

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 September 2007

ACUPUNCTURISTS –

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

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

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

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

APPLIANCE REPAIRS –

In the past we've had our Bosch dishwasher repaired by Bagi of American Appliances . 571-502-8888 or 202-276-5782. Have been quite satisfied with his work. Ron Springwater rkspringwater@starpower.net July 2015

I've had excellent response from Appliance Builders Wholesale in Silver Spring - (301)589-1445 - they've serviced my Bosch dishwasher more than I care to say. Danielle Cook dcnavidi@mac.com July 2015

My go-to guys for appliance repairs are Alco Appliances (301) 937-6996 and A. Weinstein (301) 421-1942. Some people find Weinstein's direct manner off putting, but he is an excellent diagnostician and very experienced repair man, who has saved me money on more than one occasion by diagnosing my problem over the phone so that I could fix it myself. He will also freely tell you if it's not worth repairing. Alice Thurston aliallbus@yahoo.com March 2016

Try Alco at 301-937-6996. We've had good luck with them. Frederic Siegel frfmsiegel@msn.com March 2016

Alco . I agree. He solves the issue whatever it is. Sarah Horsey sarahrhorsey@gmail.com March 2016

Dryer Vent Cleaning - We had a good experience three years ago with Quality Air Solutions of Silver Spring, (301) 388-3919, www.qualityairsolutionsmd.com. We chose them based on good reviews in Checklist and Angie's List, plus they were quite reasonable. Lorie Leavy lileavy@gmail.com May 2016

Dryer Vent Cleaning - I REALLY liked the guy from Wooten Appliance, Arlington, VA. Very tidy, thorough, and creative in addressing the vent exhaust issues in my home. squasher@starpower.net May 2016

AUTO BODY REPAIR –

Thank you so much for whoever wrote about Bethesda Collision Repair on River Road. I opened the file and found a recommendation for car repairs. I took my truck to them and they are honest and fair and did a great job! This is a great idea to get the recommendations that are posted on this board. Thanks! Marcello mmuzzatti@aol.com December 2014

For bodywork, I'd strongly recommend Modern Body Shop also in Kensington. We've been there three times and no one puts anything over the owners. 3844 Dupont Ave Kensington, MD (301) 946-8026. I know getting

to Kensington is a pain but we've found it worthwhile. John Kelly lasjkelly@gmail.com April 2015

Auto Glass - We recently had our cracked car windshield replaced by Professional Auto Glass ([240-696-7951](tel:240-696-7951)). They came to the house, on time, were very polite on the telephone, and did an excellent job. The work is guaranteed for life. They charged half as much as the quote I got from Safelite (only \$167.50 compared to \$322.00 from Safelite). Because someone recently posted on this listserv ISO an auto glass repair/replacement place, I wanted to pass this recommendation along. Deborah Raviv draviv363@gmail.com June 2015

AUTO MECHANICS –

We use Wheaton Service Center for our VW Passat maintenance. They performed extensive work and charged several hundred dollars less than the estimate we received from the local dealer. 301 949-3144. Kathryn Ray and Dennis Beaufort KCRDLB@gmail.com March 2015

I've used Ernie's Automotive Service for my 2000 Passat for the past few years with good results. As best I can tell, they are knowledgeable, the work is well done, they don't push you to agree to non-essential repairs, and the prices are reasonable (they certainly are in comparison with what used to be Martens). It's not fancy (no waiting room, TV, shuttle to Metro), but they get the job done. Ernie's is located off the west side of River Road, just after Little Falls Parkway and Butler Road. Turn left immediately after the pedestrian overpass just before McDonald's, follow the signs for Volvo servicing, and keep going. Address is 5200 River Road, tel. is 301-656-1246. Michael Calingaert mcalingaert@brookings.edu March 2015

I recommend Murray's Auto Clinic. I take my RAV 4 there for routine maintenance and repair work. They do good work and are honest. I go to the Silver Spring location. If you have to leave your car there, they give a ride to the metro and pick you up from the metro. Murray's Auto Clinic, [999 Philadelphia Ave Silver Spring, MD 20910](http://999.Philadelphia.Ave.Silver.Spring.MD.20910), (301) 585-7557, murraysautoclinics.com. I've been using them for about 5 years and have been very satisfied. Debra Graham DCDebra@speakeasy.net April 2015

Yes! The guys on River Road right by the CCT, [Bethesda Collision Repair Center Bethesda md auto repair body shop foreign domestic car Truck SUV Montgomery County Md](http://Bethesda.Collision.Repair.Center.Bethesda.md.auto.repair.body.shop.foreign.domestic.car.Truck.SUV.Montgomery.County.Md) they worked on my truck and did a great job. Got the recommendation from the list serve. Mmuzzatti@aol.com April 2015

Bobby at "Takoma Old Town Auto Service" -- long name for a small place in Silver Spring. This guy does real quality work. I buy parts from a shop on Georgia Ave and the guy there recommended Bobby. I've had about five different jobs done by him, and I can attest to his excellence. His number and address follow. You can say Lori Annaheim recommended you. (I have to see him soon myself.) He's kinda far from a metro, if you have to leave your car, so maybe have someone follow you. If you can wait, there are lots of used record stores and other interesting shops nearby; good Ethiopian restaurants. Bobby is Thai, BTW. Phone Number 301-562-9626 and Address 915 Thayer Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Lori Annaheim lannaheim@mindspring.com April 2015

We've had nothing but good service by Carlos in Kensington. They're always rated in CheckBook. 3960 Howard Ave, Kensington, MD 20895 (301) 897-0880. John Kelly lasjkelly@gmail.com April 2015

I can't say enough about Bethesda Collision for auto repair work. I think that I'm a pretty good mechanic and can work on my own cars but when it comes to the big stuff I have had them do the work and they are good and the price is reasonable. They are located on River Road behind the McDonalds. Marcello Mmuzzatti@aol.com June 2015

I've had good results with the single tire repair problem at the gas station on Wisconsin and Ellicott. Ron Springwater rspringwater@starpower.net July 2015

A few years ago I had a slow tire leak. I took my car to the Exxon station in Spring Valley (Mass Ave.) and they diagnosed it as coming from where the tire touches the rim. They removed the tire from the rim, cleaned things and put them back together. Said probably caused by road salt. Don't remember the cost, but I considered it to be reasonable, unlike the price of gas at that station.

John Wheeler johnwheeler.dc@gmail.com July 2015

Ernie's off River Road. Have been using them for years and multiple cars. Aijacelb1@aol.com April 2016

BABYSITTERS & NANNIES –

I highly recommend Sonia Alvarez as a nanny and housekeeper. We have known Sonia for some 17 years now, she worked with us for 8 years until we moved overseas, and we have kept in close touch. She has since worked with families we know well, and now their kids are older too. She is wonderful loving caring and a no-screen time type of baby-sitter who gets kids out and into playgrounds, and kept our house in immaculate shape. She really enjoys working in the AU Park neighborhood so am posting this on her behalf. Please contact her directly on 240-432-3238. Mohini Malhotra mohinimalhotra1@gmail.com July 2015

Our fabulous babysitter, Carol, is now available 4 or 5 days a week and is flexible. Carol has been with us for over 8 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 smart, honest, reliable, fun-loving and very hard-working. She is legal, 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, or U Street area). Carol is fabulous with babies and small children. She also does light housekeeping and very proactive with things around the house. Her number is 202-498-1949. SMBennett2@aol.com December 2015

Carly is a 23-year-old experienced nanny looking for a live-in au pair position for the coming school year. Carly is from Cincinnati, Ohio, and will be entering a graduate program in International Service at American University. She can provide a resume and references upon request. If you would like to contact her, please let me know at lisabwackler@gmail.com, and I will get you connected!
Lisa Wackler April 2016

I am posting because our wonderful nanny, Jane, is available for a new job beginning in early September. Jane has been watching our son and another little girl (both 2.5) in a nanny share for more than two years, but they both will be starting full-time preschool in the fall. Jane has been everything that we could have hoped for in a caregiver and nanny. She is extraordinarily conscientious with the kids, always careful, and extremely devoted/loving. Jane takes the kids to story time at the library, the zoo, to the playground, and generally looks for opportunities to get them out and about. Jane is also reliable to a fault - she is always on time and on the very occasional sick day she has taken over the last two years, she has been very communicative. In addition to watching and playing with the kids, Jane is careful to leave the house as it was in the morning (sweeping up after meals, cleaning the plates they eat off of, picking up toys, etc.). Our son is, in large part because of Jane, much more likely to help us clean up on the weekends after we are done playing. Jane is a U.S. citizen. Please feel free to contact me at this email address or call me at [314-249-8342](tel:314-249-8342). Jane can be reached on her cell at [301-254-4954](tel:301-254-4954). Rob and Jessica Greffenius rgreffenius@gmail.com June 2016

BICYCLE REPAIR –

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

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

CARPENTERS -

Dusan Bucany of Dusan Home Improvements. He does excellent carpentry work but also plumbing, tile and electrical as well. 301 933-0203. squasher@starpower.net July 2015

Jim Parrish has done work for us. He is honest and very reliable. 301.587.0009 Jo Bradley jo.m.bradley@gmail.com July 2015

I recommend Fill Burriss, and/or his brother Tom Burriss, 301-343-6303. They have done carpentry, painting, and various repairs, large and small, around our house. We turn to them first, before anybody else. Susan Beale lllbygate@gmail.com July 2015

Architectural Woodworking: Mr. Brian Neville is an experienced (43 years) woodworking professional who has done several jobs (small and large) for me in Tenleytown. He works alone and is seeking to develop a "word of mouth" base of projects in DC. He has worked for various large construction companies in DC over the years and even done work for the recently completed German Embassy expansion. He has a portfolio of tasks which include staircases and built-in bookshelves and even custom repairs of time damaged exterior wooden trim pieces. He can be contacted via phone at [\(619\) 665-1317](tel:6196651317) and has references available upon request. Rich Huang November 2015

Nick at Nick's Custom Cabinets in College Park, Maryland does excellent work. Google his site for contact information. Judy Clear j.clear@starpower.net February 2016

Robert Raab in Rockville has done outstanding work for me over the years. He did over my kitchen and did a built in bookcase in my den. Excellent results both times. His son is now in business with him. The number is: 301-340-7659. Marion Connell mfconnell@gmail.com February 2016

CARPET/RUG CLEANERS & INSTALLERS –

I want to recommend a great carpet shampooing service right here in the Palisades neighborhood. Des Pettis has both a house cleaning and carpet shampooing business. She will bring her equipment and supplies to you or use any special supplies that you prefer to provide her with. Her rates are lower than any commercial competition because she doesn't have the overhead. She is very conscientious and detail-oriented, and her work is superior to any service I have used in the past. Des is, as you would expect, a native English speaker and tech savvy so communication is never an issue. Contact her directly at: Des Pettis, 202-486-2307 cell/text, bluedes47@yahoo.com. Charlotte Perry charmperry@gmail.com June 2013

CATERERS –

We had a very good experience with Susan Gage two weeks ago. Feel free to call Ann Ashley there at 301-839-6900 and use my name. Jonathan Davidson davidsonj3@comcast.net May 2016

I used Mindy's Catering on MacArthur Blvd and liked them. Very professional and easy to work with. Jean Bolan bolanjc@yahoo.com May 2016

Barb Duvall at Bowl of Cherries is lovely, her food delicious and beautifully presented. We used her for a rehearsal dinner. Her prices were less than some of the DC caterers as she is based in Annapolis. She is happy to come to DC. You may mention my name when you contact her. Barb Duvall, Proprietor, bjduvall@verizon.net, 443.336.6526. Anne Vinson anne.vinson@flash.net May 2016

CERAMICS REPAIR –

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

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

CHIMNEY CLEANING & REPAIR –

We used My Chimney Sweep Services the last couple years. James is wonderful! <http://www.mychimneysweepservice.com/> Nicole Fisher nikkirfisher@gmail.com September 2015

I used Winston's in Bethesda some time ago and they were really good. I was going to use them again this year. Sebsow@hotmail.com November 2015

My roofer said that chimneysweepers also do chimney repair. If you think about it, that makes sense. He recommended Winston's and I used them and was satisfied with their repair of our chimney. John Wheeler johnwheeler.dc@gmail.com December 2015

COMPUTER REPAIRS & HELP –

Try Nathan Acuesta (240) 281-7169; e-mail nacuesta@gmail.com. He has helped me a lot. Laura Garcés Fischer laura.garces@verizon.net September 2014

Justin Polin, first recommended to me by the community organization Northwest Neighbors Village whose satisfied members had used his service, has been a most knowledgeable, responsible, clear, and careful computer expert for me during the past year. I have admired his attention to detail, his useful explanations, his professionally setting up my then-new home computer and all its functions, and his continued support. His e-mail address is justin.polin@gmail.com. His telephone number is (240) 383-0239. Elaine Greenstone ehgreenstone@aol.com September 2014 *Addendum:* Justin Polin, the local, excellent helper with computer issues listed in September of 2014, and the company he heads, Problem Solvers, have been helping me and others in the neighborhood and beyond (businesses, law firms, and institutions) for a few years, with problems small and major. He is a highly experienced, highly educated, knowledgeable, and very pleasant tech person. He and his equally-exceptionally able colleague, Alexander Repp, who a few times also has successfully helped me with problems and been a fine teacher, leading me to manage more independently, can be reached at support@problemsolvers.com. Elaine Greenstone ehgreenstone@aol.com June 2016

Web Design - k@befreetech.com is expert and very reasonable. Entirely capable of divesting his personal politics and designing a terrific website. Comes highly recommended by all to whom I have referred. Lori Annaheim lannaheim@mindspring.com June 2015

I had the good luck to have found Ivan Babinoto through this list serve, and want to let others know that Ivan saved my MacBook Pro twice, and saved me a lot of money each time. He also helped trouble shoot my home network. He is a real find, for both Macs and PCs, lives nearby, charges reasonable rates, gets work done fast. When you find yourself in times of trouble, call/text or email him: [202-285-0887](tel:202-285-0887) or babinoto@gmail.com. Gita van Heerden gsvh@me.com July 2015

I second the recommendation of Ivan Babinoto. Ivan seems to have a strong innate ability for working with computers. He installed my computer 3 years ago and has helped me ever since. He is experienced, competent, and sometimes even clever, adapting things to my preferences and abilities and besides he is a nice person. Rates seem reasonable. Here is his info : Ivan Babinoto 202 285 0887, babinoto@gmail.com. gbbuckberg@aol.com September 2015

My computer helper has worked with my printer. Ivan Babinoto at 202-657-5123 , Babinoto@gmail.com. Pat Spellman pspell100@yahoo.com November 2015

I second the recommendation for Ivan Babinoto (babinoto@gmail.com). He will assess what's up and let you know if it's worth fixing - if it is, he'll do it quickly and at a reasonable price. hartfran@yahoo.com November 2015

Ivan Babinoto is great! He's helped me many times over the last six or seven years. Barbara Chowney barbarachowney@gmail.com November 2015

CONCRETE/PAVING –

We used Luis Reyes of MAF Contractors for several jobs both large and small. 240 286-4377. Feel free to mention my name . Andrew Strasfogel squasher@starpower.net September 2015

It was me who posted a few weeks ago asking for concrete recommendations! We ended up using Jireh Contractors and were very happy with them. The head of the company is Ramon and he works with his brother Emilio and sometimes his son Marco as well. It's a family business and it shows. They were super reasonable in terms of rates and are incredibly hard workers. They worked long hours to make sure the job was done on time and done right. They showed up on time, texted when they were on their way and stayed late when needed. We used them to pour and finish concrete in our basement and also to haul a large amount of debris for us to the dump, but they also handle other general contracting jobs as well including exterior concrete work. Ramon's cell is 703-898-3936. Nadia Simon nadiamsimon@gmail.com September 2015

Long story short, I'm not sure if Mario Hernandez (301-370-6652) was just a name referral or if anyone had used him, but we did and could not be happier with the work. He is personable, professional, reasonable and the work is meticulous. In a nutshell, his crew broke up a piece of sidewalk next to the front porch where the walk had sunk and was funneling water under the house to the foundation, and removed and rebuilt the concrete steps to the walk along side the house to transition from the front to the back. The original steps were unevenly spaced, awkward and dangerous. They added a PVC pipe for the downspout on that corner to route it over to a planting bed. Everything is perfect and clean. I don't know how they did the walk along the porch without getting concrete up on the foundation of the porch. Absolutely cannot recommend him highly enough. He says no job is too small or too big. We had a hard time finding one who would do a job this small reasonably. They do all kinds of work. He'll be coming back in the spring to regrade the other side of the house and install a PVC pipe to carry water away from the foundation. dniedzolkowski@yahoo.com December 2015

We highly recommend Mario Hernandez Landscape Services (301-464-3249). Last summer he replaced a concrete sidewalk and steps, adding a drain to move water from the downspout away from the house. This spring, he did significant water remediation on the other side of the house. His prices are very reasonable and the value he provides is enormous. Mario and his crews are professional, polite and kind. Mario is very knowledgeable about all facets of landscape and water remediation and generously shares. He identified an issue with our new gutters that was contributing to the water problems that we never would have noticed. You will be very pleased if you call him. As long he's working, we won't call anyone else for any landscape. Mariolandscape.com Denise Niedzolkowski dniedzolkowski@yahoo.com May 2016

Edgar Granados ((202) 439-3082) created a beautiful walkway for me last year. He has done stonework for at least four other homes on my block. I cannot recommend him highly enough. He does excellent work, is reasonable, and has a great eye for design. Julie Mack juliemack1@verizon.net May 2016

CONSTRUCTION –

We just had this done in our crawl space, and we are very pleased with the work. Mauricio Campos and his crew cut a hole in our hall ceiling, installed a pull-down staircase, laid down floorboards in the attic space, and added electric lights and a switch. He also had to move a light in the hall to accommodate the new stairs. The total price was \$2800 including all of the electric work. Mauricio and his team have done a number of jobs around our house, and we've been happy with all of the work they've done. Here is his contact information: Mauricio Campos, G-C Painting,

Mobile: 240-351-4715, Home: 240-464-3591. Dana Schaffer dana_schaffer@yahoo.com April 2015

For general remodeling and other construction work, we would like to recommend David Ochoa. We have been very pleased with all of the work he has done for us. He has a number of specialized assistants on whom he can draw as needed. We have found that he does careful work and, on several occasions, has provided sound advice for improvements to our own ideas. His costs are very reasonable. Cell: (202) 409-6921; email jdochoa59@gmail.com. Lyle Brenneman lb1119@aol.com June 2015

I am happy to introduce Joe Giordano and his company, Building Services Group (BSG). Joe just completed a kitchen renovation for me and his performance exceeded all expectations. He does all jobs, large and small, dependable, and is very pleasant to work with. His workmanship is excellent, with specialty tradesmen as needed, and his pricing very competitive. Besides which, Joe (a Gonzaga College HS graduate), his wife and young daughter recently moved into AU Park; he is looking to increase his business in our neighborhood. Let's welcome Joe! His contact information is joe@buildservgroup.com and 202 739-1169. steveanlian@yahoo.com June 2015

My contractor has done excellent work -- elegant and practical -- his name is Bill Devenney, and his number is [240-351-9522](tel:240-351-9522); the business is called Creations in Building. In addition to being a fantastic carpenter, he is skilled at renovations of all kinds, large and small. He can either do it himself or put someone on the job who is as good. My house is full of his additions and creations, indoor and out. Lori Annaheim annaheim@mindspring.com November 2015

I had the wall removed between my kitchen and dining room last year and I love my new space! There is so much light and it really opens up the house. I worked with Idea Construction, <http://idealconstructionva.com/>. Zade was professional, knowledgeable about construction and engineering, and had a lot of experience working with permits and inspectors for this type of work. They also had a wonderful kitchen designer and high-quality contacts for the cabinets, flooring, counters, and tiles. I would highly recommend them. Adelle ajdantz@gmail.com November 2015

My contractor built my front and back porch decks so well, they may outlive the 86-year-old house! His name is Bill Devenney, business name Creations in Building. Direct phone is 240-351-9522. creationsib@verizon.net His main expertise is carpentry, so you'd be in excellent hands. I can't recommend him highly enough. Lori Annaheim lannaheim@mindspring.com March 2016

Sayburr Construction Company. Call Fill Burriss, [301 343-6303](tel:301-343-6303). They do jobs large and small. We are using them for almost everything we need done. Susan Beale lilybygate@gmail.com March 2016

We moved into the neighborhood about eight months ago and haven't had the chance to participate in the listserv, however we just got a renovation completed by J&R Services and after the work they did, I promised David I would come on and say a few good words about him and his guys. They completed a deck renovation and basement bathroom renovation for us, turned out beautifully and would definitely refer them. David's contact number is [\(202\) 360-6209](tel:202-360-6209). Chris R. crieger68@yahoo.com April 2016

Grab Bars - Try Don Stackhouse at Accessible Improvements Inc. [301 655 9331](tel:301-655-9331). (cell) You can goggle website. He installed grab bars and handheld showerhead for a stall shower in our home three years ago. His services were recommended to us by a home care physical therapist. Work was done quickly and inexpensively. As I remember labor plus grab bars and showerhead were included in cost. Judy Clear j.clear@starpower.net June 2016

Grab Bars - Even if you need tub grab bars for an adult, try Babyproofing Montgomery--Bill Brooner and his son Bobby Brooner. They do all kinds of home safety improvements. I recommended Bill Brooner for a number of years as a home inspector for my real estate clients. As a contractor, he has built entire homes. More recently, Bill installed exterior and interior grab bars and a safety railing for an older relative of mine. From their website: "Working as an inspector made [Bill] cognizant of safety issues in homes. This, along with the gift of grandchildren, motivated his passion to help others make their homes safer for their children. Bill was awarded the Certified Professional Childproofer designation in July 2012 and is currently the ONLY certified childproofer in the Washington, DC region." <http://www.babyproofingmontgomery.com/> Tel [301-984-9323](tel:301-984-9323). Susan Jaquet

susanjaquet@aol.com June 2016

We hired the IKEA-recommended local contractor to remodel our kitchen and here is a summary of our experience. Zee Dee Touch represents Traemand in this region; Traemand is a nationwide company that subcontracts to local contractors nationwide for IKEA kitchen installation. I give Traemand and one of its partners, ZeeDee Touch, a straight A. When I bought my kitchen cabinets from IKEA I expected IKEA's performance to be spotless, coordinated and the recommended contractor to be less than stellar; the exact opposite happened. First, the fact that Zee Touch is not only the General contractor but also installs the cabinets, means you are dealing with one company. Second, the flexibility of the Zee Dee Touch when, unbeknownst to us, IKEA had singlehandedly postponed the entire kitchen cabinets delivery by a week, making installation obviously impossible. Despite their already booked schedule, Zee Dee Touch was able to accommodate the new timeline. Third, the professionalism, courtesy and efficiency of the staff, as well as the team spirit and the respect between staff, were impressive. Fourth, the great advice we got during the planning and measurement appointment; it saved us a lot of potential mistakes (why people do not take advantage of this Ikea service is beyond me). I'd hire Zee Dee Touch again and recommend them highly. Just for the record, I am not sure I would purchase my kitchen cabinets from IKEA if I had to do this over (there were other IKEA screw-ups). Catherine_vial@yahoo.com June 2016

DC CITY GOVERNMENT –

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

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

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

DENTISTS –

For Dentists, I strongly recommend Dr. Gene Giannini at 4801 Wisconsin Ave. 202-244-4111 Kathy Smith kathysindc@gmail.com March 2015

I highly recommend Dr. Paul LaRose at (202) 347-1220. His office is at 1634 Eye St NW #404, in the building above Farragut West metro stop, and a block from Farragut North metro stop. He keeps my teeth and gums healthy and has a gentle touch and pleasant demeanor. He will also discuss the pros and cons of getting procedures and his professional staff will let me know then and there what the fees are. I'm not keen on dental work, but I always look forward to seeing Dr. LaRose and his staff. Anovak39@yahoo.com March 2015

Dr. Maria Nichols is great. Office in the building next to Rodman's: 5100 Wisconsin Ave., NW, (202) 363-1158. Don Vater dvater4527@aol.com March 2015

I have nothing but praise for Dr. Eric Hosaka in Chevy Chase, MD (5530 Wisconsin). His fees are reasonable and his techniques precise and gentle. I have had him do a ton of exacting work and am very happy with the results. Feel free to mention my name if you do contact him. Andrew Strasfogel squasher@starpower.net March 2015

I and the rest of my family second the recommendation for Dr. Maria Nichols. Catherine Vial
Catherine_vial@yahoo.com March 2015

I like Dr. John Martin, Nebraska and Wisconsin Avenues, NW, 202-966-1900. Very pleasant and very knowledgeable. The office is very homey. The rates are comparable with other practices. Bruce Klein
BruceTV@aol.com March 2015

This family also is pleased with Dr. Nichols practice. Dennis Shumaker 4dennis_shumaker@gmail.com
March 2015

I highly recommend Dr. David Schneider in Friendship Heights. He's in a professional building adjacent to the Starbucks. His number is 301-652-9295. Tell him Andrea Feight sent you. Dreaf8@yahoo.com March 2015

I also have been very happy with Dr. Schneider. Neela Ranade neela_ranade@msn.com March 2015

I strongly recommend Dr. Giannini at 4801 Wisconsin Ave. [202-244-4111](tel:202-244-4111) Kathy Smith
kathysindc@gmail.com September 2015

Another great local dentist is Stan Shulman, DDS, also on Mass Ave. (5002 Massachusetts Ave. NW). Fred Vinson
fvinson@flash.net September 2015

I second Stan Shulman! My family's dentist for years. The best!!! Marjorie Dick Stuart
Marjorie.DickStuart@Longandfoster.com September 2015

I second the recommendation for Dr. Giannini. Been going to him for 17 years. A great dentist and a lovely man. Susan Lund
susanklondon@yahoo.com September 2015

We have a great dentist we have used for years and several of our friends are going to her. Dr. Carol Richardson
[\(202\) 244 2266](tel:202-244-2266) She is located above Rodman on Wisconsin Ave., Complimentary parking in Rodman lots; just get your ticket validated there. Richard Clark
biking2@yahoo.com September 2015

Try Dr Rothkopf on K street. **Address:** 2141 K St NW #306, Washington, DC 20037. **Phone:**(202) 659-2716 . Mohini Malhotra
mohinimalhotra1@gmail.com March 2016

I recently changed dentists and am so pleased with my new dentist Dr. Jason Cohen. (301) 656-1201. He's in Friendship Heights and was named one of the top dentists in DC. I can see why. Great staff and all the latest equipment. He evaluated all my problem teeth and recommended a course of action. I had to have a root canal and he recommended Dr. Simon also in friendship/Chevy Chase. He and his staff were wonderful as well. I have never been so happy with a dentist. And prices were in line with other dentists. Coletta Kemper
kemperc47@gmail.com March 2016

I recommend Dr. Kambiz Fotoohi. I have been going to him for many years and am very pleased with him as a dental provider. His office address is 5550 Friendship Blvd, Chevy Chase MD. Kenneth Hurley
kenwashdc@yahoo.com March 2016

John W. Martin, DDS, 4347 Nebraska Ave. NW (free-standing house next to circle intersection of Nebraska and Wisconsin, across from new AU law school), 202-966-1900. Wonderful family dentist. Low-key and sensible.
hdcwinn@verizon.net March 2016

DOCTORS – (arranged by specialty)

AUDIOLOGIST - I can recommend Gail Linn; she has a PhD in audiology, is a caring person, and has reasonable rates. She's at 11300 Rockville Pike (near White Flint); 240-477-1010, potomacaudiology.com. Joanne Levine
joannelevine202@gmail.com April 2015

AUDIOLOGIST - I highly recommend Dr Leisa Lyles-DeLeon at Ascent audiology. She is very patient-focused and explains everything g in great detail and very well. Her office is near AU at 3301 New Mexico Avenue.

Phone is 202 621 6374. The previous audiologist I visited downtown was only focused on selling me hearing aids, she is not. Unfortunately, in most cases, health insurances cover very little. Cigna and BCBS are the most generous. Catherine Vial Catherine_vial@yahoo.com April 2015

AUDIOLOGIST - I recommend the Georgetown University Medical Center's Audiology department. They're located in Glover Park near the Holiday Inn on Wisconsin. Or to be less specific, but more precise, I recommend not using a business that both tests hearing and sells hearing aids. John Wheeler johnwheeler.dc@gmail.com April 2015

AUDIOLOGIST - I second the recommendation for Dr. DeLeon. Carolyn Parr carolynparr@hotmail.com April 2015

AUDIOLOGIST - I also second the fine work and excellent communication skills of Dr. Leisa Lyles-DeLeon. She is included in the Washington list of Top Doctors. <http://www.ascentaudiologydc.com/>. Ron Springwater rkspringwater@starpower.net April 2015

NEUROLOGIST - Carrie Dougherty is a wonderful neurologist at Georgetown who specializes in headaches. Alfred Chahine chahine1@mac.com August 2015

NEUROLOGIST - I have used, and sent others to, Rhanni Herzfeld, in the Neurology Center. All have been extremely pleased with her qualifications, competence, easy manner, and helpfulness. Rhanni Herzfeld, (301) 562-7200, 2141 K St NW, Suite 503, Washington, DC. Their web portal is: kstreet@neurologycenter.com. In general, it is an excellent practice - I have dealt with two other MDs there, though now retired. Hope this helps, Nancy Gordon nancymg@mac.com August 2015

NEUROLOGIST - I had an absolutely horrible experience with Rhanni Herzfeld's office and would be happy to provide details to anyone who would like to contact me. I recently changed neurologists. First time I have switched doctors in all the years I have lived in DC. Virginia Howard Virginia.howard@ymail.com August 2015

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

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

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

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

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

PRIMARY CARE - My family doctor is Dr. Ali Safayan from Restorative Health. I've been under his care for over 10 years. He focuses on maintaining the health and well-being of his patients and on preventing heart disease and other age-related diseases or health problems caused by an unhealthy lifestyle. I've been very pleased with his care. A few years ago I injured both knees and had pain when exercising. Dr. Safayan suggested I try prolotherapy before I explored surgery. He administered the prolotherapy treatments on my

knees. The treatment was successful and I avoided knee surgery. I would highly recommend Dr. Safayan. Sharon Hurley kenwashdc@yahoo.com December 2015

DONATE ITEMS –

Computers & Electronics - Central Union Mission or A Wider Circle come to mind. Randy Hill cicada17@starpower.net November 2014

Computers & Electronics - Try A Wider Circle in Silver Spring.. Lois Schiffer loisschiffer@msn.com November 2014

Assistive Devices . Iona Senior Services at 42nd & Albemarle loans and gives away for free all manner of donated assistive devices, including wheelchairs, rollators, canes, walkers, etc. Just give them a call and tell them what you have, then drop it off. Janet Bachman jbachman47@gmail.com December 2015

DRIVING INSTRUCTORS –

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

DRYCLEANERS –

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

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

ELDER & NURSING SERVICES –

If anyone is looking for a companion/caregiver for an elderly family member, I highly recommend Judith Boivin. She has been working with my mother for the past year, and is now looking for additional clients. Judith is a registered nurse and licensed clinical social worker, and she has made a tremendous difference in my mother's life by providing stimulating companionship 2-3 days of week for my mother, who has early stage dementia. Since working with Judith, we have seen a noticeable improvement in my mother's cognitive ability and overall well-being. Weekly activities include outings around town, exercise, and conversation. Judith is interested in adding 2-3 additional clients to her schedule with whom to work. If interested, please contact me for more information or Judith directly at judith442000@gmail.com or 404-932-0026. Michele Heller mheller2000@hotmail.com July 2015

Looking for an extremely dedicated, highly trustworthy person to help with elder care? I enthusiastically recommend Andrea Lyew-Sang. Andrea is a certified geriatric nursing assistant with more than 30 years experience. I got to know her over the decade-plus in which she made it possible for my elderly next-door neighbors to remain happily in their longtime home, to the very end. This feat took myriad skills and strengths, great flexibility, and, as you might imagine, simple kindness and a positive outlook. Andrea can be reached at (202) 882-8760 (landline) or (202) 905-7136 (cell). If you'd like to discuss this recommendation with me, please call (202) 364-6488.

Martha Matzke matzke4@att.net October 2015

ELECTRICIANS –

Kevin Rozier, the electrician, also has my hearty recommendation. He rewired our garage, ran a new line from the house, and brought up the level of old electric outlets up to current standards. 202-841-8021. Diana Diamond Diana_diamond@hotmail.com August 2014

An excellent electrician is Kevin Rozier at 202-841-8021. Both he and John Taylor, the plumber, are listed in the community recommendations list. Kathy Smith kathysindc@gmail.com August 2015

Kevin Rozier has done several jobs for us. We have been happy with him. I think I got his name from community E originally. Kevin Rozier 202-841-8021. Jeffrey Drobis jeffdrobis@gmail.com January 2016

ELECTRONICS' RECYCLING –

The Best Buy store in Tenleytown operates a recycling service for almost every type of electronic equipment, even old landline phones. Just drop off the item at the customer service desk. It's free. Janet Bachman jbachman47@gmail.com June 2016

ELECTRONICS' SERVICES –

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

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

FENCES –

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

FINANCIAL ADVISORS -

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

If anyone is in need of a financial advisor, I would like to suggest contacting Will Bruno, a fellow Tenleytown resident who has been helping me and my family get our financial house in order. He is professional, well informed, friendly, and generous with his time. In my particular case, I wasn't looking to hand over my portfolio to someone to invest or manage. I handle our investments myself but was in need of some big picture advice on improving our cash flow, implementing a tax-efficient college saving plan, and putting my family on a budget. Will has provided solid advice, done some financial modeling for us, and recommended concrete actions that are going to immediately save us hundreds of dollars a month while increasing our overall financial security. My family's finances were relatively solid to begin with, and our needs are relatively straightforward. I get the impression Will is capable of dealing with much more complicated and involved situations. He helps people with

large asset bases to develop and implement comprehensive financial strategies. He also specializes in retirement planning. Will's email is William.Bruno@axa-advisors.com and his number is 202-669-0280. I believe he will give you an initial consultation for free. Please feel free to contact me for additional reference info. Jason Y. Kim jasonykim@verizon.net February 2013

FIREWOOD -

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

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

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

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

FLOOR INSTALLERS & REFINISHERS -

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

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

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

FURNITURE RPAIR/REFINISHERS -

Chair Caning - Try American Hardwood at 9160 Brookville Road, 301-588-0363. Samantha Nolan nolantutor@yahoo.com November 2014

Chair Caning - Steve Young (202) 966-8810. He lives nearby and this is his specialty. He's done lots of work for us, redoing rush seats, caning, etc; even rebuilding an antique chest of drawers. He picks up and delivers. Cindy Snyder cindysnyder123@gmail.com November 2014

GARAGE DOOR REPAIR –

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

GAS FIREPLACES –

James Wheat & Sons installed our gas logs. We've been very happy with them. 301-670-1944. Pat Mullan mullandoty@aol.com December 2015

GUTTER CLEANING & REPAIR –

Winston's is reliable. They show up, do a good job and leave a bill. Adam Tope adam@adamtope.com November 2014

I had Corley Roofing install new 6" seamless gutters last year, as well as repair flashing around my chimney. Wonderful work. Their number is (301) 894-4460. Julie Mack juliemack1@verizon.net November 2014

I highly recommend my roofer Mike Brown for roofing and gutter work. He is a decent guy, has fair pricing, and is very reliable. Never had a roof leak. Excellent with slate. Tell him Lisa sent you. I have sent dozens of people to him. Everyone likes him. No complaints. Mike Brown: meb0506@yahoo.com (240) 372-9574. Lisa Newman lisa4news@aol.com November 2014

I love Mike Brown - Custom roof and gutter. Mike's phone number is - (240) 372-9574. You can email him too at meb0506@yahoo.com. He's just done roof work for me, but he does gutters and I recommended him to friends for gutter work who had gotten some really expensive bids. Mike did the work for a reasonable price. He also took pictures of the problem, which they compared with the pictures, that another company had given them. It seems that the first company had given them pictures from another house - perhaps to justify the expensive bid? Tell him Sarah Morse recommended him. Sarah Morse morsekathan@gmail.com September 2015

HANDYMEN –

I highly recommend Mike Hotka. He lives in our neighborhood and can do darn near anything that needs to be done. He's completely trustworthy and reliable, and his rates are reasonable. His phone number is 202-364-8577, email mikehotka@gmail.com. Janet Bachman jbachman47@gmail.com November 2015

Jaime Noriega has a great, talented crew. They've worked with several of our DC-MD family households for a couple of years now on everything from lawn/leaf cleanup to indoor and outdoor painting, stucco repair, masonry work (just replaced our crumbling front porch and steps, railings, and walkway), kitchen/bath repair and basement renovation. They are smart, honest, reasonably priced and very responsible. My kids asked me if I have them on speed dial--we aren't DIYers and totally rely on them when we need work done. You can

reach Jaime at [301-740-5557](tel:301-740-5557)--tell him Patrice Gancie, Porter Street, gave you his number. pgancie@aol.com
November 2014

I recommend Jose Cabiles, who was a foreman in his native Philippines. He's our nanny's father and has performed great work at reasonable prices for us. Since his English is limited, you can call her (Ana) at [\(240\) 500-5657](tel:240-500-5657). Emma Chanlett-Avery chanlettavery@yahoo.com November 2014

Wayne Fisher . [202- 232- 3781](tel:202-232-3781) or homeworks1@verizon.net has helped us through many small and big projects for years . He can tinker and fix anything, even when there isn't a clear solution. He is reliable and strong and nice, too. Dale Kaufman dale4tiger@gmail.com March 2015

I also recommend Joe Giordano. He fixed my front door, which was falling off the hinges. He was responsive, prompt, and tidy, did good work and was pleasant to work with. Jessie Righter Jessie@lavine.com June 2015

Glad to recommend Joe Giordano of Building Services Group LLC. [202-739-1169](tel:202-739-1169), joe@buildservgroup.com. One of his people did some small projects for me recently. They are prompt, competent, and affordable. Marya Pickering marigold316@aol.com November 2015

I highly recommend Abel Romero who just fixed our similar problem (drafty door and windows). Abel can be reached on 571-259-8445. Does great quality work for very reasonable rates. He just changed all faucet filters, replaced damaged gutters, fixed and varnished our wooden doors/sealed, painted, and many other house repairs. Mohini Malhotra mohinimalhotra1@gmail.com November 2015

I unfortunately have to add a negative review for handyman Mike Hotka, who is mentioned on the Service Providers List (which I had used to find him). Mr. Hotka was hired during the summer of 2014 to recaulk a shower and when I went to inspect his work, he said he was having problems due to humidity (even though our air conditioning was working fine), so the job did not look good (the caulking was quite uneven in appearance)--and worse, over time, parts of the caulking came loose. Mr. Hotka had told me at the time to have him come back during the winter when humidity was lower, and so I did contact him in January 2015, but he refused to come back, claiming he was too busy even though I was willing to wait. Thinking maybe he wanted more money, I offered that, but he continued to refuse to return, as he himself had advised, to repair the job he knew he did not do well. So now we have to hire another handyman to redo the caulking job. We are very disappointed in his workmanship and customer service. Patti Flagg flagg@rcn.com December 2014

I highly recommend Mike Hotka to anyone in need of paintwork and other home repair. He lives in our neighborhood and has done excellent plaster and paint and plaster work in my home. Mike is timely and efficient and very attentive to details. Plus his rates are reasonable. Mike can be contacted at mikehotka@gmail.com. Phillip Kogan philkdc@me.com December 2015

Mike Hotka has done work at our house over a three or four year period and we've always been very happy with his work. He has done interior scraping, plastering and painting, exterior repair of rotting porch parts, rebuilding vertical and horizontal supports. He has always been very friendly, fair and responsible. He would explain what he planned to do, give a price estimate and worked until the job was complete. We have only good things to say and highly recommend him. Jim Menderson lhertz@msn.com December 2015

I want to second the recommendation of the handyman Wayne Fisher . [202- 232- 3781](tel:202-232-3781) or homeworks1@verizon.net . he fixed a couple of problems that had been plaguing us for years, including having an antique part in his truck to fix a door that we had not been able to find anywhere. He was reliable, honest, communicative, and good-natured, even when he encountered an issue that he could not solve. David Hart hartfran@yahoo.com. hartfran@yahoo.com December 2015

Recently I contracted with Mike Hotka to hand sand and apply a coat of finish on a wood railing. The work required hours of detailed sanding with different grades of sandpaper. He uncovered wood on the railing that was beautiful. The work he did exceeded our expectations, he left the area clean, and the final cost was less than his initial estimate. I am confident to recommend him. His phone number is 202 364-8577. kenwashdc@yahoo.com January 2016

I'd like to add a positive endorsement of the services that can be offered to members of our community by Stephen Van Eynde. SVE lives nearby in Cleveland Park. Households in that neighborhood have used Stephen for years. He can do almost anything very well and he is a perfectionist. Linda Hughes hugs4linda@gmail.com February 2016

I have had a very good experience with Wayne Fisher. He lives in Cleveland Park, 232-3781. Barbara Meade barbameade53@gmail.com

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING –

We have a 1921 house with hot water radiators. When we moved in (1987), we were advised that this system is the BEST, and never to replace it. We have it checked annually by Davis & Davis, Kensington, MD, 301/942-7210. Carolyn Long carolynlong@earthlink.net October 2014

After my maintenance firm told me I needed a new furnace, I asked for a second opinion from Saini Co., which was highly rated in Washington Checkbook. They told me I didn't need a new furnace. Just some necessary maintenance. Needless to say they have been my go-to furnace maintenance co. for the years since. They have always done a good job, and I know I can trust them. They can be reached at 202-554-5528. Jim Phippard jhippard@msn.com October 2014

Dennis Hammett, whose contact information is: 301.972.7883; Hammett.HVAC@gmail.com. Dennis has been servicing our AC and furnace for almost 20 years, first as an employee of Wm. F. Collins; now as an independent contractor (he struck out on his own after Collins closed shop a few years ago). He is very competent, reliable, honest, and reasonably priced. Susanne Koffsky susannekoffsky@gmail.com March 2015

We have a terrific experience with Comfort Solutions out of Springfield. Instead of the usual bid with 1 number at the end we received 5 different bids with pluses and minuses of each. The resulting system works beautifully. Cynthia Grant grantc@gao.gov March 2015

I have used Home Air Services in Maryland (<http://www.homeairservices.com>) for over 15 years. They have added a two new complete A/C-Heating system to additions and have replaced an old inside unit. Service has been prompt and they have excellent phone support 24x7. Dick imaslug.rt@gmail.com March 2015

HOUSEKEEPERS/CLEANERS –

Our wonderful cleaning lady of ten years has availability now. Lijia is hard-working, honest, extremely reliable and always goes the extra mile. From changing linens, to organizing closets and drawers, Lijia is beyond industrious and we can't recommend her highly enough. She can be reached at (301) 910-7181. I am happy to answer any questions you may have and can be reached at this email. shellerman@hellermanbaretz.com February 2015

Two wonderful ladies from Vietnam have started to work for me doing bi-monthly cleaning. They can also do dog walking, housesitting, babysitting, ironing and other odd jobs. They are very trustworthy, have an incredible work ethic and come with wonderful professional references. I will certainly vouch for them. They are Yen: 301-785-3508 and Minh: 301-580-5152. Please call them if you need any of these types of services. Susan Harmeling harmelings@gmail.com April 2015

I wanted to recommend my housekeeper, Dagy Silva. Recently, one of her clients moved and she has an opening in her schedule. She does a wonderful job while being personable and helpful. She uses gentle cleansers that are child and pet friendly, and her rates are reasonable. If you'd like to contact her, her phone number is (240) 330-5720. Brooke Brown brookebrown92@gmail.com July 2015

My wonderful cleaning lady, Catalina Ramos, has just informed me that she is looking for work Monday mornings and Tuesday afternoons. She has worked for me and a neighbor of mine for many years. She does excellent work, is a perfectionist, and scrupulously honest. She is a naturalized US citizen, and has her own

car. Her phone number is 301-512-6679. Please contact me for any further information. Jenny Bland jcrabland@hotmail.com Phone: 202-364-7116 August 2015

I can also endorse Catalina, as she has been cleaning for us almost 1 year! She is great! CG Wheeler caitabaita@yahoo.com August 2015

My house cleaner (she's been with us 10 + years!) has 1 day a week free and needs another client. She is an excellent cleaner. She is also lovely, very flexible, 100% trustworthy. Through the years she has always been willing to work around children's toys, sleeping teenagers, etc. If you need someone please call me and I'll answer your questions and provide her phone number. Donna Gregory: 202-421-4863. Donnagregory77@hotmail.com November 2015

Bruno and Solange Chavez, (240) 478-1726, have been cleaning our home for over ten years and are now looking for new clients. They are trustworthy and careful and very pleasant. If you have questions call me at (202) 362-9812. Cynthia Grant cg_notes@icloud.com February 2016

Our fantastic housekeeper of many years has openings in her schedule! Libia Perreira (202-669-0949) has been our housekeeper for over a decade. She has some openings due to folks having moved out of town. She is here legally, lives nearby (Glover Park) and is totally reliable and trustworthy. She does an excellent job with help (sometimes) from her sister. She is thorough and flexible - we can ask for particular help or an occasional change in days. She really tries to make adjustments to suit our needs. We could not have asked for a nicer person to help our family over the years. I love coming home on days she has cleaned because the house looks fantastic. If you need a housekeeper I urge you to give her a call or send her an email. Feel free to contact me if you have questions about her. Catherine Bruno sheehanbruno@yahoo.com June 2016

INSULATION CONTRACTORS –

We had Harvey Hottel insulate our attic. We interviewed a number of companies and they were the best and best on price. They did a great job and were very good at explaining everything. It is not a messy job for the homeowner and all equipment came in thru the attic window. It has made world of difference in the temp of our house - the attic is no longer stifling in the summer and a lot warmer in the winter. Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com February 2016

We recently used Dan Roberson of Quality Insulation 301 257-4116. We were satisfied with the work and price. Kenneth Hurley kenwashdc@yahoo.com February 2016

INTERIOR DESIGNERS & DECORATORS –

Cheryl Bowie is a great design person and works with first-rate contractors. Her phone # 202-714-9080, email address: ckbdesign2@yahoo.com. I can connect you with a neighbor who recently had her kitchen, bathroom and more done. She loves it and would give Cheryl a reference, I am sure. Lydia Penrod lydiapenrod6@gmail.com August 2015

IRONWORKING –

I highly recommend Mickey Sites. He installed rod iron handrails in front of my house last year, and did a fantastic job fabricating and installing the handrails from a design that I provided to him. One of my neighbors was impressed and hired him to install her handrails, too. She is also pleased. Here is his contact information: Mickey Sites, Mickey's Iron Works, (301) 440-1735 cell, (301) 277-4141 office, mickeysiron@aol.com. Teresa A. Gruber tgruber@starpower.net September 2015

I highly recommend ARC Solutions. They did new railings on my front & back steps. Very nice to work with. Jim Ohlweiler, Toll free: 866-607-8097, EM: arcsolutionswelding@gmail.com, Kemperc47@gmail.com October 2015

Suburban Welding installed two railings for us, most recent was 2006. Work was good, phone 703 765 9344. Jeffrey Drobis jeffdrobis@gmail.com October 2015

Nelson's Welding does excellent work. They installed wrought iron railings for me on my porch, front stoop, and around the perimeter of my garden. Mr. Nelson and I even designed a monogram in wrought iron together for my railing, as well as a flagpole. I have worked with him since 2008. He and Cinnbar fabricated the Big Chair in Anacostia when it was replaced in 2005. Mr. Nelson takes pride in his work, is easy to work with, reasonably priced, and a true gentleman. His workers are also professional, respectful, and neat. You can reach Mr. Nelson at 202-889-3761. I highly recommend Nelson's Welding without any reservations. CM Rafferty cm.rafferty@verizon.net October 2015

JEWELRY APPRAISERS & DESIGNERS –

If you like contemporary jewelry, I recommend you talk to Denise Graham. Her designs and use of materials are wonderfully creative and eye-catching. She lives on 44th Street, phone 966-9040. She has Parkinson's, so it can be a little hard sometimes to understand her speech, but it hasn't in anyway affected her talent. Janet Bachman jbachman47@gmail.com January 2015

JEWELRY, WATCH & CLOCK REPAIRS –

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

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

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

JUNK HAULERS –

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

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

KITCHEN REMODELING –

Granite Reglazing - What do you mean by reglazing? If you mean polishing, try Marblex, 703.698.5595 - www.marblexinc.com. Randy Hill cicada17@starpower.net December 2014

I highly recommend Bill Feeney, who is doing a major renovation for me. He has a great sense of design and functionality. He can be reached at bill@billfeeney.com. sojaehyang@yahoo.com December 2015

Jonathan Kuhn, an architect, is great! His number is (202) 494-5061. I'm a general contractor, live in the

neighborhood and have worked with him in the past. Let me know if you'd like pricing as well! Thanks. Joe Giordano giordanofamily@yahoo.com December 2015

unreservedly recommend architect William Feeney, who designed a one-storey addition to my house three years ago. He lives in the neighborhood, and is delightful and conscientious to work with, in addition to being a very skilled and creative professional. You can get his email address and phone # from his website, billfeeney.com. Martha Matzke matzke4@att.net December 2015

We're in the process of a renovation with Chris Snowber, of Hamilton-Snowber architects. I really can't say enough good things about him. He's wonderful. If you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer them. Paula DiLorenzo pmdilorenz@aol.com December 2015

KNIFE & TOOL SHARPENERS –

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

LAMP REPAIR –

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

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

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

LAWN & YARD SERVICES –

I highly recommend Richard Wingfield for yard work, cleanup, tree trimming, garden planting, etc. He's reliable, hard working and honest. Number is 304-433-4065. Coletta Kemper kemperc47@gmail.com March 2015

Katrina Weinig, a Certified Horticulturalist with a focus on sustainable landscape design, restoration, and maintenance, and my neighbor, just helped me rescue my overgrown and crowded shrubs. She allowed the bushes to open up and be themselves by carefully hand clipping and selective sawing. I like that she works on time and on your budget, has great communication skills, and a collaborative approach. I learned a lot from her. Her contact information is: Down To Earth Designs, <http://downtoearth-dc.com>, 540.817.0270, katrina.weinig@gmail.com. Susan Linsky slinsky@gmail.com November 2015

My landscape architect is named Makoto Omori; yes, his sensibilities are Japanese I am sure he is up to the challenge you pose. Omori LLC Landscaping and Stonework, 301-320-4280, (H) 301-943-4376. Licensed, bonded, etc. Lori Annaheim annaheim@mindspring.com December 2015

I have used the services of Barbara Balman for many years and cannot speak highly enough of her: she is trustworthy, hard working, dependable and does not charge excessively. She recently arranged my backyard so that it would not flood again, which was a real challenge. Go to www.barbarabalmanlandscapedesign.com, or call her at (202) 744-9515. Laura Garcés Fischer laura.garces@verizon.net December 2015

Designer: Jane MacLeish, [202-966-8279](tel:202-966-8279). Maintenance: Evergro Landscaping, Mike Burriss, Office [301-353-5005](tel:301-353-5005). Come look at 4354 Warren St NW to see how they did. We are very pleased. Susan Beale lilybygate@gmail.com April 2016

I have used Field of Dreams Landscaping for over 20 years. They do many yards in AU Park, are very reliable and prices are very reasonable. Owned by Carlos DeMoarles, an Argentine. Very nice fellow.. [301-762-3261](tel:301-762-3261)

Don dvater4527@aol.com April 2016

We second Field of Dreams. Deborah Raviv draviv363@gmail.com April 2016

We have used m brothers for years....cheap and reliable. 301 592-0972. Charlie Madison charliemadison@ymail.com April 2016

For years, we have been using Leopold and Tatjana Murashka. He does the lawn (and gutters and a few other things) and she does everything else that needs to be done in our garden (the weeding, planting etc.). They are independent, reliable, knowledgeable and live in the neighborhood. Their email is: TATJANALEOPOLD@HOTMAIL.COM. Their phone number is: (202) 363-5460.
Alfred Chahine chahine1@mac.com May 2016

We have used Four Feet to the Yard, based in Silver Spring. They are not cheap, but their work is very good. Call 301-589-0899. Joanne Levine joannelevine202@gmail.com May 2016

Hi neighbors - We just had our yard thoroughly weeded and mulched by Isaac Sarnoff, who grew up in A.U. Park and is home from university for the summer. He did a great job and was flexible with his hours. You can reach him at isaacsarnoff at gmail dot com. If you have any questions for me, you can send them to the email address below. Traci leahtomiko@yahoo.com June 2016

This is to recommend Katrina Weinig, a certified horticulturalist with a focus on sustainable landscape design, restoration, and maintenance. She just pruned our overgrown shrubbery and planted new flowers and did it quickly with great attention to detail and according to budget. She has outstanding communication skills and is very easy to work with. We give her an A+. Her contact information is: Down To Earth Designs, 540.817.0270, katrina.weinig@gmail.com, downtoearth-dc.com. Ben & Debra Lacy blacy@lactd.com May 2016

I highly recommend Hernandez Brothers Gardening. Rene and his brother transplanted numerous perennials and shrubs in my garden, all the while patient while I mulled over what would look best where. They mulched the garden beds and cut my grass too. They are professional, punctual, courteous and reasonably priced. You can reach Rene Hernandez at (240) 498-2594. A. Novak anovak39@yahoo.com June 2016

LAWYERS – (arranged by specialty)

Wills & Estate Trusts - I can recommend the lawyer I used: Quinn O'Connell. He's right in our neighborhood, in the building above Rodmans, 5100 Wisconsin, suite 514. Phone = 537-1820. He interviewed me thoroughly to find out what I needed and wanted, shared personal experiences, and did a great job. Janet Bachman jbachman47@gmail.com June 2015

Wills & Estate Trusts - Rebecca Hall comes highly recommended and we just started working with her. She has an office downtown. Rebecca.b.hall@ampf.com. Tel 703.663.1151. Mohini mohinimalhotra1@gmail.com January 2015

Wills & Estate Trusts - had a very good experience with Francis Fenwick of Craighill, Mayfield, Fenwick, Cromelin & Cobb, LLC, when he prepared my will about four years ago. The office is conveniently located at 4910 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 215, telephone 202-364-4242. His email is Fenwick@CraighillMayfield.com. I found his assistance/advice extremely helpful, his manner very courteous, and his fee quite reasonable. I recommend him highly. Kay Springwater rspringwater@starpower.net January 2015

Wills & Estate Trusts - Yes, Catherine Rafferty. She lives in the neighborhood. 202-244-0608. Coletta Kemper coletta.kemper@ciab.com January 2015

Wills & Estate Trusts - We recently hired Jennifer Concino of Tobin, O'Connor & Ewing, 5335 Wisconsin Ave, #700, in Friendship Heights. 202-362-5900. She's friendly, competent and her work is reasonably priced. Aaron & Jacqueline Epstein aajacks@starpower.net January 2015

Wills & Estate Trusts - Very happy with Marc Levine in Bethesda. Cynthia Grant cg_notes@icloud.com
February 2016

Wills & Estate Trusts - Thomas J. O'Rourke in Rockville. Smart, kind, good listener. Expert on saving taxes. Licensed in DC and MD. 301-517-4821. Carolyn Parr carolynparr@hotmail.com February 2016

Wills & Estate Trusts - A major difference between Bill Fralin and most estate planning attorneys is that Bill helps his clients PRESERVE assets, so as to reduce the chances of running out of money before you die. Living longer increases the chances that you might run out of money in your waning years. Money is power when it comes to healthcare and living situations. Now if you only need a will, POA, etc., then most any eldercare lawyers will suffice. However if you want to get ahead of the game and don't want to run out of money, then consulting with Bill Fralin could open your eyes to options to preserving or reallocating your assets so you can qualify for Medicaid without spending down to the requirements of Medicaid. But in any case, it is wise to use a CELA or Certified Elder Law Attorney. There are several in DC. Ann Eichenberger aeichenberger@gmail.com February 2016

LOCKSMITHS –

I just used Tivoli locksmith based on the recommendations on this list, and I was very pleased. Joe Ngana was so quick and easy to work with and fixed my lock without my having to change my keys. I recommend him highly - 202-338-5335. Mary McComb maryemc@yahoo.com December 2014

I used Tivoli as well and was very pleased with the service, the price and the courtesy. Catherine Vial Catherine_vial@yahoo.com December 2014

I also have had excellent experiences with Tivoli Locksmiths. He came to my house on Alton Place today because the locks on the side entrance to my house seemed loose and stuck. He fixed them easily at low cost but most importantly, he showed me the evidence indicating that someone had tried to force the locks and damaged them in the process. This would have occurred about 2 - 3 weeks ago, when there were reports of men trying to force their way into homes. Fortunately, I had a strong deadbolt and keep it locked. But there was also an ADT security sticker on that door, so whoever did this must have thought they could foil the alarm system. The lesson is to keep all your doors locked, even when you are home and even when you have a security system. Sondra Mills simills549@yahoo.com December 2014

Wanted to tell everyone of a wonderful experience I had with Ray of 3 Brothers Locksmiths. He had helped me with a lock a couple years ago and this week when I lost a key to my shed, he helped again. He is very good at what he does and his prices are so reasonable, I paid him more than what he was going to charge me. And he is a very nice person. Please tell all your friends that he is the man to call if they need a locksmith. His number is: (202) 255-0167. Susan Harmelings harmelings@gmail.com February 2015

Last week I used Tivoli to change not the actual locks, but just the keys for 2 locks, and he assured me of no service or travel charges, because I told him the service area was going to be in Virginia. When he went to my daughters new house and my son-in-law was there, got the job done, he charged over \$350 for the job which could be done much less by a local locksmith. But on recommendation of Mary I used him and my son-in-law was just deflated by overcharging of service and other fees. He could have changed a brand new lock for the same price. Francis Døilva clara4444us@yahoo.com March 2015

Just wanted to add a locksmith recommendation to the community list... I highly recommend Upco Lock Service if you ever need re-keying or lock repair or replacement. We've used them a few times recently and they respond quickly, are very professional, and do a great job. You can reach them at 202-232-1500. Michelle Brotzman Michelle.Brotzman@verizon.net July 2015

MASONS – (Stone & Brick)

I highly recommend Jopal Construction (Jose Palmeiro), 301-330-4797, jopalstone.com. They did a beautiful

job installing a new flagstone walkway and replacing crumbling cement walkways and steps. I don't know if they will do smaller jobs like repairs. Joanne Levine joannelevine202@gmail.com April 2015

East Coast Masons dclan@eastcoastmasons.com, <http://eastcoastmasons.com> We were very pleased with the work done to repair our exterior basement steps and small patio. We also had repairs done to the brick retaining wall. We were very happy with the work and the crew. Kathryn Ray KCRDLB@gmail.com July 2015

Recently I asked for recommendations for stonemasons to rebuild our walkway. I received quite a few recommendations, and someone else asked me to pass along the information. I thought I would post the list of recommendations for the benefit of anyone who may have the same need in the future. Here it is. I have not used any of the contractors on the list and thus cannot provide a personal endorsement for any of them.

Anicely1@yahoo.com September 2015

- JC Pride Construction (Juan), [301-674-3343](tel:301-674-3343)

- F&C Improvement LLC (Francisco), 817 Tewkesbury Place NW, Washington, DC, 20012 [202-492-9513](tel:202-492-9513), fcimprovement@aol.com

- Mario Hernandez, mariolandscape.com, mario.a.hernandez@verizon.net [\(301\) 370-6653](tel:301-370-6653)

- Serra Stone, David Jacinto, Project manager, 4312 Montgomery Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814 [301-986-1830](tel:301-986-1830)

- Mick "the brick" O'Dwyer, Westminster, [410-857-1284](tel:410-857-1284)

- A&H Masterbusterbuilders, Cooperhoward88@gmail.com, [410-645-0136](tel:410-645-0136)

- J&G Landscaping, www.jglandscape.com, [301-476-7600](tel:301-476-7600)

- Pipe and Stone (Steve Cullen), sm.cullen@verizon.net, [301-807-9848](tel:301-807-9848)

I echo Michelle Brotzman's strong recommendation of Edgar Granados found in the Trademen 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](tel:202-439-3082). Ann Phillips phillipsann1@gmail.com December 2015

MASSAGE THERAPISTS –

I would like to recommend Melissa Martinie Hall at "My Massage Place" (4545 42nd Street, NW, or web site: mymassageplaceDC.com; it is very close to Janney, the Metro, Best Buy, etc.). I am so glad to have found her a few weeks ago, as her massages are great and have really helped a few of my bad joints! If you need ideas for holiday gifts, especially for people who really don't need any more 'stuff', give the gift of massage! Lyn lyntaecker@gmail.com December 2014

I would like to second the recommendation of Melissa at MyMassagePalace.com. For years I have been frustrated by the high turnover of massage therapists at the spa I go to. I was so thankful to find Melissa. Her massages are consistent and I love the online appointment option. Patt Wells pwellsdc@gmail.com December 2014

Another enthusiastic vote for Melissa Hall <http://www.mymassageplacedc.com/>. She is professional, knowledgeable and very talented. I have had many massage therapists over the years, but she is outstanding in her field, best I have had used in this area. Rebecca Drobis Rebecca@rebeccadrobis.com December 2014

Melissa is great. On 42d at near Albemarle. <http://mymassageplacedc.fullslate.com> . Fred Barbash fbarbash@gmail.com January 2015

Try Friendship Chiropractic above Rodmanç. I have used Monica and found her superb. sarahrhorsey@gmail.com January 2015

Great massage person! Dody DiSanto at The Center. It's in the beautiful space that was the original home of the Washington Ballet, just above Z Burger. Corner Wisconsin & Windom. Her cell is (301) 537-4567. Please tell her I sent you. Enjoy! Cindy Snyder cindysnyder123@gmail.com January 2015

Total Release Reflexology at 5501 Ct. Ave, Ste. 22 is wonderful. You can get full or partial massages and reflexology in a peaceful and serene environment for a very reasonable price. I like all of the people who work there. Anne Novak anovak39@yahoo.com January 2015

I did have a totally delicious and wonderful deep massage with Alan Stein at 4000 Albemarle this morning and will go back to him soon. I would recommend him in a heartbeat. Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com January 2015

MOLD REMOVAL –

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

MOVERS/HAULERS & DELIVERY SERVICES –

For those who need a mover or hauler I had a good experience recently with Quest Professional Moving Services. Calvin, the owner I believe, was responsive and easy to communicate with on the phone. He and a helper showed up right on time to move a heavy picnic table which had taken three men to install. He was very professional in his use of protective wraps and in his safe movements. They were speedy and flexible. I thought his price was right for me, and he seemed to appreciate my tip. His van advertises "no job to big or to small," and he says he means it. His website indicates he can also help unpack, haul bulk items, etc. The phone number is (240) 604-5998. email questprofessionalllc@gmail.com. Here's a link of sorts too: <https://www.thumbtack.com/md/fort-washington/movers/pickup-drop-off-storage-other-services>. Alice Thurston alialibus@yahoo.com December 2015

These guys moved us from NYC to DC and did a fantastic job: www.beelinemoving.com. Bess Jankowski bessjankowski@gmail.com March 2016

MUSIC TEACHERS –

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

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

NOTARY PUBLIC –

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

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

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

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

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

ORGANIZERS –

I can recommend Tracy with Out of the Closet Organizer. She was efficient, helpful, encouraging, pleasant and it worked so well. Here's her contact info: www.outoftheclosetorganizer.com, 571-331-3350. I happened to get an email from her today, first time in a year, so I thought I'd also pass it on. From Tracy: %'m offering a great deal on organizing for the month of July only. Schedule 4 hours and receive your 5th hour at no charge. This is a \$75.00 savings who doesn't love a savings? This must be booked in the month of July but only valid through August.+ Connie Rhind Robey c_rhind@yahoo.com June 2013

PAINTERS –

Tenleytown Painters did a stellar job painting our house. The job required much preparation and some difficult ladder work. Power wash on my garage and wooden stairs was a great success. This is the third time Erik Blitte's crew has painted my house over many years, and I was delighted to report the work was exceptional once again. 202-244-2325. Diana Diamond Diana_diamond@hotmail.com August 2014

I highly recommend David Diaz for painting and associated repairs. We had peeling paint/plaster on the walls and ceilings in several rooms and now you would never know. He and his crew work quickly, are meticulous, and do excellent prep work. He also did a wonderful job staining our new deck last year. He is easy to work with and I've found his prices to be reasonable. (301) 252-4773 or Davidiaz24@gmail.com. Jessie@levine.com February 2015

Chris Dietz is a great guy. He is going to redo my kitchen in my condo. He also helped me out with my Warm Sock Drive for Friendship Place last December. And he lives in AU Park--I consider that a huge plus when hiring someone to work in my home. Best, Ann Eichenberger aeichenberger@gmail.com February 2015

We've used John Ramirez for several interior paint jobs. His work is impeccable and he's always courteous and punctual. I'm not sure if he does fences too, but I don't see why not. His email is: johnspaintingservicesllc@gmail.com Adam Klein ak212@yahoo.com March 2016

PERSONAL TRAINERS –

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

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

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

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

PEST CONTROL SERVICES -

We also have a great option right here in the neighborhood: Alan Cohen of Bio-Logical Pest Management (biopestman@gmail.com; 202-237-7509). Friendly, responsive, reasonably priced, really knows his stuff -- and he's green. Jeff Moore jeffclarkmoore@gmail.com May 2015

I have used Ward Pest Control ([703-248-3631](tel:703-248-3631)) with excellent results. They are A rated on Angie's List. R Tatum tatumr@verizon.net May 2015

Squirrels - Call critter control of northern VA. They have a very good reputation: good luck! Laura Garcés Fischer laura.garces@verizon.net February 2016

Squirrels - I recommend Humane Wildlife Services. They will remove them without harming them and help you secure your property so it doesn't happen again. They are affiliated with the Humane Society. They helped me out last year with rabbits. Here's contact info: <http://www.humanewildlifeservices.com/> 866-9-HUMANE (866-948-6263). Gretchen schleberg1@yahoo.com February 2016

Squirrels - My husband recommends <http://www.adcockstrapping.com/washington-dc-wildlife-removal> -- Apparently, we've used them and were satisfied (a chapter in our life, I've apparently blocked from memory -- Hoping you can do the same!). Beth Callanan tcallanet@gmail.com February 2016

Squirrels - Adcock's is the only firm I know of. They don't take the critters to a lovely happy forest to set them free, however. Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com February 2016

Squirrels - When we had a problem with squirrels some years ago in our attic we used Adcock who did a great job. The squirrels were very crafty and resisted the humane traps for a while but eventually got caught. Adcock then made the necessary repairs preventing their return and we've had no further problems. Personally I do not find rats with bushy tails cute despite all the children's stories. Frances Davidson davidsonj3@comcast.net February 2016

Squirrels - The Humane Society of the United States recommends Humane Wildlife Services: http://www.humanesociety.org/animal_community/humane-wildlife-services/ Elissa Free elissabill@gmail.com February 2016

PET SERVICES – (arranged by type of service)

DOG WALKER - Ari Fishman is really experienced and reliable. Her number is 301-538. 3522. Hedda Garland heddagarland@mac.com April 2015

DOG WALKER - Chris Aden is excellent if he has room for another client! 402-960-8381 or christopheraden070@gmail.com Ann Ingram anningram@mac.com April 2015

GROOMER - We have good experience with mobile dog groomers. We took our dog to a groomer on St. Elmo Ave in Bethesda for years until they kept her all day and cut her lip. That was it. Since then we have used "Bark In Style". We always get the same groomer, they are prompt, the dog runs out to the truck because she likes it, and she doesn't have to stay caged up all day. The one issue is the price. They are expensive, but they are coming to your house. Bark In Style's number is 202-489-1989. John Natali john.natali@verizon.net June 2015

GROOMER - I have used Smooches Kitties ((202) 723-7387) for years. Our dog is not a specific breed so I don't really care what she looks like, just need her to be shaved down to be cool in the summer and tidy at other times. I have had very good luck with them. The person who answers the phone is a bit hesitant, but bear with her as all ends well. Neighbors use the Dirty Dog Laundry and Bark in Style and I have not heard any complaints from them. Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com June 2015

VETERINARIAN - These vets will do routine exams and vaccinations in your home. They will also come to euthanize a pet:

Dr. JD Warford, DC Metro Vet, dcmetrovet.com 877-669-8706

Dr. Karen Randall, Solace Veterinary Services, solaceveterinaryservices.com, 301-674-4123

Vet Dispatch, vetdispatch.com, 877-400-8387

Dr. Flo Mitchell, (703) 620-3919

Rock Creek Home Veterinary Care, 301) 828-8846

Friendship Hospital also has a list of home care vets on file. I believe that Collins has a vet who also makes house calls. I have used both Rock Creek for care of a neighbor's cats and also Flo Mitchell to euthanize our dog. I highly recommend both. Regarding Friendship - I have had nothing but excellent care there always and did have a 'regular' vet, Dr. Nicola Moore. I saw her regularly for a number of years. Our dog has also been treated by Dr. Logan and Dr. Matthiesen - all of whom are excellent, caring, , thoughtful, understanding, and who don't push further treatment if the pet is too sick or old to go through more procedures. Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com June 2015

PHYSICAL THERAPISTS –

One of the very best, most knowledgeable, of highest regard by patients and doctors, in the entire area is located at 5480 Wisconsin Ave immediately north of Friendship Heights! Dr. Charles Kibbey has successfully taken care of me and friends of mine for years now, some of us after serious injuries. Some patients among my friends have had strokes, surgeries, other medical problems. A number of us, including myself, have returned to him in later years with new issues, confident of getting the best care. ehgreenstone@aol.com July 2014

Inspired by someone who had the good idea of compiling a list of the recommendations he (or she) received, here I am with my list of PT recs, hoping it will be useful! Am just passing on the info, nothing to add yet. Malika Maclouf malikamac@yahoo.fr September 2015

• **Body works PT**, Laura probert <http://lauraprobert.com>

• I can strongly recommend **Rose Physical Therapy** located downtown near Farragut North metro stop. They take insurance. <http://rosept.com>

• **Chris Cousins at DC Physio**. Did a great job on my broken upper arm. <http://www.physiodc.com>

• I have had great success with lots of my patients at the **National Rehabilitation Network** across the street from Saks. 5530 Wisconsin ave. <http://www.medstarnrh.org/our-network/locations/friendship-heights/#q={ }>

• For back pain? **Art Sansone**. Dupont circle. <http://www.artsansonept.com>

• **Summit PT** in Friendship Heights. Great in working with Medicare limitations.

When I had my knee replaced, I thought they were very good as they run a tight ship, meaning they keep to a schedule. The clients are much older, mostly post op, but if you go in the afternoon, then there a mix of ages. One of my clients who had double knee replacement went there pre-op and recovered very quickly. He is not doing his post op PT, There is parking in the building, crazy in the am, but better in the afternoon. [301 654-5600](tel:3016545600) suite 1650, 5530 Wisconsin. You need to book ahead 2-3 weeks in you need PT for several weeks.

- I rehabbed a serious knee surgery with **Haim Hechtman and Louise Kelley at Point Performance Therapy** in Bethesda (Goldsboro Road near River). They're outstanding. <http://www.pointperformance.com/contact/>
 - I had a very good experience with **Susan Guardado of VSG Physical Therapy**. At Friendship Heights and in my insurance. www.vsgpt.com.
 - I would recommend **Kibbe and Terle** (<http://www.kibbeyandterle.com>) and **Restore Motion** <http://www.restoremotion.com>
 - I highly recommend **Terry Sneed and her team at Elite Physical Therapy** in Georgetown
And : **Dr. Karen Bonney of Elite Physical Therapy**. She specializes in a wide range of therapeutic practices including dry needling <http://www.eliteptandwellness.com/>
 - **Physiotherapy Associates** on New Mexico in the medical building next to Chef Geoff's. Brilliant and very good at fitting people in quickly. <http://myphysio.com>
 - **Jeff Robinson at Core Physical Therapy** for chronic neck pain. He's excellent! Core's # is [202/659-2673](http://www.corept.com).
 - **Holly at Smart Therapy in DC** is fabulous!!!! <http://www.wosm.com/smartherapy/>
 - I'd add an enthusiastic recommendation for **Got Your Back Chiropractic** at <http://gotyourbackchiropractic.com> In the neighborhood at 4900 Massachusetts, Dr. Justin Klein has a holistic approach that includes PT, chiropractic, and a range of other wellness methods. My orthopedic surgeon recommended surgery for my neck problems - thanks to Dr. Klein and his team I'm pain free.
- FOR KIDS ONLY**
- I would highly recommend Terry Rosenber at Sensational Kids Therapy . she can be reached at terry_rosenberg@hotmail.com . We have been with her for 3 years and she has positively changed our lives forever!
- And, to conclude, a deterrent :
- Terry Sneed's accounting practices leave much to be desired. For months, they billed me for stuff I did not purchase. Finally they refunded the \$75 they actually owed me, She uses STET and heat and ice that have little therapeutic value. However, her clients are much younger and healthier than those at Sibley or Summit. Although she just moved, the exercise room is a little small.

PICTURE FRAMERS –

The Framers Workroom does excellent work and its staff is pleasant, knowledgeable, and easy to work with. Joanne Levine joannelevine202@gmail.com September 2014

I've liked the results from the Framers' Wookroom. A few years ago I also used the framer at the little building at the corner of Wisconsin and Ellicott. I did not like the results from them. John Wheeler johnwheeler.dc@gmail.com September 2014

I've been using Framers' Workroom for so many years I can't remember. They are wonderful. A nice group of people, good framing selections, great pricing especially in the DIY (Do It Yourself) category. We're so lucky to have this resource in the neighborhood. Kay Springwater rk.springwater@starpower.net September 2014

I've had great experience with Picasso Gallery on Wisconsin. The owner is a really nice guy and in my opinion has an excellent eye. He is happy to show lower-price options if you ask. Beautiful framing can be really expensive (and is usually worth it!) Ketura Persellin ketura@joyfulcloset.com April 2016

I don't usually rag on small businesses, but I had two pretty bad experiences (one through a Groupon) at the small shop next to Ace Hardware - I also didn't especially care for their inventory. In contrast, I agree the owner of Picasso is excellent. I vaguely recall he did conservation work at the Smithsonian - great eye and meticulous. Framers Workshop can be fun if you want to save a few dollars and do a portion of the framing, yourself. It's all ridiculously expensive unless you go to Michaels or online. Worth it, I guess. Good luck! Pamela Garlick pamelagarlick@gmail.com April 2016

I had a good experience with Plaza Artist Materials & Picture Framing in Bethesda on a huge oil canvas I needed framed. They did an amazing job and were good to deal with. I found them on Groupon (they often have great deals on Groupon, so check that out first). I confirmed they were worth a shot based on the reviews

I read about them on Yelp. They also have a location downtown around Dupont Circle I think (I have not been to that one). The Bethesda location has free parking. I will definitely use them again; hopefully with a Groupon. Yes, framing is really expensive. I sympathize. Deborah Raviv draviv363@gmail.com April 2016

Another big thumbs up for Picasso Gallery and Abdi Poozesh. lipkirk@hotmail.com April 2016

My own experience with Framers Workroom over the years has been excellent. Professional, knowledgeable, pleasant people. They will do good work and you can save some of the cost by doing a good part of the work yourself as well as having the pleasure of the moment. However, to save money on my large size wood frames (18 x24 frame for 12x18 photograph, with mat and non-reflecting glass), I've used the online outfit www.arttoframe.com with great success. I'm quite pleased with the workmanship and efficiency. Shipping is from Brooklyn and is reasonable, the package being well packed. They too are quite helpful on the telephone if you have questions or need assurances. Good luck. Ron Springwater rkspringwater@starpower.net April 2016

I went to the Framers Workshop on Wisconsin Ave. The frame project would have cost me \$425. Then I tried Frame Workshop in Rockville: 1044 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, (301) 468-9500. The same job was \$235. I prefer to support my community that much of a difference was unreasonable. The Frame Workshop did a great job. A. Novak anovak39@yahoo.com April 2016

I have been using Framers Workroom for many years. Thomas, the manager, is just the nicest person. They are well aware of conservation practices and don't use cheap acidic materials that will ruin your artwork. I'm a professional artist, former paper conservator at the Museum of American History, so this is really important to me. Whenever I finish a new piece, I have them cut the mat, the ultraviolet-filtering glass (to prevent the art from fading), and the pieces of frame stock. They call me when my order is ready and I pick it up and assemble the frame on my big work table at home. Most people do the assembling at the shop with help from the staff. Yes, framing is expensive, even when you do it yourself, but that's the way it is everywhere. Carolyn Long carolynlong@earthlink.net April 2016

Picasso is my only choice for framing. The owner has a superb eye for color as well for frame and mat color combinations. He is quiet thoughtful person. The shop has wonderful selection of frames. When I see my finished framing projects, I am always marvel at the results. Framing is expensive in this city. Real estate and inventory are a large part of a frame owner's cost. I also perceive that framing quality, in large part, is in the eye of the beholder. Ann Eichenberger aeichenberger@gmail.com April 2016

I also have used the Framers Workroom for many years and have been very happy with their services. The reason professional framing is expensive is because good framing is time-consuming. I have tried doing my own framing, and every step is difficult, from getting a picture centered in the mat, getting the corners of the frame to be at perfect right angles, getting the glass perfectly clean and streak-free, and getting all the dust specks off the glass, mat, and picture before closing up the frame; it can take at least an hour, often more. Conservation-grade materials also are expensive. Plus, you are getting the benefit of professional framers' training and expertise. Jo Levine joannelevine202@gmail.com April 2016

Picasso Gallery is the best and I have used them for many years. Ajjacelb1@aol.com April 2016

PLASTERERS –

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

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

also. His home phone is 301-933-1127 and cell phone is 240-372-7260. Elinor Tucker
elinor_tucker@yahoo.com May 2014

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

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

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

PLUMBERS –

I want to add my kudos to plumber John Taylor, telephone 240.472.2121. He was prompt and his fee was very reasonable. He could have suggested a very expensive or an unnecessary repair but did not do so. I am very pleased with the result. Kenneth kenwashdc@yahoo.com January 2014

I just wanted to put in a strong recommendation for R.L. Voight Plumbers. We've had Robbie come out several times to our house in AU Park and each time we've been very happy. He does a great job and also explains things clearly so you understand what he's doing or recommending and what it's going to cost. RL Voight is at [301-946-6100](tel:301-946-6100). Don't call John C. Flood's. It's the opposite of everything I wrote above. Seth Hanlon seth.hanlon@gmail.com September 2014

I've used rocket router and been pleased with them. One plumber I used didn't use the correct head on the snake and it was caught in the drain. lyndaCouvillion@yahoo.com June 2015

Used Roto Rooter last week and their service was good. They are expensive but you can negotiate with them. Adam Tope adam@adamtope.com June 2015

Mike Rich is an excellent plumber. (301) 509-2776. Coletta Kemper coletta.kemper@ciab.com June 2015

Call Steve Cullen with Pipe and Stone at [\(301\)807-9848](tel:301807-9848) or smcullen@verizon.net. He's a plumber with a specialty in irrigation systems and outdoor/municipal plumbing systems. He's wonderful and also does re-grading of yards, stonework, etc. Amanda DeLorme carterandmole@aol.com July 2015

I strongly recommend John Taylor, 240-472-2121. He's very persistent when grappling with a tough project and is extremely reasonable in his fees. He's done several jobs for me over the years and I have always been very happy with the results. Kathy Smith kathysindc@gmail.com August 2015

I agree with Kathy Smith's recommendation of John Taylor. It was because of her recommendation that I first called him. I live in the area where DC Water has recently been doing a lot of work, including installing backflow preventers. DC Water sent letters to everyone where the work was being done indicating that there should be a thermal expansion tank installed on the hot water heater's cold water intake pipe. When I called Mr. Taylor about this, he explained exactly why it was necessary and how it worked. He then installed it and explained just what he was doing. He takes great pride in his work and makes it easier for a future plumber to work on the system. John Wheeler johnwheeler.dc@gmail.com August 2015

Mike Rich is very good and nice guy. (301) 509-2776. Kemperc47@gmail.com November 2015

I have an excellent plumber recommendation for someone who often works in our neighborhood and can get to our houses quickly. His name is Wilber Lopez. He has 15 years of residential plumbing experience and is building up a client list now that he's gone out on his own. He offers free estimates, is honest, and very reasonably priced. Within 10 minutes, he figured out what was wrong with our bathroom sink that had stopped working and fixed it. It's working better than ever now. My husband is pretty handy with plumbing but was at a loss on the sink, so I feel comfortable giving Wilber a solid recommendation! His contact info is [240-361-8582](tel:240-361-8582) or lopez.wilber@yahoo.com. mcjamma@hotmail.com February 2016

My wife and I have used Fry Plumbing for years and years. They're very easy to work with, affordable, competent. Note: most plumbers have minimums, will charge extra for weekends. They're in DC: [202-543-4884](tel:202-543-4884). Larry Enten larryenten@aol.com April 2016

PODIATRISTS –

Several weeks ago I needed to see a podiatrist. I chose Dr. Joel Morse whose office is in Foxhall Square. I was pleased with him. (He took my insurance.) John Wheeler johnwheeler.dc@gmail.com November 2014

I had a good experience with Dr. Raymond Merkin at 3301 New Mexico Ave., 202-363-2035. I believe he accepts Medicare. Kathy Smith kathysindc@gmail.com November 2014

Alas we had a string of foot and ankle traumas (a running injury, a sledding injury, and a fall), and had excellent care from Steven Kominsky (Mid-Atlantic Podiatry, 4910 Massachusetts Ave. 202-966-1228) including a successful ankle surgery. Lance Potter lancemail@gmail.com November 2014

POWER-WASHING & DECK CLEANING –

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

ROOFERS –

A few years ago I hired Superior Home Improvement (George Ugaz) to install snow guards on my roof. All seemed well until the big snows we had 2 years ago when virtually all the snow guards came off the roof, along with some shingles. Turned out Superior hadn't nailed the guards in place. I will not use this company again. Janet Bachman jbachman47@gmail.com. June 2015

I don't know which kind of shingles are the best, but we used Certainteed, 50-year shingles and are very happy with the results. We also asked for lead collars, rather than neoprene collars. The neoprene has the reputation of shrinking and eventually leaking. Jack's Roofing did our job and we were very happy with them. Kathy Smith kathysindc@gmail.com September 2014

We recently used J. Hahn & Co. of Brookeville, 301-774-0101 and 301-641-3343. and were very pleased with his work. He has a good rating on Consumers Checkbook. Although his web site indicates that he specializes in wood shake roofs, he also does asphalt shingle. Joanne Levine joannelevine202@gmail.com December 2014

We have used Marc Whitehead for repairs to our original slate roof. He is a one-man-show, sometimes with an assistant. He does excellent slate work, and also installed new snow guards for us. He was recommended by a neighbor who had roof repairs done as well, and new copper gutters and flashing installed. He is pricey, but

worth it. He will give you a range of options for any repairs. We have found him to be very honest, punctual, and pleasant to work with. His number is (703) 868-2194. K. Scott kscott1080@gmail.com December 2014

Mike Brown has repaired my slate roof, installed new gutters, and cleaned my gutters for years. The person who recommended him had also used him with complete satisfaction. And I believe he is on Angie's List or Checkbook. He is honest, very competent, has all of his papers in order. Michael Brown Roofing and Gutters, cell: 240-372-9574, office: 301-253-1202, email: meb0506@yahoo.com. Ann Salem salem27104@rcn.com December 2014

After trying a few different roofers during 22 years in this house, I will always use the one I (and my neighbors) find to be the best -- most conscientious, competent, trustworthy, effective, and cost-efficient: **Mike Brown, (240) 372-9574, meb0506@yahoo.com**. At least three or four other folks on our little block-long street have used him and all say the same. He did the tin roof over my front porch 22 years ago, and most recently, he repaired a leak near the chimney on my slate roof (which the first guy bungled); he worked on a neighbor's slate roof to install a skylight. In other words, he has a broad range of roofing skills. He's a small business owner with a lot of integrity. I obtained two bids on the last job, and although his was a bit more, he was FAR more comprehensive in what he covered -- he didn't cut corners and was thorough in his approach and execution. My preference is for individual professionals rather than big companies or franchises; the good ones are always busy! Lori Annaheim lannaheim@mindspring.com June 2015

Call William Fletcher Roofing [\(301\) 565-0212](tel:3015650212). He came by to give me an estimate after Rizzo roofers had recommended him highly for small roofing jobs. He immediately found the source of the leak that two other roofers had managed to miss and said he'd fix it on the spot for \$75, which he proceeded to do. Roof has been fine since, even in the recent thunderstorms. From now on, I'll always call Fletcher first whenever I have a roofing problem. jkellyesq@netscape.net June 2015

Troy at D and M Roofing Enterprises (301-948-0100 or dmhomeremodel@gmail.com) is a standout. While they didn't do the roof, they did identify the issues with the roof and maintenance free gutters that the recent sub-contracted roofers had made or ignored. He also identified some issues with windows and caulking that he noticed while he was inspecting the roof and the gutters. Upshot: we had him come back and fix everything. REALLY nice guy, good work, reasonably priced. Wish he'd done the roof. dniedzolkowski@yahoo.com December 2015

Mike Brown and his carpenter Terry did a terrific job for us last February. He was very reasonable as well as just being a good guy as was Terry. Michael E. Brown, Custom Roofing & Guttering, INC, 10125 Nightingale St, Gaithersburg, MD 20882. Jo Bradley jo.m.bradley@gmail.com April 2016

Mike Brown Custom Roofing, [240-372-9574](tel:2403729574) - he was less than half the price of the next roofer and twice as good. He also does gutter work. I have also used Patch roofing, [301-229-1595](tel:3012291595). I went to high school with the owner, Robert Patch and Widmayer, [301-984-7787](tel:3019847787). I used him for over 30 years on various properties, but he was too busy last time I needed something and then I found Mike - both are good if you can't get Mike. Sarah Morse morsekathan@gmail.com April 2016

SECURITY SERVICES –

Highly recommend using a locally-based security service. I have had **Urban Alarm** for 5 years and am very satisfied. The owner, Miles Fawcett lives our area and is actively involved. They are responsive and easy to contact. Alarms are quickly responded to. silverjoan@yahoo.com November 2014

We find Vector Security, a national company, efficient, attentive and helpful. They are at www.vectorsecurity.com. Elaine Greenstone ehgreenstone@aol.com November 2014

Call Urban Alarm. The owner, Miles Fawcett, lives in CP. I much prefer them to the big impersonal companies. I carefully interviewed and got prices from 3 or 4 companies when we put in this system. We had a diff system that came with the house, and it was a bad experience. I've found Urban Alarm to be responsive. The system works well. We have monitoring. Feel free to tell them I sent you. Cindy Snyder cindysnyder123@gmail.com July 2015

I have had Urban Alarm since early 2010 and have been very satisfied. It is a local company and the owner lives in AU Park. Joan Silver silverjoan@yahoo.com July 2015

I've had ADT for years and have been satisfied with them. Jean Bolan bolanjc@yahoo.com December 2015

We have ADT. A few glitches along the way but the service people come to look after it. Jo Bradley jo.m.bradley@gmail.com December 2015

We use Astech Security. We had a good experience with installation and continue to do so. Steven Gross gross.steven@gmail.com December 2015

We have had ADT for ten years. A couple of years ago, there was a problem - the alarm kept going off in the middle of the night. It took them several visits to diagnose the problem and fix it. Suffice it to say, it is stressful to be woken up by the house alarm several nights in a row. I had considered changing the security system but finally they fixed the problem. Neela Ranade neela_ranade@msn.com December 2015

SHOE REPAIR –

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

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

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

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

* Sterling Cleaners (less than .25 blocks south of Dupont on Connecticut has an EXCELLENT and affordable cobbler/leather worker on premise at amazing rates. I've never been anything but pleased. 1331 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036, [\(202\) 723-9535](tel:202-723-9535)
Diana April 2014

SIDING –

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

SNOW SHOVELING –

Try Sunrise Landscape Corp., 301-877-4001. They did a good job shoveling out several neighbors' cars. Joanne Levine joannelevine@earthlink.net January 2016

We live at 48th and Ellicott. Our lawn crew does snow shoveling for several homes on our block. They arrive early as soon as snow stops and are very reliable. Field of Dreams is the company. Contact Norbert - norbert@fieldofdreams.com Best, Ingrid Smith sweetpea7711238@yahoo.com January 2016

I love Anthony whose number is [202.531.3658](tel:202.531.3658). He always goes the extra mile and is very strong, dedicated and hard working. No matter how bad the conditions, he gets to my house (Tenleytown) as soon as he can. Best, Carol Thompson January 2016

I have a super snow shoveler for \$40 an hour with a minimum of one hour (\$40). His name is Quentin Johnson and his number is 404 326-1240. He lives on 45th at Chesapeake Street. He's available all day Sunday. Linda

Hughes hugs4linda@gmail.com January 2016

Rene Hernandez has done a lot of work for us- both yard work and handyman jobs and is now ready for the snow. He is a very reliable and friendly person. 240 498-2594. Claudia Taubman cltaubman1@gmail.com January 2016

SOLAR PANELS –

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

Having just gone through this process (well, last November) and gotten estimate from several companies including Common Cents Solar, I have a few hints and recommendations: First - get three or more estimates (most 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 May 2009

TAILORS & SEAMSTRESSES –

We have used Jeung-He at President's Valet on Wisc. Ave just north of Tenley. Not inexpensive but very good. Always satisfied. Robin Glantz robinglantz@me.com November 2014

I have used John at Kenwood Tailors on River Road for years and he is fabulous. Sheila Stinson sdswashdc@gmail.com November 2014

I use the alterations person at Parks Cleaners, 4000 Wisconsin. She is good. No complaints so far and she has done a lot of work for me. You can park in the circle. There is usually a space or two available. Marjorie Dick Stuart Marjorie.dickstuart@longandfoster.com November 2014

There is an Asian man I have used to reconstruct an overcoat, new lining reset shoulders etc. He did a wonderful job at a very reasonable price. He also makes custom suits and shirts. His shop is on the east side of Wisconsin Ave in the 5000 or 5100 block. Karen Fitzgerald karenandrighard@gmail.com January 2015

Do's Tailor in Georgetown is excellent in my opinion but can be quite expensive. Michael Levenberg Michael.levenberg@gmail.com January 2015

have only used them once when they first opened, but I was very pleased with Louie -- next to Pete's Pizza. Catherine Vial Catherine_vial@yahoo.com January 2015

I used Louie's and found them very customer-friendly, and I was pleased with their work. Kris Moore kmoore@childtrends.org January 2015

There is a tailor next to Pete's pizza. The couple of things I have brought in he has done a nice job with. Heather heathernatyr@gmail.com September 2015

John at Kenwood Tailors on Westbard is the best. Virginia Howard Virginia.howard@ymail.com September 2015

TAXIS –

Have you thought of Uber? It has worked great for us. Neela Ranade neela_ranade@msn.com October 2015

Uber is the only way I travel when I need a driver! Marcello mmuzzatti@aol.com October 2015

We always call Red Top Cab (<http://redtopcab.com/>) to take us to National Airport. They don't do destinations in DC. I don't know if they'll take you to Alexandria, but you can try them. On the occasions when our car has been non-operational and we've needed a cab to come to our house and take us to an event in DC, we've tried Yellow and Checker and they come very late or not at all.

Carolyn Long carolynlong@earthlink.net October 2015

I highly recommend Mr. Ronald Reed who is the owner-operator of his own taxi. The vehicle is spotless and he is engaging and quite the gentleman. We once exchanged life stories in a ride to an airport. While I have never had him wait for several hours for me, I suspect he will be open to the suggestion. I keep his business card on my refrigerator. He aims to please. Give him a call. Mr. Reed. 301 775-7802. Linda Hughes hugs4linda@gmail.com October 2015

I strongly recommend Allsaints McCauley who owns AllSaints Cab. We have used him for several years now and is extremely reliable. His cab is clean. He does not drive fast :-). Is always in a contagiously good mood. Allsaints can be reached by phone or text at (240) 381-5024. Catherine_vial@yahoo.com October 2015

I've been using Diamond cabs my whole life, and my parents before me, but I rarely use cabs these days. The wonderful thing about Diamond is that you can reserve a cab in advance IF you are going to a point of departure--airport, railroad station, and, I imagine, bus station --or a medical facility. The cost to Dulles has decreased since cabs went to meters, and if you will be away more than a few days is very cost effective compared to the long term parking lot. I then take the shuttle home, when time isn't of the essence. Harriet Dwinell hdwinell@aol.com October 2015

I too am a huge Diamond Cab fan. Always very quick on arriving, drivers actually know where they are going and know very quick routes, always courteous and pleasant and I love the dispatch lady. I use cabs frequently and this company is my top choice. Deb debmorris3@aol.com October 2015

I have relied on Red Top over the past 20 years for service to Dulles and National. They have never failed to appear on time or, more often, ahead of schedule. They also offer car/limo service in two or three categories, the lowest of which is only marginally more expensive than a taxi and apparently is not bound by the same restrictions as VA taxis operating in DC (e.g. they can make a second stop in DC on the way to the airport).

Michael Calingaert mcalingaert@brookings.edu October 2015

TAX PREPARERS –

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

We use Harvey Reich who is really great - we have very complex taxes and he handles it no problem. He's also great for advice. He can be reached at paul-cpa@erols.com.

Ross Filice rwfilice@gmail.com February 2016

TILE WORK –

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

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

TREE SERVICES –

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

I highly recommend Treeman, Inc. Reasonable and professional. Check their website. lmarnaccio@yahoo.com December 2014

We have used Integrated Plant Care for years. The owner and arborist, Paul Wolfe, is knowledgeable and a pleasure to work with. They are in Rockville, 301-881-8130. Joanne Levine joannelevine202@gmail.com December 2014

We have used Branches a couple of times with total satisfaction, and recommended them to our neighbors who were quite satisfied as well. Look at http://branchestreeexperts1.reachlocal.net/residential.php?utm_source=ReachLocal&utm_medium=PPC&utm_campaign=ReachLocal. Ron Springwater rkSpringwater@starpower.net December 2014

We had a HUGE tree removed by Adirondack Tree Experts. They did an incredible job! John Anna who is the owner is a true professional and honest to the core. They do everything "by the book" to prevent any problem with DC government and in fact is one of the companies used by DC to remove District trees. Their phone number is (301) 595-2827. The website (I think) is www.Adirondacktreeexperts.com. Happy to discuss if you would like to call. Virginia Howard Virginia.howard@ymail.com 202-997-6007 May 2015

We use Bartlett Trees. They're expensive, though. Carolyn Long carolynlong@earthlink.net May 2015

We have worked many times with Keith Pitchford and recommend him very highly, 202-333-385 Catherine Fowlkes catherinekuhnle@yahoo.com May 2015

Branch Tree Experts, Kensington, MD is excellent - they saved a large maple tree in our back yard. Phone 301-589-6181. squasher@starpower.net May 2015

I highly recommend Paul Wolfe of Integrated Plant Care, 301-881-8130. He's very knowledgeable, and honest -- he will tell you when you don't need to do something. He has most of the tree work done by a subcontractor, but we've been satisfied with that person's work. Joanne Levine joannelevine202@gmail.com May 2015

I highly recommend Chapingo Tree Care Specialists. They received top marks in Washington Consumer Checkbook for quality and price. Jose Alvarez, their estimator, is an ISA Certified Arborist. I have used them several times and found their work and prices excellent, and I have recommended them to several neighbors, who were also pleased with their work and then recommended them to other neighbors. Their phone number for a free estimate is 301-646-2516. You can also Google them at chapingotrecare.com. Elinor Tucker elinor_tucker@yahoo.com May 2015

We have used Bob Blakely or Northern Woods Tree Service a number of times. He has removed trees, pruned and trimmed a huge southern magnolia and also huge holly a number of times. I also have him work on our Chinese elm (street tree) as I refuse to let the Asplundh guys touch/butcher it. He has a number of crews including climbers (one wee man gets into the top of our magnolia!), cherry pickers, grinders, etc. He is an excellent arborist and comes with great references. He and his crew really know trees and will be honest with you about when and how to prune and will not do needless work. He can be reached at [703-528-2056](tel:703-528-2056). And as an aside, his daughters are The Pie Sisters in Georgetown - fabulous sweet and savory pies! Barbara Dinsmore barbaradinsmore@msn.com June 2015

I recommend Shifflett Tree Service 301-948-5554. They pruned my tulip magnolia (heavy trimming). They responded quickly to my request for service and they did an excellent job of cleaning up. They charged \$300, which I thought, was very fair. Kenneth Hurley kenwashdc@yahoo.com November 2015

Try Tree Man. Great work and very reasonable. Leslie Marina lmartinaccio@yahoo.com November 2015

Shifflett's is outstanding. They removed a gigantic dead tree for me, patiently waiting while I got the permit to take it out and the No Parking placards to place on trees, posts and anything vertical to give them lots of street space for their equipment. I didn't know they also prune. Their fees are reasonable too. Linda Hughes hugs4linda@gmail.com January 2016

I can only support Linda's recommendation for Shifflett Tree Service. It is a family business that I have used in my landscape practice for nearly 20 years!! Barbara Balman bbalman@verizon.net January 2016

UPHOLSTERERS –

We have used Corrado's on Elm Street in Bethesda several times and found them to be a good source for upholstery. They also do interior design. Google them for telephone number. Kay Springwater rksspringwater@starpower.net November 2014

I have always used--and have referred to friends--K & S Interiors in Rockville: 5465 D Randolph Rd. (301) 770-4777 / (cell) (301) 461-1999. Beautiful work. You can select fabrics from them or purchase your own. They pick up and deliver. Ask for Lisa or David Lee. It is a family business. Julie Mack juliemack1@verizon.net November 2014

UPHOLSTERY CLEANING –

We have had this person clean upholstery and carpets for us several times and have been very satisfied with the work: Quality Pro 240-372-7477. Jeffrey Drobis jeffdrobis@gmail.com December 2015

We recently used Heaven's Best (202-882-1888), which was recommended on the service provider list. We planned to clean and donate a modular sofa that we thought was beyond hope. The sofa was cleaned so well, we decided to keep it. Laura St. Martin watsaint@gmail.com December 2015

WATER TREATMENT –

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

WET BASEMENTS –

We recommend Mid-Atlantic Waterproofing. They did a great job for us. Bobby Turnbull bobbyturnbull@comcast.net March 2015

We live in a house that has been battling flooding issues since it was built in the 40s. Last spring we had a massive flood in the basement, which forced us to finally deal with the problem once and for all. We used RL Voight and Son and have been beyond pleased. They snaked our drain and put in a sump (among other things like replacing old cast iron pipe riddled with holes, etc.). They are definitely not over-priced but maybe not the cheapest. However, we believe that plumbing is one of those things that falls into the you-get-what-you-pay-for category. My husband is a former contractor and he has nothing but the highest praise for the work they've done on our house. Our drains are in great working order now and the sump has been a lifesaver for us.

There's no sweeter sound than hearing our sump pump turn on when it's wet outside and having that piece of mind. I would give them a call. They will be able to get you on the right path. They're a family run business and it really feels that way when dealing with them. Chris is whom we dealt with when having the drains snaked and Barry is our guy who has been the one to replace pipes and put in the sump - both were knowledgeable and great to work with. We really felt like everyone went above and beyond to help us get our situation under control. And they have excellent reviews online which is rare for a plumber! Their website is RLVoight.com and their number is [301-946-6100](tel:301-946-6100). Stephanie runs the office there and she does all the scheduling. Nadia Simon nadiasimon@gmail.com February 2016

At the suggesting of one of the nice folks on this Community E Serve, I called **Rocket Rooter in Rockville, MD** (www.RocketRooter.com), **877 425-5758 or 301 424-1141**. Owner Doug Belcher came this morning (Monday) with an assistant, stated with certainty that the area-way drainage does indeed tie into the sanitary line in my home, and with tool called a "tager", simply a metal pole with a rubber disc on the end, which acts

like a plunger, cleaned out the drain in a few minutes. The charge was \$250, well worth it. It is working fine now. Doug even followed up by sending me the part number for the metal grate (which had to be replaced, as I had to break it to get access to the pipe below), which I ordered, online for under \$20 inc. shipping. RocketRooter guarantees their work, and had they not been able to clean out the drain, there would have been no charge. I highly recommend Rocket Rooter, and I will ask that they be added to our list of Preferred Contractors, especially for drain cleaning (i.e. roto rooter type work). The key was that Doug verified that indeed I was *not* connected to a dry well, in which case I would have starting looking into drainage tile, grading, sump pump, etc. These houses (I am on Butterworth Pl.) do, in most cases, have closed drainage systems, where the storm drain connects into the sanitary drain (not the way it is done today, with separate systems), but key information in solving storm drainage problems, and not spending more time and money than necessary. Steve Anlian steveanlian@yahoo.com February 2016

WINDOW REPAIR & REPLACEMENT -

I don't know the extent of the repairs he does, but Fathi Amiri did a wonderful job replacing several sashes--cords--of my windows several years ago. His number is 301-951-6138;cell 240-413-4207. I believe I got his name from the Communit-e listserv. 🗺️ Harriet Dwinell Hdwinell@aol.com October 2014

A few months ago I asked for recommendations for someone who could fix broken cords and other problems with my original sash windows. I had the work done by the highly recommended Fathi Amiri of Chevy Chase Window Repair (240-413-4207). He replaced cords in several windows and broken wood inside the box frame of one of my windows. I am stunned at how smoothly they work now. Very reasonably priced. Happy to add my enthusiastic recommendation. So glad to have my windows working in time for this glorious weather, Gretchen Schieber schieberg1@yahoo.com March 2015

Last year I asked for recommendations for someone who could repair the small leaded glass window in my front door. I had the work done by Daniel Wolkoff of Adams Morgan Stained Glass (www.adamsmorganstainedglass.com). He created a new window for me using handmade glass. It's really lovely, nicer than the original window. I liked it so much I also had him replace the glass in one of my bathroom windows with textured handmade glass. I am very pleased with both jobs. The cost was not inexpensive but I think it was appropriate for the quality of work. He is overscheduled, so finding a time can be a challenge, yet I very much recommend his work. Gretchen Schieber schieberg1@yahoo.com March 2015

WINDOW WASHERS –

I've used Old Dominion Cleaning for many years. They do an excellent job and they're punctual. 703-569-2000 Janet Bachman jbachman47@gmail.com June 2015