood Veterinary Hospital off River Road in Bethesda. We've used them for years. Our vet is Sandra Laden -- very caring and knowledgeable. The other vets there are excellent as well. It's a five-minute drive from our house. Although Friendship Hospital is just a few blocks from us and their vets are very good too, we found that the young vets cycle through there so often that we never saw the same vet twice. And since our old dog had chronic medical problems, we needed consistency. We do use Friendship for emergencies. Again, they are very good, but you may not see the same doc twice. Pat Mullan mullandoty@aol.com June 2013

VETERINARIAN - We use Friendship Animal Hospital because it is so close. We have taken our cats there for years now and the service is very good. They also have a relatively new service called "Friendship to Go" wherein the vets will come to your home for routine visits. We are thinking of using it next time for one of our older cats since even going a few blocks completely stresses him out. It is true, though, that you may never see the same doc twice since the docs come and go so often there. Leslie Marinaccio lmalinaccio@yahoo.com June 2013

VETERINARIAN - One of our dogs had many health issues but we still used Friendship where we went to see Dr. Bolch for years. She is very competent and knowledgeable. Also very kind. Friendship is good in its referrals to many specialists in the area. We took another of our dogs to Springfield Hospital where he was operated to remove two successive malignant cancers and also received physiotherapy. We took him to a zoo dental specialist in Virginia and we were also referred to the VCA veterinary associates in Gaithersburg. There is also the veterinary holistic care center in Bethesda. There is no shortage of good vets in this area! Laura Garcés Fischer laura.garces@verizon.net June 2013

VETERINARIAN - Those of the vets at Friendship that come and go so quickly are generally interning for a set period after graduating from vet school. Other vets are regular staff. You can pick and choose your vet. Jean Mammen jemammen@bellatlantic.net June 2013

PHYSICAL THERAPISTS –

Nancy at Sibley hospital out patient therapy center. Can't remember her last name - Weinstein?? - but she was first rate and head and tails above the others, except perhaps a guy who helped Al through his knee replacement therapy. Nancy helped me with back issues and later with my shoulder replacement therapy. Sarah Horsey sarahrhorsey@gmil.com January 2014

Sibley Hospital does a good job w/ pt and figuring out what you need. Natalie Wasserman nwass609@gmail.com January 2014

I can wholeheartedly recommend Kevin, a physical therapist at Arthritis and Rheumatism Center, 5454 Wisc. Ave. He's been working on my back for the past 4 weeks with wonderful results. He can, of course, provide therapy for other ailments. Here's the website: <http://www.arapc.com/> Ron Springwater rspringwater@starpower.net January 2014

The most highly recommended to me some years ago by the then head of Visiting Nurses -- who called him the very best physiotherapist in the area -- is Dr. Charles Kibbey of Kibbey and Terle. Dr Terle is also most highly recommended. Charlie, as many call him, is exceptional in his thorough and up-to-date professional knowledge, his sensitivity to the patient's needs and condition, his success in rehabilitating patients (including myself on three occasions: the first following an automobile's running me down as the driver sped through a red light and the most recent following an "attack" of spinal stenosis). My doctors told me of their respect and of their referring him to patients. A good number of friends including colleagues and fellow-exercise-class classmates have thanked me in appreciation of my telling them about Kibbey and Terle. My own gratitude to Dr. Kibbey is obvious, so if you call, remind him of it! Because of their earned reputation, initial appointments are at times difficult to get. They are located at 5480 Wisconsin Avenue. Telephone is: (301) 654-7383. Elaine Greenstone ehgreenstone@aol.com January 2014

I would highly recommend Tom Welsh. My internist gave me his name last year said he is one of the best in the city. A friend of mine has been going to him off on for years also recommended him. I saw him over a two month period he is wonderful. He is close by...his office is on the basement level at the Highland House apartment building on Wisconsin Ave. in Chevy Chase. He shares office space with Kibbey Terle physical therapists. The address is: 5480 Wisconsin Ave., Suite B1, Chevy Chase. The phone number is 301-654-7383. I also did a round of therapy at Sibley a couple of years ago. I had Nancy Weinberg...who is terrific as someone already mentioned...as is Chris (cannot remember his last name). Mary mbienvenue@verizon.net January 2014

Chevy Chase Orthopedic Rehab, 5530 Wisconsin Avenue, 16th floor. The therapist I had has moved out of the area but I had ample opportunity to observe the other therapists and the PT assistants and thought they did a great job and were great with the patients. Charles Straight comes45@yahoo.com January 2014

PIANO TUNERS –

I haven't "shopped," so I don't know how his prices compare, but Vincent Ling is excellent, 301-571-4878 or 301-982-0866. We've used him for years and have always been pleased. Kate McLynn kdmclynn@starpower.net April 2010

PICTURE FRAMERS –

I recommend the Watergate Gallery and Frame Shop, where I have had several pictures framed. Dale Johnson, the owner, has a huge selection of beautiful frames. She has a real eye for putting together the right combination of matte and frame to make a picture glow, and is willing to take the time to listen and work with you. Watergate Gallery and Frame Shop, 2552 Virginia Ave NW, 338-4488. Eve Moscicki emoscick@mail.nih.gov January 2008

I have used the FRAMERS WORKROOM for many years and they are extremely knowledgeable, very helpful, and excellent. They are on Wisconsin Avenue at Albermarle, across the street from the ex-Tenley Library. Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com January 2008

PLASTERERS –

We have used Eight Brothers on Wisconsin Avenue in Glover Park. Very knowledgeable, neat and tidy, did a fabulous job. They also do very good drywall work. I would highly recommend them. Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com May 2014

I HIGHLY RECOMMEND Paz Lara, a painter (interior and exterior) and plasterer. Paz is extremely thorough and meticulous. Just last week he repaired a bedroom plaster ceiling for me and he did an excellent job. He has painted my entire house twice and did a far better job than University Painters whom I had hired previously. I use him for all my painting needs and he also has worked for at least two of my neighbors repeatedly over the years. I introduced him to another neighbor last week for a rather difficult job which a previous painter had failed to do properly, and that neighbor was extremely satisfied and will become a repeat customer for Paz also. His home phone is 301-933-1127 and cell phone is 240-372-7260. Elinor Tucker
elinor_tucker@yahoo.com May 2014

My housepainter, Roger Jiminez, does meticulous prep work. When he painted the 1st and 2nd floors inside my house (last fall into winter), he restored several ceilings that were in godawful shape; in some cases, he had to go down (or up, as the case may be) to the wood before restoring and replastering, etc. Now, you can't tell at all which ceilings were distressed, as they all look terrific! Roger Jiminez's (HIM-in-ez) telephone number is: (240) 425-2824. Leslie Rod May 2014

Juan Sanchez is careful, courteous, and does beautiful work. 301-455-4718. Carolyn Parr
carolynparr@hotmail.com May 2014

I highly recommend Julio Garcia of American Drywall & Paint, Inc. ((571) 436-5128) who was referred to me by a friend who had used him. Last year, Julio and his crew removed unattractive texture from my living and dining room walls and ceilings, repatched and repaired damaged sections caused by a roof leak, replastered and painted. The walls and ceilings are now perfectly smooth. I cannot recommend him highly enough. They were so pleasant to work with, and took great care in prepping the hardwood floors and other surfaces to protect them from the resulting plaster dust. The cost was the most reasonable of the bids I received. Julie Mack
juliemack1@verizon.net May 2014

PLUMBERS –

I want to add my kudos to plumber John Taylor, telephone 240.472.2121. He was prompt and his fee was very reasonable. He could have suggested a very expensive or an unnecessary repair but did not do so. I am very pleased with the result. Kenneth
kenwashdc@yahoo.com January 2013

I have used Grayton Plumbing and have been very pleased with their service. They handle traditional water heater/boiler and high efficiency units too. (202) 544-4366 is their number. Michael Cervino
michaeltcervino@gmail.com April 2013

We've had several very good experiences with John Taylor. He's very competent and quite reasonable. His phone number is 240-472-2121. Kathy Smith
kathysindc@gmail.com August 2013

We used John Taylor and were very happy with his work and rates. His phone number is 240-472-2121. Laura St. Martin
watsaint@gmail.com October 2013

Anthony. Don't know last name but does a good job with small jobs. (301) 956-3241. Coletta Kemper
coletta.kemper@ciab.com June 2014

Mike Rich, 301.509.2776. Excellent service; employed for a number of years by Wm. F. Collins; when Collins closed its business, Mike struck out on his own. He is reliable, reasonable and gets it right the first time. Susanne Koffsky
susannekoffsky@gmail.com June 2014

POWER-WASHING & DECK CLEANING –

I used Lance Robinson of LRL Services. They cleaned our park bench recently of all the green algae and it looks new. He can be reached at 202/710-7713. They do power washing of decks, siding, driveways, windows, park benches and more. He also does hand washing and waxing of cars, though he has not done that for me yet. Samantha Nolan nolantutor@yahoo.com August 2010

ROOFERS –

A few years ago I hired Superior Home Improvement (George Ugaz) to install snow guards on my roof. All seemed well until the big snows we had 2 years ago when virtually all the snow guards came off the roof, along with some shingles. Turned out Superior hadn't nailed the guards in place. I will not use this company again. Janet Bachman jbachman47@gmail.com. June 2013

For decades I have found Jack's Roofing to be the one I trust and use. Elaine Greenstone ehgreenstone@aol.com October 2012

I would like to second, third or fourth that recommendation for Jack's Roofing. Have used them a couple times and always good. Quite reasonable too. Deb Morris debmorris3@aol.com October 2012

My roofer Mike Brown is honest and reliable. He is a good human being. When a contractor tried to take advantage of me (perhaps he thought this woman or all women are stupid ?) -- Mike implored me to pay 3/4 less to the guy (I paid him about 2/3 less). It was a terrible experience -- contractor was enraged. But Mike called me to say stand my ground! Decent tradesmen are hard to find: Mike Brown, meb0506@yahoo.com. Lisa Newman lisa4news@aol.com October 2012

I use for my home, an investment property, and as a recommendation to clients, Rasevic Construction. Darryl Hawthorne, who was highly and frequently recommended on Communit-E in the past, joined forces with Rasevic about three years ago. They come three times a year to clean my gutters. I use them for routine maintenance on the flat roof of a townhouse I own and I have used them for slate roofs repeatedly. Call Darryl himself at Cell: 301 370-2210 or Office: 301 986-6900. In my opinion they do top quality work and I trust them sufficiently to send them to properties to evaluate problems and thereafter hire them on the spot. They may be comparable to Jack's as far as cost is concerned. No really good roofer is cheap. Please feel free to use my name if you decide to call. Linda Hughes hugs4linda@gmail.com October 2012

We used Shiner Roofing in Sterling, VA, 888-570-6141. We interviewed and obtained offers from several companies to replace our roof. Their proposal was by far the most detailed and careful. They also did a great job. They have my recommendation. Geert DePrest gdeprest@stewartlaw.com October 2012

We had a roof repair job done earlier this month by Maggio. The work was excellent, and the recent storms have tested the sidings and shingles, along with the copper....all has worked well. The price was fair, and the workers cooperative and knowledgeable. You might want to check them out: <http://www.maggioroofing.com/> Ron Springwater rspringwater@starpower.net June 2013

I can highly recommend Mike Brown for taking care of your roofing issues and to clean or install your gutters. He is honest, fair, and provides insurance for his workers, is bonded, etc. I also believe he is highly rated on Angie's List and in the Checkbook List. He has looked after my slate roof and gutters for years, and I've never had any issues, since he started. Back when we had a bad storm when so many gutters were falling down, mine held - he had securely installed them from start. His contact info is: cell: 240-372-9574; office: 301-253-1202; email: meb0506@yahoo.com salem27104@rcn.com October 2013

We like Patch Roofing, nice people (I went to high school with the owner, Robert Patch) and local.

[Patch Roofing Co - Cabin John MD 20818 | 301-229-1595.](#) Sarah Morse morsekathan@gmail.com November 2013

Several months ago we discussed roofers and I wanted to share our good experience. Arthur Rambo from Rambo & Rambo Construction replaced the roof on the house next to our residence and portions of the roof on my mother's home on P.G. Ave. He is an amazing hardworking person. Mr. Rambo does all sorts of remodeling (not just roofs) but he says he enjoys the challenge of roof work the best. He knows his roofs and his prices are competitive. He will also get your gutters working properly with the roof. During the freezing weather last month he was up on the roof working. He replaced the roof all by himself. When it snowed he used a broom to sweep off the roof and kept working. What dedication. Here is his website (click the photo galleries in the top right side for samples of his work): <http://ramboandramboconstruction.com> You can reach him at 301-220-4222. Alan Henney Alan@henney.com March 2014

SECURITY SERVICES –

We have had a very good experience for eight years with Protection One. The equipment has functioned well, service is quick, and they react diligently (over the phone, and to the authorities, if necessary) should the alarm go off. D. Winn hdcwinn@verizon.net October 2010

SHOE REPAIR –

I recently posted a request on a different Listserv and compiled the results, below. I highly recommend Expert Shoe Luggage Repair in Chevy Chase - did great work.

* Ricardo at [202-332-0056](tel:202-332-0056). He's downstairs from Mama Ayieha on Calvert St.;

* Ragoni Shoes next to Capital One Bank at Friendships Heights Metro. (5447 Wisconsin Ave, Chevy Chase, MD 20815, [240-497-0240](tel:240-497-0240))

* Not far from CP is Expert Shoe Luggage Repair at 3808 Northhampton St.,NW. They have been able to fix everything I have taken to them in the last 30 years: <http://www.expertshoeluggage.com> They are right round the corner from the Avalon in Chevy Chase D.C.

* Sterling Cleaners (less than .25 blocks south of Dupont on Connecticut has an EXCELLENT and affordable cobbler/leather worker on premise at amazing rates. I've never been anything but pleased. 1331 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036, [\(202\) 723-9535](tel:202-723-9535)

Diana April 2014

SIDING –

Phil Zlotnick at All Four Seasons also handled the contract to replace the siding on our house and garage. They also installed new shutters. Again, as with the replacement windows, the workmanship was excellent and the price was great. Phil's number is 301-580-9399. Bari Sedar sedarmail@aol.com June 2008

SNOW SHOVELING –

Try Sunrise Landscape Corp., 301-877-4001. They did a good job shoveling out several neighbors' cars. Joanne Levine joannelevine@earthlink.net

SOLAR PANELS –

Our information is that you can install solar panels on a slate roof, but it involves replacing some of the slates with more flexible faux slate, which is what our project proposes. A benefit is the shade provided by the solar panels actually protects the roofing material and extends the life of the roof. There is another approach, which is to replace the slate with solar slates, special technology that combines roofing material and collector in one product. There is a house on Fessenden done with solar slate. These are more expensive than the racks, but since you will be buying roofing anyway, it might actually be a superior option- just guessing, not an expert on solar. Before forging ahead on your own, it might be worthwhile to talk to Kirk Renaud of Common Cents Solar. They have a brilliant approach that involves group buying, which saves a great deal of the cost, includes information without the sales pressure/bias, and gives the advantage of bargaining as a group instead of a one-time job. Common Cents Solar, 4330 East West Hwy., Bethesda, MD 20814. (301) 961-5940, (301) 961-5943 fax. Kate McLynn kdmclynn@starpower.net May 2009

Having just gone through this process (well, last November) and gotten estimate from several companies including Common Cents Solar, I have a few hints and recommendations: First - get three or more estimates (most estimate are free, the only company that charged us for an estimate was Common Cents. They called it an evaluation, but it produced the same report as the other three companies did for no charge; however, Common Cents will apply the fee to your system if you buy from them.) Second - Do your homework before the companies come out so you understand what you are getting. Every company sells different size panels and the panels are of different efficiencies. The most efficient system generates the most electricity. This was very important to us as we had limited space on our roof, so we wanted the most efficient system that we could get. If you have unlimited space, that might not be as important, but you should know this before you waste your time looking at lower efficiency panels. There is also a price difference as you move up in efficiency. Third - Ask questions on the phone before the contractor comes out so you know what the company sells and whether it suits your needs. Again - how important is efficiency to you and how much room do you have? Another question is what to do with your RECs (these are renewable energy credits that you can sell). Find out if the company will broker your RECs and what is their fee. Decide if you even want to sell your RECs (we don't at this time.) Fourth - Do your own homework on the incentive programs. Just google "solar incentives Washington DC" (or where ever you are). You will find a wealth of information about incentives. Call the numbers associated with the incentive programs and find out if they still have money to give away. DC has a great program, but I don't know if it still has money to give away. The money goes pretty fast. The Montgomery County property tax incentive has run out of money and isn't going to be re-funded for solar. Fifth - go to a site like Solar-estimator.org or pvwatts.org. Solar estimator lists contractors and rates them. Both sites have a wealth of information about all things solar. Some of these things I did and some I wished I had done. I definitely wasted a lot of my time and contractor's time because I didn't understand how the system worked. One contractor told me that he could put panels all over my roof - 18 in all; however the other three I had out told me that "no, it wasn't possible to put so many up because my dormers shaded the roof for significant periods of time." Once I understood how the system worked, it was clear that 18 panels would be a waste of my money. I was also misled by contractors about the incentives. They were not as up-to-date with the funding as they could be. Only one contractor told me that Montgomery County had run out of money (which was true as I verified with the county). The other contractors told me that the county would give me \$5,000 tax credit. That would have made my system almost free! Too good to be true? Yes unfortunately it was! We ended using Capital Sun - they are a local company (Cabin John) and have been in the business for 30 years or so. Early pioneers. We have 2kW and we are very happy with the whole thing (actually, almost giddy!). Unfortunately, we are now weather obsessed and all this rain is so much the worse because we can't make any electricity! Sarah Morse morsekathan@gmail.com May 2009

TAILORS & SEAMSTRESSES –

I highly recommend the seamstress (as well as the cleaners) at Presidential Valet cleaners on Wisconsin Ave in our neighborhood, right next to the demolished movie theater. I never had good luck with the Zips cleaners on Connecticut. Beth Haile Elizabeth_haile@hotmail.com December 2008

Teresa Campanaro on Connecticut right near the Zips Cleaners is reliable, reasonable and fast. No appointment necessary. Don't know if she does curtains, but she's good at the basic stuff. 4444 Connecticut Avenue, entrance on Albemarle. 244-8669 Her husband, Tony, has a one-man barber shop in front, she's in back. Dianne Fiumara Dianne@mindspring.com December 2008

They keep a list of local seamstresses at G Street Fabrics. Suggest you contact them. Kathy Smith ksmith1804@starpower.net December 2008

TAX PREPARERS –

I highly recommend Harvey Reich for tax preparation. He has handled our taxes for several years now, with many complicating factors including rental property income and depreciation, business income and deductions, home office accounting, multiple sources of income, living in multiple locations, investments, dependents, student loans, trusts, household employees (including all above-board tax, FICA, and unemployment reporting), and many deductions including charitable giving and mortgage interest. He has comprehensive knowledge on all of these issues and is incredibly accurate - I know this because the IRS has independently reviewed our taxes and their expectations of adjusted gross income and tax owed was exactly the same as what Harvey submitted. Finally, he is easy to contact and will readily provide tax advice throughout the year - I talk with him several times per year regarding tax advice and have yet to be charged for this. He can be contacted at Paul-cpa@erols.com or 301-340-3340. Ross rwfilice@gmail.com October 2012

TILE WORK –

Our tile guy, Dean, is a master and very reasonably priced. He did an excellent job for us. Please tell him we sent you. Dean: 240.483.9648 Amanda Bowker amandazbowker@mac.com July 2010

Just to add to the list, our contractor (who did both our kitchen and bathroom at different times), did a phenomenal job for us, and was open to new ideas for creativity by us. More to the point, he has also helped a friend of mine - who had a sub-par contractor that did a miserable job on tiling - redo the tiling in his bathroom to fix it and bring it up to code. He then went on to do lots of other tiling and assorted custom work for my friend as well. The contractor's name is Luis Fuenzalida and he owns Bath & Kitchen, LLC. His email is luis@bathandkitchenllc.com and his phone is (301)674-5680. PresJMS@aol.com July 2010

TREE SERVICES –

If it (tree) may have to come down, you might as well just start with the DC arborist; he would have to give you a permit for removal eventually. I have had good experiences with DC forestry. Aside from that, Woodacres is an old firm that is widely used around here. (It always amuses me that their arborist is named Forest!) --Jo on Brandywine jombturner@gmail.com September 2012

I have used an excellent arborist a number of times - Bob Blakely of Northern Woods Tree Service, 703-528-2056. He has bucket trucks, climbers, and all excellent people working for him and he himself is a real expert, friendly, wise, a gentleman, and terribly cute to boot! If you call him, please tell him that I recommended him to you. Barbara Dinsmore brbaradinsmore@msn.com September 2012

Apparently a tree man named Michael Stringfellow is back in the area. I strongly advise having nothing to do with him. You can phone me about it if you wish. Rice Odell 202-363-6052 ohrice77@yahoo.com October 2013

DO NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, HIRE JAMES ROBINSON, JR., WHO BILLS HIMSELF AS ROBINSON DUCKETT INSURED TREE SERVICE OF CULPEPER, VA. A NEIGHBOR FOOLISHLY HIRED HIM TO CHOP DOWN OLD TREES THAT OVERHANG OUR PROPERTY. DESPITE ROBINSON'S PROMISES NOT TO DAMAGE OUR PROPERTY, HE DID EXACTLY THAT. HE CUT HEAVY LIMBS AND DROPPED THEM ON OUR GARAGE AND REAR GARDEN, THEN DRAGGED TO LIMBS ACROSS OUR PROPERTY. A ROOFER ASSESSED THE DAMAGE AT NEARLY \$300. THE NEIGHBOR BELATEDLY DEMANDED THAT ROBINSON LEAVE HIS PROPERTY WITHOUT FINISHING THE JOB. ROBINSON THEN LEFT THE JOB UNDONE AND A MESS ON THE NEIGHBOR'S PROPERTY AND OURS.
Aaron & Jacqueline Epstein ajacks@starpower.net May 2014

TUTORS –

I thoroughly recommend this Math Tutor for: Elementary School Arithmetic; H.S. through Freshman College Algebra, Geometry, Calculus, Trigonometry; Test Preparation including SAT's, GRE's, etc. Makes house calls. Reasonable rates. Call Mick 301-946-8469, or e-mail < Mickclns@mac.com. Alec McRae admcrac@rcn.com
April 2010

UPHOLSTERS –

My white couch looks terrific after being cleaned by "Heavens Best" a carpet and upholstery cleaner located in College Park, 301 470 4433. I had been thinking I would need to reupholster as previously no cleaning service did a good job. In the Washington Checkbook "Heavens Best" was listed as excellent. I had to look under the carpet cleaning category to find the listing as there is no upholstery cleaning category. Gloria Buckberg gloriabuckberg@yahoo.com August 2010

Re: couch cushions. I recently had Cannon Upholstery, 4901 Hampden Lane, Bethesda , a small place, put new foam in my couch cushion covers. I like very firm foam and they were good on figuring out the hardness I wanted. The number there is 301-654 0090. Gloria Buckberg albuckberg@aol.com July 2012

WATER TREATMENT –

I would strongly recommend John Wolford, who can be reached at jhwolford@betterwatertreatments.com . John is extremely knowledgeable, very pleasant to deal with, and reasonable in his pricing. He very efficiently handles a large array of different water treatment gear in our residence, and I never have had the occasion to complain. You may call me for more information, if you wish. Ed Kane 237-5594. ermk@aol.com April 2010

WET BASEMENTS –

On Saturday, 3/19/11, I had an appointment with Mr. William Patton who owns Turf Center Lawns in Maryland (301 384.9300). I found the company on the "Communit-E List of Service Providers" submitted by Kathy Smith under the category Wet Basements. The owner I was trying to help had exterior water issues; nothing inside. Mr. Patton was prompt even after two earlier appointments and on his way to a birthday party for his mother-in law. He quickly became engrossed in the problem at hand. When I later talked to one of our community landscapers, who had agreed to also take a look at the problem, she told me that he clearly had a passion for his work. He came up with one possible solution after another and in the end, dismissed all but the one which was the least expensive. If you have had water issues around your house or water penetrating your basement and want an honest, efficient, very talented master water-problem-solver, please give Mr. Patton, or his thoroughly trained assistant, Mary Ellen (I believe), a call. As an aside he has been in business for a very long

time and he is often asked to provide expert testimony in court. Linda Hughes lindahughes3@verizon.net
March 2011

Mr. Patton from Turf Center Lawns came out today. We had already gotten an estimate of \$4000 to do all kinds of work. Mr. Patton told us that we didn't need to do anything. Considering he could have told us anything and we probably would have listened, it's nice to know that there are still some honest people out there. His phone is 301-384-9300. Phyllis Papkin Phyllis@papkin.com November 2011

WINDOW REPAIR & REPLACEMENT -

My handyman, Dean Hauer, can install/fix just about anything. His landline is (202) 338-3104 (don't mind the cranky voice mail message) and his cell is (202) 297-3723. Margot Anderson pelion4804@yahoo.com
February 2013

Dusan Home Improvements. 301 933-0203. Dusan does small jobs very skillfully, with care.
squasher@starpower.net February 2013

We have just had quite a bit of work done on our house, including replacing most of the windows. We used Sayburr Construction. Call Fill Burriss, 301-343-6303. This company also did carpentry repairs and painting. We found them friendly, helpful, very ready to correct anything we didn't like, and able to repair just about anything. Whenever they said they were coming, they came. When the job was finished we genuinely were sorry to see them go. You can mention that we endorsed them. Henry and Susan Beale lilybygate@gmail.com
February 2013

I had all my windows replaced by Anderson Renewal (5081 Nicholson Ln. R-ville 866-836-2764) several years ago and have been very happy with them. My neighbor liked the results and subsequently had all hers done too. Don dvater4527@aol.com February 2013

I can HIGHLY recommend All Four Seasons Company. They replaced all our ancient windows with new energy-efficient double-hung windows and they did a great job at a sensational price. The house is already warmer and quieter! The gentleman who handled our contract is Phil Zlotnick. His number is 301-580-9399. Please give him a call. You won't be disappointed. Bari Sedar biermail@gmail.com February 2013

I replaced all of my windows with Pella, from Bethesda. I was very impressed with the installation crew and the process that they used to install them. The windows appear to be good. The vinyl replacements ran about \$300 each, \$500 for the wooden ones, which is cheaper than Anderson. I never contacted Marvin nor Thompson Creek. John Kelly lasjkelly@gmail.com February 2013

WINDOW WELLS - I recommend Woodstone (Roberto Pacano). They completely redid our three window wells (re-grading, new brick work, etc.) at a fair price, and can obtain the new transparent well covers if you need them. (301) 252-3055 (cell). squasher@starpower.net June 2013

WINDOW WASHERS –

I've used Old Dominion for many years. They do an excellent job and they're punctual. 703-569-2000 Janet Bachman jbachman47@gmail.com June 2014

Windows Only is great. I don't have their number handy, but you can Goggle them. I believe they are in Silver Spring. Be forewarned: they are expensive, but they are meticulous and thorough, and very pleasant to deal with. Harriet hdwinnell@aol.com March 2011

My neighbor across Brandywine and I both used Windows Only on the same day. And we both agreed that they were the most thorough, tidy, and altogether satisfactory contractors we'd ever had. As someone else said, you can get a cheaper quote, but probably not better service. A careful cleaning of screens and a lot of attention to difficult hard water marks on my rear picture window impressed me. Jo Turner
jombturner@gmail.com March 2011

I'd like to recommend Window Washer's, Etc. (202-337-0351) The team consisted of three people who were quick, efficient, did a good job, and were reasonable. They will also clean gutters. This is the second time I've used them. They are also a local company -- on Edmonds Place, NW. Kathy Smith kathysindc@gmail.com
September 2013