

## **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.

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## ACCOUNTANTS –

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

## APPLIANCE REPAIRS –

Sewing Machines - I've had good luck with Brother Sew and Vac on Connecticut. [gtextra@earthlink.net](mailto:gtextra@earthlink.net) March 2013

Sewing Machines - I have always found Brothers in Cleveland Park very good. Ann Ingram [anningram@mac.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:rikernancy@yahoo.com) March 2013

## AUTO DEALERS –

If you are considering purchasing a Prius, I recommend Mr. Tony Carr (yes, his real name!) at Darcars Toyota, 12210 Cherry Hill Road in Silver Spring. Our friends bought 2 Prius from him and we purchased ours in July. He is a friendly and accommodating and there was no "additional dealer markup". They had several Prius on the lot (all with the most expensive features). He will order the car to your specifications if you do not want the extra bells & whistles. On our first tank of gas, we averaged 45 miles per gallon. That included driving around town and a trip to Richmond. The car is amazingly roomy and very easy to drive. Kathryn Ray & Dennis Beaufort [kcrdlb@verizon.net](mailto:kcrdlb@verizon.net) August 2005

## 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](mailto: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 [hopedwellhenry@yahoo.com](mailto:hopedwellhenry@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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:kate.laguarda@gmail.com) January 2012

## **BABYSITTERS & NANNIES – (2013 only)**

Our fantastic nanny is available up to 4 days a week (except Tuesdays) to work until about 2:30pm. She has been with us for 5 years, is legal but doesn't drive. She is loving, energetic, hard-working, reliable and smart. Amazing with infants on up. Will do light housekeeping/laundry as well. Please call Carol at 202-498-1949 or email me at [smbennett2@aol.com](mailto:smbennett2@aol.com) if you'd like more info. Sharon Bennett February 2013

Marisol Sophia Cabana worked as a nanny caring for our son for over 2 ½ years (Oct. 2010 to present). Our son was 1 year old when Marisol started working for us. She has done an excellent job caring for our son and we highly recommend her as a nanny. She did a much better job than other nannies that had worked for us. From the very start we could see that Marisol's integrity, confidence and positive outlook on life was creating a good example for our son. She also did a great job of helping our son get over his eczema (skin condition). Our lives were made easier due to her punctuality and professionalism. We always felt comforted knowing someone we could trust was watching our son. While she was working for us she purchased a safe and reliable SUV vehicle, to make riding in a car safer for our son. Everyday she would do interesting and educational activities with our son to help him mature and develop, e.g. play date in the park, making crafts, painting, drawing and reading storybooks. She also, taught our son Spanish. As a result he speaks basic Spanish well. The reason Marisol is leaving her role as nanny to our son is starting (on June 24, 2013) summer camp and full-time pre-school, which includes after care. We will miss her greatly. Her strengths are:

- Time management. Is on time and available to work all the hours we needed.
- Models good values and behavior. Marisol is genuinely a kind person, corrects our child in a kind way, and always informs us/parents about our child.
- Savvy at keeping our child healthy. Did a good job of daily baths, skin treatment, giving lots of water to drink, and avoiding allergens in foods. When our son had colds, Marisol helped him recover quickly.
- Creative with learning and play activities. She knows dozens of interesting crafts, games and fun things to do for all ages.
- Independent. She is able to watch our son all day without any assistance. We did show her specific things the first time (heating food, bathing, where things go).
- Can drive. We take it for granted but Marisol is a good driver and has a safe car. We provided a child car seat for her to keep in her car.

She is available starting June 24, 2013. She is seeking a family to work for full time (5 days per week). Our sincere recommendation is below. To contact Marisol please call 301-503-9861 or email her at [marisolscabana@hotmail.com](mailto:marisolscabana@hotmail.com). If you would like additional information about our experience with Marisol and to ask any questions, please contact us via phone (202) 248-1225 or email Scot Holliday [sbholliday4@yahoo.com](mailto:sbholliday4@yahoo.com) Scot and Metri Holliday May 2013

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](mailto:alemonroy83@gmail.com), or at 202 492 8280. Dan and Paige [dan@froomkin.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:yannette24@yahoo.com) or (202) 503-7484; or contact me for a reference. Judy Bake [judybaker16@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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

## **CABINET MAKERS – (see also “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](mailto:Mikeryanww@verizon.net) or call him on (202) 316-3927. Let him know Les and JoEllen recommended. Les and JoEllen [rufushound@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:kathysindc@gmail.com) September 2012

## **CARPENTERS – (see also “cabinet makers”)**

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](tel:2023163927) or [mikeryanww@verizon.net](mailto:mikeryanww@verizon.net). He's done many things for us over the years. Les and JoEllen [rufushound@gmail.com](mailto:rufushound@gmail.com) August 2012

I have had a wonderful experience with Trent Brooks ([202-271-0355](tel:2022710355)), 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](mailto:heyscott@ymail.com) October 2012

## **CARPET/RUG CLEANERS & INSTALLERS –**

I recently used Manoukian Bros. for oriental carpet cleaning and repair and was very satisfied. 202-882-7847. Jane Houry [jfkhoury@mac.com](mailto:jfkhoury@mac.com) October 2010

I have used these folks recently and they were great! Friendly and lovely to deal with, the guy was on time and careful and thorough to the max, and they are quite reasonable. Sunshine 301-869-0756. Barbara Dinsmore [barbaradinsmore@msn.com](mailto:barbaradinsmore@msn.com) April 2011

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](mailto:bluedes47@yahoo.com). Charlotte Perry [charmperry@gmail.com](mailto:charmperry@gmail.com) June 2013

## **CATERERS –**

Rockland's BBQ in Glover Park/Georgetown. Charlotte Perry [charlotte@luxbnb.com](mailto: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](mailto:lasjkelly@gmail.com) June 2012

Two suggestions: Rockland's and FreshStart Catering, a branch of DC Central Kitchen. Kate McLynn [kdmclynn@starpower.net](mailto: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](mailto:dlacy@lacyltd.com) June 2012

Excellent barbecue and sides at Urban Bar-B-Que Company , 2007 Chapman Ave. in Rockville. See [www.iloveUBQ.com](http://www.iloveUBQ.com) or call 240-290-4827. Sally Kranz [sallygkranz@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:barbaradinsmore@msn.com) January 2009

I recommend Prof. Turker Ozdogan. Please call him at 703-289-2469. Pat Talmon [Patrick.talmon@verizon.net](mailto:Patrick.talmon@verizon.net) January 2009

## **CHILDBIRTH CLASSES –**

Karen van Loon's Birth Works class. She teaches here in Friendship Heights and can be reached at [KarenvanL@aol.com](mailto:KarenvanL@aol.com) or 686-6463. [Cellia412@aol.com](mailto:Cellia412@aol.com)

## **CHIMNEY CLEANING & REPAIR –**

I highly recommend Sugarloaf Chimney Restorers. The owner is Gerry Neil. Phone number: 1-301-972-8558. He is fast, clean and honest. Having been told twice by a local company that I needed between two and over four thousand dollars worth of work on my chimney (two totally different estimates from the same company over a period of a couple of years), I decided to try somewhere else. Mr. Neil told me that all I had to do was to have my chimney cleaned, that there was nothing wrong with it, and that was that. I was certainly satisfied with the service. (If you want to know the name of the local company, you can ask me personally by e-mail.) Aija C. Blitte [aijacebl@aol.com](mailto:aijacebl@aol.com) December 2009

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](mailto:rikernancy@yahoo.com) March 2013

## **COMPUTER REPAIRS & HELP –**

I have just had an excellent experience with Ivan Babinoto (dba Hot PC), a freelance computer support person in the Westmorland Circle area. My lap top got a bad virus infection, and he responded very quickly, cleaned it up overnight, and installed more robust security/anti-virus protection. He charges a very reasonable (much less than Geeks on Call and its clones) flat fee, and does not charge if he can't fix the problem. He's looking to build up his clientele after recently going out on his own. His e-mail is [babinoto@gmail.com](mailto:babinoto@gmail.com), and his phone is 202 657-5123. [Sunderwood4104@gmail.com](mailto:Sunderwood4104@gmail.com) January 2012

Ivan, my computer expert who does everything computer-wise for me, is leaving his employment and going out on his own. He is readily available at very reasonable rates. He has done work for me for a couple of years and I'm always satisfied. His email is: [babinoto@gmail.com](mailto:babinoto@gmail.com) Phone: 202-285-0887. [susanwashdc@comcast.net](mailto:susanwashdc@comcast.net) March 2012

We have used Ivan as well and were very pleased. Pat Mullan [mullandoty@aol.com](mailto:mullandoty@aol.com) March 2012

I know he's been mentioned on the Communit-E board, so I'll just add another positive note for Ivan -- [Babinoto@gmail.com](mailto:Babinoto@gmail.com) -- Telephone 202 657 5123. He's good at identifying and fixing your computer problems, hardware, software issues, connectivity, etc. Reasonably priced, and he has a policy of "no fix, no fee". Jay Silbermans [Silbermans@aol.com](mailto:Silbermans@aol.com) May 2012

I just wanted to share my experience on Mac. It was running very slowly and worst of all, won't let me log in. It logs me in, goes to my desktop and immediately logs right back out. After finding the phone number of Mr. Babinoto here I called him and in 1 hour he has arrived (I think he lives on Westmoreland circle). The next day he brought my Mac back running as new. Belinda Mathison [belindamathison@yahoo.com](mailto:belindamathison@yahoo.com) June 2012

Ivan 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. Susan Ellis [susanwashdc@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:jtechDC@gmail.com). Mary Dolan [dolanhogrefe@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:jesse.bickford@gmail.com), \$50 an hour--worth every cent. Sue Bell [suecharliebell@gmail.com](mailto:suecharliebell@gmail.com) June 2013

Apple Technician: Justin Polin, ([justin.polin@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:anningram@mac.com) November 2013

## **CONCIERGE SERVICES –**

Just had a very pleasant experience with a new woman-owned business in our area. In case you need an extra hand especially during this busy time of the year I highly recommend you contact them. Phone 202-390-6791 Website [www.youdesigntime.com](http://www.youdesigntime.com) RM Bozarth [rmbozarth@aol.com](mailto:rmbozarth@aol.com) November 2007

## **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](mailto:Michelle.Brotzman@verizon.net) September 2007

## **CONSTRUCTION –**

My husband and I recommend using A&H Masterbuilders. They did a few projects for us recently: a bathroom renovation, waterproofed our basement and rebuilt/fixd our damaged chimney and roof. They were professional, efficient, easy to work with, and their pricing was reasonable. We'd certainly use them again for any additional home improvement work we need. I found it easiest to contact them by email. Here is their information: Owner: Howard Cooper; Email: [Cooperhoward88@gmail.com](mailto:Cooperhoward88@gmail.com); Tel.: 410-645-0136. Cheers, Sandy Selnan [sandyselnan@yahoo.com](mailto:sandyselnan@yahoo.com) January 2012

We DO NOT recommend Jose Villalta of JV Construction. Some work was not completed or was performed improperly, he abandoned the project after receiving payment, and did not complete or correct work as he had agreed. Some of the fixes are major/costly. Laura & John [watsaint@gmail.com](mailto:watsaint@gmail.com) January 2012

And please don't confuse those guys with (JV Construction) JV Improvements owned by John Owens. They are working on a project for me now and are doing an amazing job. They are focused, on time, on budget, with high quality workmanship. John can be reached at [jvimprovements@verizon.net](mailto:jvimprovements@verizon.net). David Feinstein [daf@bevseay.com](mailto:daf@bevseay.com) February 2012

I just had a terrible experience with a contractor who has been doing work in the AU Park area. The company is JV Construction and the owner is Jose Villalta. In a nutshell, he walked away from my job with about \$30,000 worth of work left to do even though he had already been paid. I have had huge issues with the work he has done at my house including safety hazards. I know of several other families in AU Park who have used him and had to hire new contractors to come in and fix his mistakes. Please feel free to message me if you have any questions. Melinda Johnson [melindajohnson@msn.com](mailto:melindajohnson@msn.com) March 2012

I wanted to recommend a guy who does great remodeling work and other jobs around the house both big and small. His name is David Ochoa and he just finished installing all new light fixtures in our house. Earlier he redid both bathrooms and the basement in our house. He is fair, a good worker and he is funny. If you want to get your job on his schedule, his cell number is 202-409-6921. John Natali [john.natali@verizon.net](mailto:john.natali@verizon.net) April 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](mailto: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](mailto:jordan@jdshomeimprovement.com), Web <http://www.jdshomeimprovement.com>, Scott Holliday [sbholliday4@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 [jhippard@msn.com](mailto:jhippard@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 Ponnampuram [roshini2@msn.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Ponnampereuma [roshini2@msn.com](mailto: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](mailto:squasher@starpower.net) October 2010

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](mailto: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](mailto:benoit@atlantech.net) October 2013

PRIMARY CARE - Dr. Sima Nourani-Zenez at Johns Hopkins group at Sibley. [triosuite@starpower.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:mary.m.abate@usdoj.gov) February 2012

## **DOORS –**

We had a door custom made (because we didn't want to give up our moldings). We used Washington Home Improvement Inc., of Washington Energy Conservation Systems. Their phone number is 703-354-5700. Kelly Rubenstein [rubacats@yahoo.com](mailto:rubacats@yahoo.com) May 2004

To replace a storm door Wheaton Door worked for me. <http://www.wheatondoors.com/> Wheaton Door & Window. 11258 Georgia Ave., Wheaton, MD 20902; 301-949-8399 or 703-535-7940 Stephanie Faul [steph@faul.com](mailto:steph@faul.com) November 2006

## **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](mailto:AndrewsSachs@aol.com)

## **DRYCLEANERS –**

Polyclean on River Road will do bulk dry cleaning. Tory Ruttenberg [vrutten@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 [ljleavy@gmail.com](mailto:ljleavy@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](mailto:4dennis.shumaker@gmail.com) September 2013

## **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](http://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](mailto:cicada17@starpower.net) January 2009

## **ELECTRONICS' SERVICES –**

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

I use a company called cdBBQ, [www.cdbbq.com](http://www.cdbbq.com), to convert my LPs and audio cassettes to CDs. They do a great job. Bill Adler [billonline@adlerbooks.com](mailto:billonline@adlerbooks.com) October 2006

## **FENCES –**

We recently used Calco Fence to replace our falling-down fence. We are very pleased. Jane Khoury [khouryjane@yahoo.com](mailto:khouryjane@yahoo.com) October 2011

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](mailto: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](http://www.accokeekfence.com). Lois Schiffer [Loisschiffer@msn.com](mailto:Loisschiffer@msn.com) October 2012

## **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](http://www.Globalportfolios.net) and email: [www.russellwild.com](http://www.russellwild.com).  
[susanwashdc@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 [rjays@mfa.gwu.edu](mailto:rjays@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](mailto:fabullock@erols.com) December 2013

Try FiveStar Firewood ([www.fivestarfirwood.com](http://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](mailto:Sapru-kohis@rcn.com) December 2013

## **FLOOR INSTALLERS & REFINISHERS –**

We had laminate floors installed in our basement by Friends and Family flooring and were really happy: [www.friendsandfamilyflooring.com](http://www.friendsandfamilyflooring.com) Ross Filice [rwfilice@gmail.com](mailto:rwfilice@gmail.com) January 2012

My kitchen floor, which is vinyl with foam underneath, was installed by Classic Floors about 2 years ago. They did a fine job and I love the floor. The material happened to be very inexpensive yet it makes a terrific floor. Such easy maintenance too! Classic Floors is located on L Street near 22nd. Gloria Buckberg [albuckberg@aol.com](mailto:albuckberg@aol.com) February 2012

I have also used "Family Floor and Covering". Steve Rados was great in renovating our damaged wooden floor. He was detailed, quick and reasonable priced. I am very happy with the look of my floors, and I would definitely use Steve in the future! [zlatanajd@gmail.com](mailto:zlatanajd@gmail.com) February 2012

In January 2012 I had some of the floors on my first floor refinished and others replaced. The company used, Atlas Floors, removed the existing oak from my (side) hall, as well as the layers of vinyl and pine in the kitchen. They also patched two large dark spots in the middle of the living room and the dining room. I obtained three estimates. Atlas was the lowest priced but more importantly, they coordinated all of the work unlike the other two companies who told me I had to get a plumber to remove the dishwasher and stove. I rented a Pod, they moved my furniture into it. The four experts used came like clockwork. The first day the old floors were removed. The plumber was there to disconnect stove and dishwasher so that new flooring could be installed beneath them. The next day the sanders were there. By the end of the day the plumber was there to reinstall. Since the dark spots didn't come up, the third morning a man came who was incredibly skilled at removing the stained boards and installing new ones. He was a genius. The sanding and refinishing crew continued until the job was finished. They hauled my furniture back into place and put little pads under all the feet. The stairs to the second floor were done at the same time. None of the competing bids offered this complete service and Atlas acted as though this was how anyone would do the job. I highly recommend them. They do sub-contract to the best people for the job. Danny & Sons were used for the sanding and refinishing. I paid the plumber directly but he was very reasonable. There are two Atlas Floors. Call 301 948-9144 and ask for Mike. His cellular is 301 370-4480. The service and quality of their work is exactly what a person who is living in their house needs. Please feel free to tell them I recommended them. I'd like them to know how appreciative I am for their work. I made the arrangements for the Pod, which sat in the street in front of my house. If you need some guidance for the company, the permit, and the visit to the police station to obtain the permit, give me a call. Linda Hughes [lindahughes3@verizon.net](mailto:lindahughes3@verizon.net) June 2012

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:adesnik@gmail.com) December 2011

## **GARAGE DOOR REPAIR –**

I recommend Clozermatic at (301) 942-0096. Megan Wallace [meganwallacelaw@gmail.com](mailto:meganwallacelaw@gmail.com) August 2008

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:rwfilice@gmail.com) April 2012

We use Winston's & recommend. Ellen Swann [ellen.swann@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:mikehotka@gmail.com). Janet Bachman [jbachman47@gmail.com](mailto:jbachman47@gmail.com) 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:mikehotka@gmail.com). Leslie Deich [ldeich224@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:stancilva@gmail.com). Virginia Howard [Virginia.howard@ymail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:lisalindy@gmail.com) October 2013

## **HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING –**

Our old 1959 boiler died, and we used Howard Heating (301) 277-3818 to replace it. We found them about a year ago through their high ratings in Washington Checkbook, and we signed up with them for annual AC-heat maintenance. They've provided excellent service and have been just super to deal with. Replacing the boiler was a big job: they were very careful and professional, and thoroughly nice. At no added cost, they also did some extra work on the pipes that connect to our water heater, because they didn't like how they had been done. Definitely recommended. Steven Gross [gross.steven@gmail.com](mailto:gross.steven@gmail.com) January 2012

I'll echo the praise for Howard Heating. A friend recommended them after we had a spat with our previous heating and air conditioning contractor. Mr. Howard was on time, courteous, quick, friendly, and reasonably priced. Dealing with him, and with the phone receptionist, was a pleasure. Boris Weintraub [bweintra2000@yahoo.com](mailto:bweintra2000@yahoo.com) January 2012

I have had excellent experience with installation of my air conditioning system and superb, clean, quickly/appropriately responsive service on both my air conditioning and heating systems for years from the Howard Heating and Cooling Company, which is, listed top for quality in Checkbook. They are fine, trustworthy, professional. Phone number is: (301) 277-3818. Feel free to use my name. Elaine Greenstone [ehgreenstone@aol.com](mailto:ehgreenstone@aol.com) January 2012

We recently had work done on our HVAC systems to correct grossly improper work done by JV Construction. To correct their work, we used Tucker's Air Conditioning and Heating. Dan Boyd and his crew from Tucker's did a great job at a reasonable cost compared to other estimates we had. Dan explained all of the problems and helped us come up with the most economical solution. I highly recommend them. Here is the contact information for Tucker's: 301-670-0034, [www.TuckersAC.com](http://www.TuckersAC.com). Laura St. Martin [watsaint@gmail.com](mailto:watsaint@gmail.com) February 2012

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:kipgregory@gmail.com) October 2012

I second the suggestion of Ed Pennington, owner of Airways, Unlimited. Linda Hughes [hugs4linda@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:barbaradinsmore@msn.com) June 2013

We have a contract with Cropp-Metcalf; no problems yet. Sarah Horsey [sarahrhorsey@gmail.com](mailto: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. [lmarinaccio@yahoo.com](mailto:lmarinaccio@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](http://www.midatlanticinspections.com). [kjstanley@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:n_scogin@hotmail.com) November 2007

## **HOUSEKEEPERS/CLEANERS – (2013 only)**

I highly recommend my housecleaner Esperanza. She has been cleaning my house for about 6 years. She is completely dependable and does a great job. She speaks English and Spanish and has her own transportation. You can reach her by cell at: 301-213-0588. Bonnie [sunny333666@yahoo.com](mailto:sunny333666@yahoo.com) February 2013

I've recommended our terrific housekeeper, Ana Abrego, to others on this website. She's highly reliable, extremely pleasant, likes kids and pets and does a GREAT job. Please feel free to tell her I passed along her name. You can reach her at 703-946-6009 (cell). Bari Biern Sedar [biernmail@gmail.com](mailto:biernmail@gmail.com) February 2013

Our housekeeper, (cleaning, laundry etc.) for 10 years has some regular openings. She does a great job, and she is very reliable, honest and gets along great with kids. She is a pleasure to have around the house. Please feel free to contact me, or if you prefer to call her directly. Her name is Libia Pereira, 202.669.0949, [Libi500@yahoo.com](mailto:Libi500@yahoo.com) Will Bruno [wbb Bruno@yahoo.com](mailto:wbb Bruno@yahoo.com) April 2013

I have a wonderful, wonderful cleaning woman. She's expensive, \$150, but worth every penny. Email me at [barbameade53@gmail.com](mailto:barbameade53@gmail.com) . In many decades of cleaners, I have never had anyone who cleans like she does. Barbara Meade June 2013

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](mailto:fabienne922@gmail.com) August 2013

I most highly recommend Ligia Galvao. She's great. [Ligiagalvao@hotmail.com](mailto:Ligiagalvao@hotmail.com). Lisa O'Donoghue-Lindy [Lisalindy@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 [rk Springwater@starpower.net](mailto:rk Springwater@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](mailto: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](mailto:lyntaecker@starpower.net) April 2010

## **INTERIOR DESIGNERS & DECORATORS –**

Shari Daniels in Bethesda at 301-654-1654. Company name is Dzyn Studio, [syd4dzyn@aol.com](mailto:syd4dzyn@aol.com).. Lisa Berger [Lberger728@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://emmaville.com). Good luck. Kay Springwater [rspringwater@starpower.net](mailto: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 44<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 [rightholl@ymail.com](mailto:rightholl@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 [lhenson@aol.com](mailto:lhenson@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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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! [jenkind@mail.nih.gov](mailto:jenkind@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](mailto:jbachman47@gmail.com) October 2008

## **LAMP REPAIR –**

Gaylord's in Bethesda. Ellen Swann [ellen.swann@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:ehgreenstone@aol.com) January 2013

Artisans Lamp on Connecticut Avenue, across from the Uptown Theater.  
[lyndaCouvillion@yahoo.com](mailto:lyndaCouvillion@yahoo.com) January 2013

## **LAWN & YARD SERVICES –**

I can recommend Zaranis Lawns - we have used them and their family for over 37 years. The cell number of Anthony (President, Zaranis Lawns) is 240-418-0815. Roshini Ponnampereuma [roshini2@msn.com](mailto:roshini2@msn.com) March 2012

POND MAINTENANCE - We used Lily Pons. They're pricey, but VERY good. [www.lilypons.com](http://www.lilypons.com) or 1-800-999-5459. Ann Ingram [anningram@mac.com](mailto:anningram@mac.com) April 2012

I recommend: [www.KhalsaLandscaping.com](http://www.KhalsaLandscaping.com) , 202-441-0543, [bkhalsa@verizon.net](mailto:bkhalsa@verizon.net). "Mowing and Routine Maintenance. Leaf cleanups. Haul Debris. Overseed. Plant flowers and Bulbs. Flagstone steps and patios (dry). Timber walls and stairs. Gutter clearing. Plant trees & shrubs....keeping beds and bushes weeded & pruned. Mulching, feeding, even vacation-time watering"; "taking care of lawns (and gardens) for 35 years....My 2-man mowing crew does about 60 lawns a week in NW DC and lower Montgomery county" 4/23/08. They use natural, environmentally friendly products. Affordable. Leonard Rosenbaum [leonardleonard1@earthlink.net](mailto:leonardleonard1@earthlink.net) August 2012

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](mailto:laura.garces@verizon.net) April 2013

Gardner: Please contact Frank Diaz of Josephine's Garden at [Josephinesgarden@yahoo.com](mailto:Josephinesgarden@yahoo.com) or by phone at 202/468-9422. Samantha Nolan [nolantutor@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:joannelevine202@gmail.com) August 2013

## **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 [ljlleavy@gmail.com](mailto:ljlleavy@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](mailto: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](mailto:jbachman47@gmail.com) November 2012

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:leonardleonard1@earthlink.net) January 2013

Our recent experience with Tivoli was also an excellent one. Ron Springwater [rspringwater@starpower.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:jpotter@jglandscape.com), [www.jglandscape.com](http://www.jglandscape.com). John Kelly [lasjkelly@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:rkspringwater@starpower.net) September 2013

## **MESSAGE THERAPISTS –**

I can wholeheartedly recommend Patricia Huggins: 202-460-8713, [phugg05@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:ljleavy@gmail.com) May 2012

## **MOVERS/HAULERS & DELIVERY SERVICES –**

I have a wonderful delivery service which I have been using for years. They will do anything you need. I've used them to take my mom to doctors' appointments in the snow, deliver my pet to the vet, make copies of keys and deliver them. Really, whatever you need. Transtime Express, 301-652-6662. Marjorie Dick Stuart [mdickstuart@hagner.com](mailto:mdickstuart@hagner.com) April 2011

I recently used Bookstore Movers for a smallish move and they were terrific. Great back story, too. A bunch of guys working to make enough money to buy the Capitol Hill Bookstore. <http://www.bookstoremovers.com/> City Paper gave them the "Best Movers in DC" award. Email [cs@bookstoremovers.com](mailto:cs@bookstoremovers.com) or call (202) 570-4697 if you have any questions or would like a quote. [Sjones4420@aol.com](mailto:Sjones4420@aol.com) April 2011

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](mailto:mail@getupandgomovers.com) . Rochelle Rubin [rubinre@gmail.com](mailto:rubinre@gmail.com) October 2012

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:bgmojohands@yahoo.com). [jfkhoury@erols.com](mailto:jfkhoury@erols.com) April 2010

## **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](http://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](mailto:c_rhind@yahoo.com) June 2013

## **PAINTERS –**

Tenleytown Painters painted the exterior of my house almost four years ago, in the spring of 2004. I feel they did a good job. There is no sign of any deterioration thus far. Harriet [hdwinell@aol.com](mailto:hdwinell@aol.com) January 2012

Try Jeanie Broderick. [jeanie.broderick@gmail.com](mailto:jeanie.broderick@gmail.com). She does great work. Has done inside & out for me. Is not the cheapest, but definitely the best. Her crews have been trustworthy & detailed. She was recommended to me by someone on this list serv. Ellen Swann [ellen.swann@yahoo.com](mailto:ellen.swann@yahoo.com) April 2012

We use Andy Phillips. He's a professional painter, not just doing it on the side. Very nice and very reasonable prices. (240) 832-8465. [beccaboneyeatsmacaroni@hotmail.com](mailto:beccaboneyeatsmacaroni@hotmail.com) April 2012

We have used David Diaz for more than 25 years. 301-252-4773. Edward Cowan [edcowan1114@yahoo.com](mailto:edcowan1114@yahoo.com) April 2012

David Diaz has done many painting jobs for us over the years. His work is excellent and his prices are reasonable. He is licensed, bonded and insured. Telephone: 301-260-0063. E mail: [davidiaz24@gmail.com](mailto:davidiaz24@gmail.com). Kay Springwater [rkspringwater@starpower.net](mailto:rkspringwater@starpower.net) April 2012

I can highly recommend Carlos Ruiz of Olympia Painting. (301) 728-4174. I have know him for years and he has painted four out of the five houses on my street, including mine, of course -- 49th between Alton Place and Albemarle. He does excellent work and is a pleasure to work with. I have recommended him to many of my friends and they have not been disappointed. While he may cost just a bit more, he is worth every penny. Please let me know if you have any questions. Jules Gardener [juliemack1@verizon.net](mailto:juliemack1@verizon.net) April 2012

COMMUNIT-E and Washington Consumer Checkbook led me to a long time Tenleytown resident and house painter, MIGUEL GUTIERREZ, who lives on Wisconsin Avenue next door to the Friendship Post Office. And I want to let everyone know that he is marvelous. He is responsive and carefully listens to what you want. And then follows through to the letter. I have an historic frame Victorian house and given that 11 years had passed since it was last painted, intensive and thorough preparation work was required. Miguel and his crew were



meticulous. The prep work was outstanding. Then they applied a coat of primer and two finish coats. An interior wall was also painted as was the front porch and the garden shed. The results were beyond my expectations. Given constant rain days the project took much longer than expected, through no fault of the painters. But they stuck with it faithfully. I selected 4 contractors all of whom made proposals. I checked references, drove past houses they painted and spoke to homeowners. Miguel was BY FAR the most reasonable in price. Like Miguel, his crew is pleasant and accommodating. Altogether it was the best experience I have had with a major project. Drive by my house on Grant Road to see for yourselves (4561 Grant Road NW) and call me if you wish (202-244-6021). I would be happy to answer any questions you might have. MIGUEL GUTIERREZ, 4105 Wisconsin Avenue NW, 201-316-4770, [\\_mgutierrezwdc@yahoo.com\\_](mailto:mgutierrezwdc@yahoo.com) (mailto:[mgutierrezwdc@yahoo.com](mailto:mgutierrezwdc@yahoo.com)) . Frank Haendler [fjhdcm@aol.com](mailto:fjhdcm@aol.com) June 2012

A crew from W.E. Painting Services is wrapping up a couple of weeks of exterior and interior painting today at our house on the 4300 block of Verplanck Place. Their exterior prep work has been incredibly meticulous and Mr. Espinoza, the owner, is hands-on and a pleasure to work with. We used this company for our previous exterior paint job and it lasted nine years (although I understand that for environmental reasons reformulated paints are no longer expected to stand up for that long). The price was quite reasonable for a high-quality job. Incidentally, we always use the highest rated paints (and, this time, zero VOC for the interior); the cost of the paint is a relatively small part of the job. Wilfredo Espinoza's number is [240-271-9944](tel:240-271-9944). Lawrence Miller [Lawrence.miller@starpower.net](mailto:Lawrence.miller@starpower.net) June 2012

Jean Broderick is a FANTASTIC, talented, fairly priced & reliable painter. She can be reached at [301-580-5381](tel:301-580-5381). Ellen Jackson Swann [ellen.swann@yahoo.com](mailto:ellen.swann@yahoo.com) June 2012

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](mailto:dllacera@aol.com). Sincerely, Deena [dekot70@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 [ljlavy@gmail.com](mailto:ljlavy@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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:carolynparr@hotmail.com) December 2013

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:_cgichner@aol.com). Elaine Greenstone [ehgreenstone@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:avis.sanders@gmail.com) October 2012

## **PEST CONTROL SERVICES -**

Try Rick Shultz at A&R Pest Control 202.207.8052 - They are a 'green' company. Randy Hill [cicada17@starpower.net](mailto:cicada17@starpower.net) September 2010

Moths: I can recommend MR Bugs. We had silverfish so it's not always moths doing the damage. Mike R from MR Bugs can help you know what it is. He also gave us all the options. Phone is 301-229-7200. Connie Rhind Robey [c\\_rhind@yahoo.com](mailto:c_rhind@yahoo.com) December 2011

## **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**. 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](mailto: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](mailto:Juliemack1@verizon.net) March 2012

DOG WALKER - Chris Aden is excellent. His telephone number is 1-402-960-8381; email is [topherj@yahoo.com](mailto:topherj@yahoo.com) Ann Ingram [anningram@mac.com](mailto: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. It's 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](http://www.doggiewasherette.com) and support a new small business. [Sunderwood4104@gmail.com](mailto:Sunderwood4104@gmail.com) May 2012

SITTER - We are fans of Tails of the City. [www.tailsofthecitydc.com](http://www.tailsofthecitydc.com). Or email [tailsofthecitydc@aol.com](mailto:tailsofthecitydc@aol.com). They are dependable, reasonable, and neat. Andrew [squasher@starpower.net](mailto:squasher@starpower.net) May 2012

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

SITTER - Chris Aden, 1-402-960-8381 or [christopheraden070@gmail.com](mailto:christopheraden070@gmail.com). Superb! Daisy adores him. Ann Ingram [anningram@mac.com](mailto: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](mailto:info@pranapets.com). Elizabeth Vaden [vadenfamily@verizon.net](mailto: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](mailto:drmarohn@gmail.com), 301-332-8563, and [www.athomeanimalcare.com](http://www.athomeanimalcare.com). Ross Filice [rwfilice@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:jemammen@bellatlantic.net) June 2013

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:barbaradinsmore@msn.com) January 2008

## **PLUMBERS –**

Based on this listserv's glowing reports about John Taylor, we called him on Tuesday to see if he could come round and fix our dishwasher that had stopped draining the water away. We settled for 2pm the next day. He called before 2pm to say he was running late. We settled on the following day (Thursday) and he showed up promptly at 2pm. Polite, friendly, on time, responsive, he diagnosed the problem, then worked hard to get the machine working again, including going out and getting a new hose to replace the old patched-up one. He

stayed extra time to make sure the dishwasher was draining properly at the end of a wash cycle! Ie, then caulked the top of the machine to make sure it wouldn't tip up on opening, as it had not been attached to the counter when installed. An incredible find. Everyone should use John for their plumbing needs! He's everything that people have already said below (reliable, friendly, knowledgeable, competent, affordable, a good and gentle soul), and then some. Please make sure you put his number in your address book: 240-472-2121! Please tell him Karen and Walter on Military Road recommended him. Karen Handford & Walter Schimmerling [sterling229@comcast.net](mailto:sterling229@comcast.net) January 2012

Our experience was not so great with Michael & Sons. We needed them for urgent repair of bathroom faucet gushing hot water, and it took them 8 hours to get to us! They came to just look at it, charge us for visit without repairing the problem (even though they have promised over the phone that they will exclude charges for emergency visit since it took them 8 hours to come). We do not have agreement with them, and they might be offering better service if you hired them under the contract. After this experience, We have found great plumber (Payless Plumbing: <http://www.yelp.com/biz/payless-plumbing-and-heating-silver-spring-3>) and HVAC company (PCK HVAC: <http://www.pckhvac.com/>) with amazing service and great prices. Zaza [zlatanajd@gmail.com](mailto:zlatanajd@gmail.com) February 2012

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](mailto: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 [michaelcervino@gmail.com](mailto:michaelcervino@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](mailto: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](mailto:watsaint@gmail.com) October 2013

## **POWER-WASHING & DECK CLEANING –**

Rony Sanchez 202-669-7046 and his family did excellent work painting the interior of my home, power washing the exterior, painting the trim to my home, and staining/sealing my deck. His bid price was significantly lower than the next lowest bidder. His crew only works nights and weekends, which is convenient for those who work during the day. If you have questions, e-mail me [vze2ww92@verizon.net](mailto:vze2ww92@verizon.net). December 2004

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](mailto:nolantutor@yahoo.com) August 2010

## **REFERRAL SERVICES –**

I've seen many requests for contractor referrals that may or may not have been addressed. With that in mind, I thought the community might appreciate knowing that there is a local company, called Urban Referrals, LLC, that exists to match homeowners and home improvement professionals. There is no cost for the referral, which is what caught my eye. I have used Urban Referrals for my roof repair/replacement, and it made the world of difference to have screened contractors recommended by a professional service. In case anyone is interested, here's the official description and contact information: "Urban Referrals is an organized network of highly skilled, pre-screened home repair and improvement specialists. They will connect you to a multitude of professionals who can assist you with any large, small or unique home projects such as home additions &

renovations, painting, interior design, landscaping, chimney repair/cleaning, home computer systems and more! Best of all, there is no cost to the homeowner for using Urban Referrals' service. Urban Referrals is constantly updating their network of service providers and welcomes contractor recommendations. Please contact Marla Selko at 202.332.0848 with any questions, job requests or contractor recommendations, or visit Urban Referrals on the web at [www.urbanreferrals.com](http://www.urbanreferrals.com)." Email - [marla@urbanreferrals.com](mailto:marla@urbanreferrals.com) Susan Baer [baer@aclcinc.com](mailto:baer@aclcinc.com) .

Tenleytown Ace Hardware outsources its referral requests to a local company called Urban Referrals ([www.urbanreferrals.com](http://www.urbanreferrals.com)). UrbanReferrals does an extensive background check on all of the contractors and service providers it refers. It's been a great source for us and our customers when we're not sure who to turn to and when we want multiple quotes for jobs. [gina@loganhardware.com](mailto:gina@loganhardware.com) February 2008

## **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](mailto:jbachman47@gmail.com) May 2012.

Back in October 2010, I found a roofer on the Community E list who received very good reviews. I tried him out and received very bad services. The roofer is George Ugaz whose business goes under the name of Superior Home Improvements. He lists the company's MHIC # as 69735 which does not exist. Anyway, my experience was the following. In October 2010, George repaired some shingles on my roof which was leaking. He advised that I needed new skylights as they were leaking also (in fact, they are not leaking, nevertheless..). Per our contract/agreement, I paid him \$850 on November 1, 2010 to purchase three skylights that he would install. Following numerous follow-up calls on my part over the past 7 months (he never contacted me afterwards) as well as numerous appointments made to deliver and install the skylights which he never kept, in May I requested a refund. To date, and after several deadlines and promises, I still have not received the refund for the goods never delivered. Although George is a pleasant young man, my experience suggests that he is neither reliable nor trustworthy. Now, I have to go through the Better Business Bureau, etc. to file a complaint and try to get my money back. Rosemary Bellew June 2012 [rbellew@gmail.com](mailto:rbellew@gmail.com)

For decades I have found Jack's Roofing to be the one I trust and use. Elaine Greenstone [ehgreenstone@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:meb0506@yahoo.com). Lisa Newman [lisa4news@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 [rksgivingwater@starpower.net](mailto:rksgivingwater@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](mailto:meb0506@yahoo.com) [salem27104@rcn.com](mailto: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](mailto:morsekathan@gmail.com) November 2013

## **SECURITY SERVICES –**

Take a look at FrontPoint, a wireless system you can install yourself. Monthly fees are much less than the others, too. We recently had competitive bids from 3 vendors for our new school building, and FrontPoint came out ahead in many ways. We chose them. <http://www.frontpointsecurity.com/> Philip Bogdonoff [pbogdonoff@igc.org](mailto:pbogdonoff@igc.org) November 2008

Always two sides. We have had ADT for over 20 years and have had excellent service from them. Phyllis K. [pkokus@aol.com](mailto:pkokus@aol.com) November 2008

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](mailto:hdcwinn@verizon.net) October 2010

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 estimates 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:ksmith1804@starpower.net) December 2008



## **TAX PREPARERS –**

I highly recommend Bradley Ralph. He's excellent! You can reach him at 301/980-2852. Bari Biern Sedar [biernmail@aol.com](mailto:biernmail@aol.com) February 2009

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](mailto:Paul-cpa@erols.com) or 301-340-3340. Ross [rwfilice@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:luis@bathandkitchenllc.com) and his phone is (301)674-5680. [PresJMS@aol.com](mailto:PresJMS@aol.com) July 2010

## **TRAVEL AGENTS –**

We used Lindblad about 5 years ago. The response, arrangements, travel, sights, guides, ship, and fellow guests were outstanding. We also took the extension to Manchu Picchu which was equally great. Jack and Sylvia Benoit [benoit@atlantech.net](mailto:benoit@atlantech.net) March 2008

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:ohrice77@yahoo.com) October 2013

## **TUTORS –**

If anyone in the community is in need of a terrific tutor for their child, I would highly recommend Krayna Feinberg. She is an accomplished special-ed teacher who is available for tutoring sessions with kids in K-3 who are having difficulty keeping up in the classroom or who need a little more guidance outside the classroom. She has a Master's degree in special education, and has used a variety of reading programs, including Phono-Graphix and Orton-Gillingham. She will tailor reading and math programs to the individual needs of the child and can work with your child's teacher/school to address specific issues. Krayna sees students during the school year and can do intensive summer work as well. Her contact info is [kraynaf@gmail.com](mailto:kraynaf@gmail.com). Carol Lynn Calomiris [ccalomiris@calomirislaw.com](mailto:ccalomiris@calomirislaw.com) May 2008

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](mailto:Mickclns@mac.com). Alec McRae [admcrac@rcn.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:albuckberg@aol.com) July 2012

## **WATER TREATMENT –**

I would strongly recommend John Wolford, who can be reached at [jhwolford@betterwatertreatments.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Phyllis@papkin.com) November 2011

## **WINDOW REPAIR & REPLACEMENT -**

I would just like to add a recommendation for Chevy Chase Window Repair (Fathi Amari) - 301-951-6138 or 240-413-4207 (cell). He fixed two window sashes for us about a year ago (May, 2011) and just repaired a window pane for us today (March, 2012). He is courteous, professional, skilled, and very reasonably priced. He responds to phone calls, even on the weekends, very promptly and will do weekend work - we got our window pane replaced less than 24 hours after it was broken on Friday night. His work is also great - very highly recommended. Ross Filice [rwfilice@gmail.com](mailto:rwfilice@gmail.com) March 2012

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](mailto:biermail@gmail.com) April 2012

I wanted to recommend Mike Rogers of American Windows and Siding. 703-283-0350 – Cell; 301-962-4150 - Office. Mike replaced the windows on our house. He also replaced windows at a building my husband owns, his previous house, his brother's house and other friends. He just replaced our garage door and we're awaiting the new shutters we've ordered through him. So we've used him many times over the year and he's always been responsive and the products are terrific. He neither up-sells nor down-sells. Just completely straight and happy to work with you on your needs. Connie Rhind Robey [c\\_rhind@yahoo.com](mailto:c_rhind@yahoo.com) April 2012

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](mailto:pelion4804@yahoo.com)  
February 2013

Dusan Home Improvements. 301 933-0203. Dusan does small jobs very skillfully, with care.  
[squasher@starpower.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:jbachman47@gmail.com) March 2012

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:kathysindc@gmail.com) September 2013