

PRODUCTS & SERVICES: YOUR NEIGHBORS' RECOMMENDATIONS

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

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 not listed.

INDEX - WHERE TO FIND

A rchitects - 2	Engineers - 12	Piano Teachers - 26
Auto Body Repairs - 2	F irewood - 12	Picture Framers - 26
Auto Dealers - 2	Floor Refinishers - 12	Plumbers - 26
Auto Mechanics - 2	Furniture Refinishers - 13	Power Washing & Deck Cleaning - 28
B abysitters - 3	G raphic Designers - 13	R eferral Services - 28
Bicycle Repairs - 4	Gutter Cleaning - 13	Roofers - 29
Book Donations - 5	H andyman - 14	S ecurity Services - 30
C abinet Makers - 5	Heating & A/C - 16	Snow Shoveling - 30
Carpenters - 6	Housekeepers - 17	T ailors & Seamstresses - 30
Carpet Cleaners - 6	I nterior Designers & Decorators - 18	Tree Services - 31
Caterers - 6	J ewelry & Watch Repairers - 18	Tutors - 31
Childbirth Classes - 7	K itchen Remodelers - 18	U pholsters - 32
Chimney Sweeps - 7	L awn & Yard Services - 19	W et Basements - 32
Computer Repairs, Help & Recycling - 8	Locksmiths - 21	Window Repair & Replacement - 32
Construction - 9	Lost Pets - 21	Window Washers - 33
D entists - 10	M asons - 21	
Doctors (OB/GYN) - 10	Movers - 22	
Doors -11	Music Teachers - 23	
Driving Instructors- 11	P ainters - 23	
E lder Services - 11	Pest Control Services - 25	
Electricians - 12	Pet Services- 26	

ARCHITECTS -

AU Park has two superb architects, and I know them both personally and by professional reputation. Either one could do wonderful work for you. They are: Brenda Pfeiffer 202-363-9217 and Bill Feeney 202-537-0397. John Mahaffie jbmahaffie@starpower.net - August 2004

Yes, Bill Feeney is indeed excellent and I would add another AU Park resident: Chris Brown on 202-362-5214. ocracroake@yahoo.com - August 2004

I would highly recommend Bill Feeney --- an AU Park resident (45th & Chesapeake Streets) and fabulous guy! I have used him for two projects (one really major one) and he is great to work with. I have also recommended him to many other people in the area. He can be reached at 202-537-0397. Bkravetz@aol.com 2003

AUTO BODY REPAIR -

Kevin Lee was one of the Managers of Randolph Auto Body & Paint, 5411 Randolph Road; Rockville, Md. 20852 who did a superior job repairing my Volks Jetta when I was rear-ended on the way home from work sitting at a stop sign at the intersection of 37th and Tunlaw; there is an EZ Car Rental establishment on the same premises, (Jung Ju, 301-230-1870) with low and reasonable rates and even free pick-up like Enterprise, which made it very convenient; and those of you out there who panic at going " way out to the suburbs" his directions were concise and flawless! Email address: randolphautobody@yahoo.com Paull Sargent ptsargent1@verizon.net April 2005

AUTO DEALERS -

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

AUTO MECHANICS -

And last, but by no means least, an excellent auto mechanic (Gtn. Exxon, 1601 Wisconsin Ave., NW (corner of Wisconsin and Q Street) named Tom who is a great "diagnoser"; Manager: Mo; Counterman: Mohammed; a little pricey, but well worth it in the long run. Paull Sargent ptsargent1@verizon.net April 2005

I have found the guys (particularly Steve, who is now the manager) at the Spring Valley Exxon to be very good, reasonably priced and honest. And, very convenient! Can't ask for more! Bkravetz@AOL.COM 2003

If you drive a non-hybrid Toyota, we recommend having it serviced at Charles Toyota. It's near a metro & we always received excellent service. Kathryn Ray & Dennis Beaufort kcrdlb@verizon.net August 2005

BABYSITTERS -

If you need a Babysitter Monday-Thursday for an evening out call my former co-worker at 301-996-5854. She lives in Bethesda and would like to earn some extra cash. She is a former High School Counselor and is Wonderful with children. She charges \$10.00 per hour. Available time is after 5:30pm. Jennifer Rose jenrose1@yahoo.com 2003

If people are looking for a weekend babysitter, I can recommend my daughter, Noel Healy. She is 17, a junior in high school, and polite and reliable. She is not in the same category as the high school counselor, but your children will be safe with her. You can reach her at 202-966-4252. Anne Chase chase-healy@erols.com 2003

Need a babysitter? Call Susana Figueroa at (301) 552-4620 (between 6pm-10pm). Or email, susana_figueroa@yahoo.com. Susana has her own car and is bilingual (English-Spanish). Elissa Blake Free elissabill@erols.com 2003

If anyone is looking for childcare, my terrific nanny will soon be available Tuesdays, Thursdays and some Fridays. She's legal, speaks perfect English, very energetic and nurturing, but does not drive. If interested, please call me, Maren Siegel, at (202)362-9926 or e-mail me at marenhs@hotmail.com. Maren Handler Siegel marenhs@hotmail.com 2003

This young woman, Jordan Kime, has babysat for us and is lovely. Recent Tulane graduate available for babysitting late afternoons and evenings during the week and anytime on weekends; have own transportation; references available. Please call (202) 277-2339. CaryRidder@aol.com 2003

A 1-year-old girl wants to share her exceptional full-time, 5 days a week nanny. Friendship Heights area. Call Kevin or Katy at (301) 654-1841. Katherine Scott katyandkev@hotmail.com 2003

Our excellent housekeeper has extra time for your house. She is English speaking, unfailingly pleasant, and has been willing to do whatever extra duties we asked. You may call Marlucia Chaves directly, 301-933-2893, or me, Susan Beale, at 202-363-0976. Copingptr@aol.com 2003

We have a wonderful nanny, Rosell, who has been taking care of our two children since they were 6 months and 21 months old. The youngest will be entering kindergarten this fall, so we are looking for a family who would like to have her baby-sit part-time, preferably at least two mornings per week before she comes to our house after school at 3:00. She is available as early as July, but is also willing to start in September after school begins. We absolutely cannot say enough about Rosell - she is fabulous with children! If you are interested, please contact us at (202) 364-1035. Bethany Nickerson bethanyn@gwu.edu June 2005

Sonia Alvarez, our lovely, lovely nanny and housekeeper of 8 years is now available since we moved to India recently. She has taken care of both of our boys since their births (they are now 8 and 4), she ensured them a far healthier diet

than we would, allowed them far less TV than we would, and organized play groups, bike rides, playground visits and so forth. She is a warm, loving and intelligent woman who worked as a nurse in Nicaragua before she came to the US. In addition, she kept our house immaculate. Her spoken English is limited but as a result my kids are fluent Spanish speakers and she does not drive. She is reachable on (301) 567-4870 (home); (240) 432-1411 (cell). We and our kids miss her terribly! Please feel free to email me for references MMalhotral@worldbank.org, or you can call me in Delhi (10.5 hours ahead) at 91-98991-02067. Mohini Malhotra January 2006

I would like to highly recommend Josephina Lorenzo for childcare or eldercare. She has been a companion and aid to my elderly, disabled mother for two years and she is wonderfully compassionate, kind and devoted. She has also worked in a pre-school and has a certificate in child development. As my mother's constant companion, she drove, helped with shopping, ran errands, did the laundry, light cooking oversaw medications and did whatever it took to keep my mother safe and satisfied (and it took a lot). She speaks English well and is legal. She can be reached at 301-466-4362. I will gladly provide references if you contact me by email at marla.mitnick@verizon.net. Marla Mitnick marla.mitnick@verizon.net February 2006

Narti Suwadi, who I consider part of my family, is seeking a full time job as a nanny. Over the past ten years she has worked for my family as a nanny, then kid sitter, and then provided eldercare as our needs changed. She is one of those elite nannies who has worked for several prominent Washington families (and for a few of us who are not so prominent). It's hard to put into words how good she really is. She has a gift with children, excellent judgment and is driven to make her families completely happy. I could go on and on, and will gladly do so if you would like to contact me for a reference. Narti can be reached at 301-681-6486 or 301-792-0572. The other thing I should add is that with Narti you get what you pay for and she commands a top salary. Marla Mitnick marla.mitnick@verizon.net March 2006

BICYCLE REPAIR -

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

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

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

I am an avid cyclist who maintains several bicycles and has periodic repair and upgrade work. I highly recommend Dale Murphy of Dale's Cycle Works, www.dalescycleworks.com, 301-529-0945. Dale has a van and comes to your house to do the work, which is a great convenience. He has done a lot of work for years for DC cycling enthusiasts, both on his own and in his previous incarnation as head mechanic at The Bicycle Place in Bethesda before that shop closed. He's great. Kaid Benfield Noguru81@aol.com

BOOK DONATIONS -

To the person who has used books to give away: Stone Ridge School next to Naval Medical takes donations all year. You can leave them off at any time. Vassar used to have a place but I'm not sure if they still do. So did Bryn Mawr. look4me@earthlink.net 2005

Bryn Mawr accepts book donations at the Lantern in Georgetown: <http://www.his.com/~lantern/> JRomjrom@aol.com 2005

The Montgomery Shelter has a thrift shop near the shelter which benefits the shelter. It's a ways to drive but they take anything and welcome books. It's called Wagging Tails Thrifts, 301-279-0345. Open Tues. - Sat., 10 - 4.00. I must warn you that every time I go there I end up buying stuff! Barbara Harrison barbaraemmal@msn.com 2005

Books for America, 2800 Quebec St. NW, Suite 744, Washington, DC 20008. 202-364-9737 or info@booksforamerica.org. This is an excellent non-profit organization that collects books and distributes them to hospitals, shelters, etc. They will pick up the books at your home. Janet Bachman jbachman@aiadc.org.

CABINET MAKERS -

Jeff Seeley at 363-4151 or 882-8001. He is not a general carpenter. He makes cabinets, bookcases, and other items requiring the skills of a master craftsman. He doesn't take on repairs, fences, etc. July 2005

Try Jeff Wentworth. (202) 841-6613. He is a master carpenter/cabinet maker. He is working for me this week. Chris Turner (202) 462-8800 Cbturneresq@cs.com April 2005

My husband and I have used two people found through your newsletter -- cabinet maker Geoff Seeley and gardener Serena Fossi -- and have been thrilled with the work of both. Thank you again, for making these referrals possible. sandra_sobieraj@peplemag.com Sept. 2005

From KS - Geoff Seeley made a small cabinet for me. I was very pleased. I would also recommend Pat Turvey for more general carpenter jobs.

CARPENTERS -

Carpenter Dusan Bucany at 301-933-0203. Laura Roth roths@sprintmail.com

Don't forget my excellent carpenter Jaime Barrera who built a deck for me, did major repairs on house roof and numerous smaller jobs. His cell phone is: 301-509-2675 Susan Ellis Ellisss@state.gov July 2005

CARPET CLEANERS -

Last year, I recommended Bruce Johnson, owner of Banner Carpet Cleaning, as an excellent carpet cleaner. Quite a few neighbors and friends have used his service and have been very satisfied. His prices are competitive and he is honest and very hard-working; even does the work himself! Bruce is a Captain in the DC Fire Department (Tenleytown Firehouse) and has run his own carpet cleaning business for several years. (Great for orientals too.) Try him for your spring cleaning! Banner Carpet Cleaning 301-353-1217 Amy McVey Abauer4600@aol.com

Prompted by the reviews in Communit-e, I just hired Bruce Johnson and his wife Banner to clean all the upholstered furniture in my house, and a rug. They did a splendid job. I underscore the rave reviews Johnson and Banner have received from Communit-e subscribers. The phone # is 301-353-1217. Lois J. Schiffer lois.schiffer@baachrobinson.com July 2004

I would like to make a commendation/recommendation. Banner Carpet & Upholstering Cleaning, owner/operator Bruce Johnson and wife Sue, are OUTSTANDING. I have recommended them to my clients with great success, have just used their services in our own house and was very pleased with the results. They are way above other cleaners and use excellent products! ANNELIESE.WILKERSON@Longandfoster.com April 2004

I will DITTO Ms. Wilkerson's recommendation of the unbeatable service of BANNER CARPET! Bruce is a retired Captain from the Tenley Firehouse who has for many years been running his own carpet cleaning business. I cannot recommend them highly enough since I have tried many other services and his is much better in thoroughness and professionalism. Bruce Johnson can be reached at 301-353-1217. amybmcvey@msn.com May 2004

So Fresh Carpet Cleaning. 202-575-0508. Cleaned up after a flood. Aug. 2004.

Minkoff Recovery Co. on River Road. Disaster Recovery after floods, fires, etc. Aug. 2004.

CATERERS -

Jerry Hollinger of Jerry's catering. His number is 387-7531. Jennifer Rose jenrosel@yahoo.com

I'd like to recommend: Caterer, chef and home decor seamstress: Marla Gooriah. A fabulous cook who has catered several parties for me - very creative cuisine, generally with a multi-ethnic flair. Also is a great seamstress of

decorative window treatments, tablecloths, pillows, etc. Very reasonable.
(703) 354-7957 Joanne Capper Jcapper@worldbank.org

CHILDBIRTH CLASSES -

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

CHIMNEY SWEEPS -

WINSTON's - They are excellent, honest, and fair prices. We were completely ripped off by some company - told us we needed \$8,000 (!!!!) in repairs before we could use the fireplace. Winston's gave us 2nd opinion and they found a styrofoam block wedged in the flue and the damper literally ripped up and hanging from a hinge - obviously deliberately done by the previous chimney sweep company that wanted the \$8000. Winstons's repaired and cleaned for a very reasonable amount. We use them as sweeps every year and they always are prompt and clean up completely after themselves. Highly recommended. Katherine Mitchell Katherine.mitchell@USPTO.gov
September 2004

I have used Winston's Chimney Service in the past. In the Dupont Circle area they regularly get the nod from homeowners in the know. I'd recommend them without reservation. I know nothing of chimney business but wouldn't be surprised if it takes a while to get on their schedule at this time of year. Winston's Chimney Service, 4212R Howard Avenue, Kensington, MD, 301-571-8546. Sara Cormeny sara@paperlantern.com

Winston's Chimney Restoration and Service, 4212-R Howard Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895; Phone: 301 571-8546; www.atwinstonschimney.com info@atwinstonschimney.com
Matthew Huggins @ tenleytown@yahoogroups.com September 2005

I have used High's Chimney Service for years. They are reliable, well-priced, and won't try to sell you something when you don't need it (at least I don't think so). jodygoodman@starpower.net December 2004

I have found Winston's chimney cleaners to be very reliable and reasonable. Marty Zerwitz no_reply@yahoogroups.com December 2004

Winston's did a good job for me as well. Kevin Pettitt kpettitt@yahoo.com
December 2004

Chimney Crickets is very inexpensive. Patty Adam patty.adam@touchstone.com
December 2004

I like Dave Revesz at Clean Sweep Chimney. Karen M. Muoio kmuoio@ftc.gov
December 2004

Winston's Chimneys, we have been using their services for the chimney of our wood-burning stove since about 1986. They are wonderful, professional, very responsive, easy to reach and reasonable in price. I also now personally know the owner. Dave Benway is an area ambassador for our business group (Business Network International), as well as on the Rockville Chamber of Commerce. He's a

straight-up and honest person and not only does he own Winston's Chimneyshe is a Chaplain as well! Melissa evemel8@aol.com January 2006

COMPUTER REPAIRS, HELP & RECYCLERS -

Another excellent contractor, particularly for the "late bloomer" computer user, as well as the accomplished geek, is Michael Casson of Computeroo Computer and Network services. Not only is he very adept at solving security and firewall problems, but he now has a service that allows him to take over your computer from his business just like the professional help lines. Bus. Address & phone nos: 3708 33rd Place, NW; Wash, DC 20008; mobile: 202-486-3145; Phone: 202-362-0526; Michael@computeroo.net; www.computeroo.net Paul Sargent ptsargent1@verizon.net April 2005

I have used Darby Ford, Mobile PC Solutions, (703) 938-6862 or (571) 243-1336, www.WeComeToYouPC.com and was very happy with her work. She cleaned up my computer, installed anti-virus, anti-spyware and other programs to protect my computer and installed a wireless router so my son could use his own computer when he was home. She's very nice, responsive and reasonably priced. I got her name originally from the COMMUNIT-E newsletter. Gloria White December 2004

Hi, my computer-talented son Richard is very good at helping people with their computers, both setting up the hardware and software and operating problems. He makes house calls in the neighborhood and has been a great help to individuals in the Friendship Heights-Tenleytown area. He is 19 and graduated from Landon School. Currently he working part-time as a web-page designer and is a part-time student at AU. He can be reached at 202-362-7917, at degraves@wizard.net and rictus@techie.com. Donald E. Graves degraves@wizard.net

After spending over four hours in vain to fix a computer problem including calling tech support at Apple and Adobe as well as trying to troubleshoot the problem myself, I was ready to go out and buy a new computer. But then I remembered seeing an ad for "Mac the Knight." After leaving a distressed message on a voice mail, I got a call back within minutes. Dave Felton came to my rescue the next day at noon. Right on time, Dave arrived with his diagnostic CDs and immediately went to work. Less than fifteen minutes later, my computer was working and I was back in business. If you ever are stranded with a problem on a Mac or PC, I highly recommend that you call Dave at 703-447-7323. Laurie England LEng20007@aol.com

For help with Windows 98 and 95 I recommend Damon Metz: excellent, reliable and reasonable: dmetzkayak@hotmail.com. Susan Drobis Sdrobis@aol.com

I can strongly recommend Zevi Mehlman, dba Computer Doktor (301-649-3838). Tombethell@aol.com

Chevy Chase Computers (AKA Real Tech Solutions) 364-1299

Bruce S. Maliken is excellent. I had a problem and he charged \$85 an hour and fixed everything within an hour. He's at 240-475-4193, and upandrungsvcs@verizon.net. Aaron Epstein aajacks@starpower.net June 2004

Daniel came to my house and 'cleaned up' my computer. I would recommend him for the contact list for the neighborhood. David Epstein Computer & Repair Daniel Quintanilla Suavezito@comcast.net Tel: (240)838-0691 DBEDC@aol.com July 2004

I highly recommend Alex McDiarmid for all your computer needs. I had an old Dell that was riddled with viruses, frequently locked up, and wouldn't shut down properly. He fixed it well and it's now humming smoothly. He is very competent and, unlike a few I've worked with before, he explains in plain language what he is doing and gives you a lot of useful tips. His prices are also reasonable. You can contact him at: Work: 202-265-7968; Mobile: 202-413-4665; E-Mail: Alex@McDiarmid.net If you want more info, you can call me at 202-458-0402. Fmanibog@worldbank.org December 2004

I want to recommend my computer consultant, Cameron Jones. He has done everything from set up my home office, to save me from a virus, to resurrect a dead hard drive. He is designing a website for me now. He is smart, reliable, will come to your home (and can perform many fixes remotely), charges reasonable rates, and is available for phone or email consultation for matters large and small. His email is cameronjones@alumni.princeton.edu; phone: 571-217-3596. Emily Yoffe eyoffe@att.net March 2005

I found the web site for the Electronic Industries Alliance Consumer Education Initiative (www.eiae.org). The site lists organizations, by state, that accept used computers or their components. I have never used this myself but it's worth looking at. Pat Mullan Mullandoty@aol.com

I had good luck getting rid of a Trojan virus by using: Kathy Olsen at CyberJunkees 301-365-9270 Kathy@cyberjunkees.com. Carolyn Donnelly cdindc@starpower.net February 2006

CONSTRUCTION -

I recently had someone working on the house. I was very pleased and thought I'd share the recommendation with the neighborhood. We recently needed some design and building done on our decrepit pergola. A new neighbor was reconstructing a deck, and after going to bid, we chose the same builder, Innovative Spaces, to do the work. We were very pleased with Mr. Taylor Matthews and his group. (The phone number is: 301-662-8181.) The redesign was more functional and better looking than the original. Taylor gave us excellent material suggestions, was prompt, punctual, and cleaned up daily. I was extremely pleased with him and his work. He is moderately expensive but fair-- and very good. Very highly recommended. Bob and Hazel Keimowitz rkhk@starpower.net 2003

A police lieutenant told me about a friend of his (retired from MPD) whom he has hired himself and who he says does excellent construction and remodeling work. The man is Daniel Schauf, designer and installer, at 914-286-3146 or 941-764-7175. The Company is Dalu Enterprise, Inc. It's in Florida but Mr. Schauf comes to DC frequently and will come just for a particular job. 2004

I can tell you who NOT to use - Allday Remodeling advertises regularly in the current and the owner, Allen, does a great snow job when he comes for an estimate. But we never saw him again once work began on our bathroom, and his subcontractors grumbled constantly about what a jerk he is. The work was substandard. After numerous problems with small contractors for a number of smaller projects, we chose to use a big company - Case - when we did our major addition. From an accountability and quality standpoint, it was worth the extra money. Johanna Turner joturner@speakeasy.net July 2004

JMR Home Improvements 301-252-2078 or 240-832-4830. Two terrific brothers have just established a home improvement business for indoor remodeling (bathrooms, kitchens, carpentry, etc.), small additions, and outdoor landscaping needs. I have worked with both over several years while they have been employed at the Cathedral and working part time as independent contractors. If you have a plan, they will help you make it happen. You could not find harder working, more trustworthy or genuinely decent men than Miguel and Manuel. Serena Fossi rsanse@verizon.net January 2006

DENTISTS -

My daughter goes to Dr. Dana Greenwald, a terrific pediatric dentist, address is something like 5225 Wisconsin Ave. She and her staff make the visit to the dentist fun, even when having to do some not-so-nice things to teeth. I highly recommend her. Lesley Shneier Lshneier@worldbank.org

In response to the person seeking a pediatric dentist in the Tenleytown area, I recommend Dr. Dana Greenwald in Friendship Heights, DC. Mohini Malho Mmalhotra1@worldbank.org

My kids enjoy going to Dr. John Kelly in Bethesda. They've been going there since they were toddlers and never mind it, except when I drag them there at 7am (great for pre-school times when they get older). He's terrific with kids. D&S Dental Associates 301-657-3220 (same block as Barnes & Noble, Bethesda Bagel, Quartermaines and Dunkin Donuts). SJones4420@aol.com

We use Peter Michael at Connecticut and Nebraska. We got him from other satisfied friends where the whole family used him and my husband child and I all use him. We think he is terrific. I am the chicken in the family and he is exceptionally patient with me. Anne Cauman ancau@juno.com

I highly recommend a dentist in Chevy Chase, Dr. Bonnie Lin. Neighbors told me about her, and she's terrific: painless, explains everything very clearly, and very sensitive about the cost of her work. Her office is at 5454 Wisconsin Ave; phone is (301) 986-1988. Janet Bachman jbachman@aiadc.org December 2005

DOCTORS - (OBYNS)

Location - Georgetown - 202-444-8531

1. Dr Christine Colie (2 votes); 2. Dr. Breen Megan; 3. Dr. Bray Megan;
4. Dr. Dennis Amini Joanne Capper jocapper@att.net

Location - Foxhall OBGYN - Mass Ave, NW, Suite 112, 363-0845, billing (301) 316-2846: 1. Dr. Constance Bohan; 2. Dr. Maro Sarafian (sa-ray-fee-en - accent on the 'ray'); and 3. Dr. Sharon Malone Joanne Capper jocapper@att.net

Location - GWU Medical Faculty Associates (downtown): Dr. Nancy Gaba Joanne Capper jocapper@att.net

Location - Chevy Chase - 5454 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1035 - (301) 654-5700: Dr. Amanda McPherson. She's thorough, a good listener, and the office staff seems very good. Joanne Capper jocapper@att.net

Location - 5550 Friendship Boulevard - Chevy Chase. I can't recommend Powers & Bergin highly enough - I could write pages of reasons why. Joanne Capper jocapper@att.net

Location - Downtown DC: 1. Drs. Reiter & Hill - also offices on 19th Street; 2. Dr. Lori Picco @ 2141 K Street downtown - 202-331-9293. She is vibrant and a great listener. Joanne Capper jocapper@att.net

DOORS -

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

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

ELDER SERVICES -

Do you or someone you know need help? I have two people to recommend -- one for regular care and one for occasional care. Both speak English and are legal. (1) The aide to my elderly mother has her mornings free. She is very understanding of the needs of the elderly and very dependable. She works in AU Park in the afternoon and uses public transportation to get to work. (2) An aide who retired from nursing homes and has worked with hospice is looking for occasional work. She has a car. For more information, please contact: Kathleen Conley (202-452-2389 from 7 am - 4 pm; 202-362-7465 after 5 pm; or by email: kathleen.conley@frb.gov .

I would like to highly recommend Josephina Lorenzo for childcare or eldercare. She has been a companion and aid to my elderly, disabled mother for two years and she is wonderfully compassionate, kind and devoted. She has also worked in a pre-school and has a certificate in child development. As my mother's constant companion, she drove, helped with shopping, ran errands, did the laundry, light cooking, oversaw medications and did whatever it took to keep my mother safe and satisfied (and it took a lot). She speaks English well and is legal. She can be reached at 301-466-4362. I will gladly provide references if you contact me by email at marla.mitnick@verizon.net. Marla Mitnick marla.mitnick@verizon.net
February 2006

ELECTRICIANS -

Kevin Rozier at 841-8021.

Fairfax Electric (ask for John) - 301-855-5949 Mark DeSimone
mark@healthquick.com

Evan Bestland at 301-424-0130. Jennifer Rose jenrosel@yahoo.com

Crescent Electric at 363-7100. Emil Skodon skodon@zzapp.org

I just wanted to let you know that I used Crescent electric (Ethel) - 202-363-7100, due to a recommendation on your list. The person they sent (Tony) was terrific, reasonable, gave good advice, etc. Barbara Harrison
Barbara.Harrison@usdoj.gov

Crescent Electricians were absolutely great. They did a quick, tidy job and, since they charge by the hour and I had some time left, gave me some pointers on how to install a timer on my light panels. Their number is: 202-363-7100
amybnhoang@aol.com June 2004

ENGINEERS -

Spring is just around the corner and many people in our neighborhood are looking forward to remodeling and creating new additions to their homes. My father is a Civil Engineer with over 35 years of experience in the field of home remodeling. The following is a brief description of his business and services: Pagano Professional Corporation, 16531 Redland Road, Rockville, Maryland 20855-1946. Tel: 301-670-5885, E-mail: apagano@mail.com . Augusto Pagano, P. E. who brings over 35 years of experience in the design and construction management of a variety of projects worldwide, heads the Corporation. Augusto Pagano is a licensed professional engineer in many States including Maryland, Virginia, and District of Columbia. Alex G Dias & Silvana Pagano-Dias alexdias@juno.com
2003

FIREWOOD -

Someone wanted a recommendation for firewood. We've had good experience with a guy named Kent Ashe, who lives out in West Virginia. He doesn't come to DC a lot, but if he's available, he's honest, his wood is dry and a relatively good deal. The number is 304-754-7641. David J. Leviss dleviss@starpower.net

FLOOR REFINISHERS -

Hardwood floor refinishing -- Two years ago, I had all the floors in my house refinished by Rick Noonan at 301-229-6338. My realtor also gave me Nash Floor at 301-891-0004 and Roy Meador & Sons at 703-836-1122. I picked Noonan because he could work me into his schedule. I don't know if they are all still in the business. James H. Johnston jimjohn@erols.com

For floors I recommend John Cooper (703) 426-0356. He has all the professional equipment. He usually needs 2 weeks lead time. He did my floors 10 years ago and you can take a look if you like! David Epstein DBEDC@aol.com

Recommend Larry Jackson of myfloors.com. Barbara Bergman bbergman@wam_umd-edu

FURNITURE REFINISHERS -

Steve Yoder, S&S Woodcrafts, Mechanicsville, MD (Southern Maryland, below Waldorf). Steve is Amish, originally from Lancaster, PA. He does not pick up or deliver (no car; only horse and buggy); he also has no telephone in his home; but a message can be left for him after 6 at 301-472-4962 - or a note can be mailed to him at 26759 Thompsons Corner Road, Mechanicsville, MD 20659. It takes about 1-1/2 hours to drive to his home. His charges are at least one-half of the local rates. Connie Derman Dderman527@aol.com

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS -

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

GUTTER CLEANING -

We use Winston's gutter cleaning service twice a year. They're not cheap (\$60 - 80) but they do a good job and fix the gutters, as needed, as they clean them. 301-986-1804 jfkhoury@erols.com

We've been using Winston's Gutter Service for many years. I call them, they come within 2 weeks, we don't have to be home, then they bill us. They also do windows as a separate service. The phone number is 301-986-1804. hier@biddhier.com

I use Winston Gutters and they are very good. Their number is (301) 530-8595. I think they are backed up right now as this is their busy season, but it might be worth calling them. csigler@dimuro.com

We have been using a guy named Art Schultz who charges about \$120 for the house and garage. We have a lot of trees on the property so we have it done at least twice a year. The best part is that I call him, and he comes and does it and sends me a bill-no waiting at home, etc. It sometimes takes a week or two for him to get to the job but he always comes through and does a very neat and thorough job. He will also trim shrubbery, etc. It's a very low tech operation, however, just a message machine, the best bet is to call him at home in the evening. (703) 273-7252. A Brandywine St. neighbor

We have our gutters cleaned by our lawn service, which is Wray Bros. in Bethesda, 301-654-5845. They also do a great job on our lawn. JPHIPPARD@aol.com

Troy at D & M Roofing at 301-948-0100. I have found them to be very businesslike and I had tried others before them. They work in essentially all

weather. They will however want to use an outside hose tap and probably would love it if you had a hose out there. But you can talk to them about that. They charge 35 bucks to come and evaluate, and that is charged off against any work they do. From: Another neighbor

We used a company called Aerotech (301) 937-6535. They were great. From: A neighbor on Alton Place

Troy at D&M Roofing has been taking care of my steep slate roof, and gutters, for years and done good work at acceptable prices. And he's very reliable. His number: 301-948-0100. Lisa Berger Lberger728

We just had Association Management install a new flat roof and deck at the rear of our house and were very pleased with the quality of their job and efficiency of their work (Association Management also had repaired portions of our slate roof and cleans our gutters, both of which they have done ably and inexpensively). Call 301/384-5677 and ask for Richard (let him know the Spigel's recommended you). Jeff Spigel jspigel@hotmail.com

We use Winston's; they have both DC and Maryland phone numbers. Herb Hagerty Hahagerty@aol.com March 2006

HANDYMEN -

We would like to recommend George Kaminski, our Handyman. He does a great job very reliable and his prices are very reasonable. He has a website www.PaintingandHomeRepairs.com. His telephone number is (240) 383-2945 He works in the city throughout the week. A very nice gentleman. He helped us get our home ready to sell. Mike Jordandc mikejordandc@yahoo.com April 2005

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 very reasonable. His phone number is (202) 364-8577. Janet Bachman jbachman@aiadc.org 2005

I recommend Josh Palmer, Facilities Manager at Community Council for the Homeless, for your skilled household jobs--carpentry, drywall, floor installation, painting, carpet installation, plumbing, and minor electrical. He is careful and very trustworthy. Call Josh at 202-277-1298. Recommended by Liz Siegel, Co-Pres. of the CCH/FP Board. Elizindc@aol.com April 2004

I want to recommend the work of general contractor James Adams. He does carpentry, plumbing and painting. He repaired and saved a half-rotted garage door another carpenter told me was unsalvageable. He has done painting for me, household repairs, and replaced a toilet. He is reliable, honest, creative, and fair -- and a delightful guy. His number is 301-455-555. Emily Yoffe eyoffe@verizon.net April 2004

Dwight Peters (drywall, woodwork, etc.) 301-802-2236 Mark DeSimone mark@healthquick.com

Marcotulio Orellana and his company 'The Home Doctor.' 301-942-7768. Cell phone: 240- 604-4742. Deborah C. Fort FortsKDC@cs.com

Mark Verna at 301-891-2854. Kriegi@aol.com

In reply to two recent requests for a painter/carpenter/subcontractor, I'm pleased to make a strong recommendation for James Adams. Here at the Washington Ethical Society this past summer, he and his very able crew did some rewiring, patching, repairs, and painting, plus basic plumbing and installed a sink. We are very pleased with the work and would happily use his services again. You can reach him at cellular 301-455-5556, office 301-853-9571. Please tell him Karen sent you. Karen Schofield-Leca wes@EthicalSociety.org

I'd like to recommend Marcos Orellana, carpenter, and handyman and his company "The Home Doctor." 301-942-7768. Cell phone 240-604-4742. E-mail marcotulioorellana@earthlink.net. Marcos and his staff come with twenty years of local recommendations; he gives fair, firm estimates free; his work is done quickly and well. Deborah C. Fort fortdc@earthlink.net

Excellent home repair, carpentry, painting and plastering. Jaime Barrera has worked for me for 10 years, doing everything from building a deck over my garage to plastering and painting my hall and upstairs and many smaller tasks. His phone number is: (home) 301/422-7111; cell phone: 301/509-2675. Susan Ellis sellis@pd.state.gov

We have a reliable house services name to share with our neighbors. We have depended upon Mike Reidy of MULTIPLE SERVICES on 342-9356 in close-by Glover Park for nearly 15 years to take care of both interior and exterior work. He handles lawn work, repairs, painting and remodeling jobs from start to finish for us and his rates are reasonable. We highly recommend him. Kathleen McLynn kdmclynn@starpower.net

I HIGHLY recommend Richard Lane & Assoc., for small or large repairs (carpentry, wall repairs, painting etc. etc.). One of Richard's guys, Steve, came to my home this a.m. to repair hole in the wall left from plumber repair, and slight rock in toilet. He got there in time, was pleasant and fast, did a beautiful job!! Lane can be reached at 301-753-1667, or cell phone 202-672-0034. Barbara Harrison Barbara.Harrison@usdoj.gov

Pat Turvey, D.C. native, grew up and went to school in the District, near Mass Ave & Wisc. Ave intersection, and moved to Arlington some years back. As honest and reasonable as they come. And as an extra bonus, is an excellent carpenter & craftsman. Ph 703-241-1061. Richard Bienvenue ourhous@bellatlantic.net

I heartily recommend HouseCraft LLC for home renovations, large and small. The LLC is owned and run by Stos Wronka. He and his crew are first rate. They re-did my basement last August after the flood and did such a wonderful job that they are now renovating my kitchen and sun room. The project includes removal of a load bearing wall. I know that they have done major additions and have a long list of pleased customers. The workers are punctual; jobs are completed in a timely fashion. They are very careful with all household goods and keep the site as clean as possible. The workers and Stos pay careful attention to detail; they provide a quality of craftsmanship that I have not encountered in the DC area in previous work. Their office number is 301-249-4683. Ann Phillips APhillips@usaid.gov

I had an excellent experience with Nice Day Services - Bill Wagner (301) 524-9620. He came to see what work was to be done, he explained his prices, and he set an appointment for performing the work. Bill arrived punctually on the appointed day with a helper (an option I had agreed to). They spent about two hours (as he had estimated) doing a variety of jobs - stabilizing the attic fan,

replacing the fan belt, oiling and adjusting the fan slats, grating and screening the louvered area in the attic, coordinating the attic fan and light switches, repairing two bathroom leaks (faucet and shower head), and adjusting a sliding closet door. I was very pleased with their work. I have no basis for evaluating his price, but it did not seem excessive. Michael Calingaert MCALINGAERT@brookings.edu

I'd like to add my praise for work done for me by Pat Turvey. He repaired a portion of my porch that had rotted and did a good job, was reasonably priced and was very nice to work with. Thank you Benny, Ken and Davida for the recommendation. Kathy Smith ksmith1804@starpower.net July 2004

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING -

I'm writing to highly recommend Robinson's Heating and Air Conditioning. Our air conditioner has a leak, and they came out twice, once to defrost the unit, and then to recharge the compressor, only charging us for one visit. They also suggested a \$32 solution to what could have been a \$400 diagnostic test. They were extremely prompt, honest, and informative. They can be reached at 301-871-8902. AmyBNHoang@aol.com July 2004

Friendship Terrace Retirement Community has used Noyes Air Conditioning -- (301) 670-6300 -- for over 13 years for our air conditioning and heating needs. I have been very pleased with their service and technicians. Dawn Quattlebaum Esmfriend@aol.com

I have a heating and air-conditioning recommendation. As a landlord, I had used a number of different furnace and air conditioning repair companies, until settling on Beltsville Heating and Air Conditioning. They have replaced a forced-air furnace, a central a/c, and have repaired both gas and oil-fueled boilers for me, and have usually been able to come within a day of calling, sometimes on the same day. I've had no complaints about any of their work. L. Carter ldc1@netkonnnect.net

I am happy with Robinson's Heating and Air-Conditioning. It's a family-run business and small enough so that service is good. They can be reached at 301-871-8902. Ask for Joset of Marie. David Epstein DBEDC@aol.com

I have used Bethesda Heating and Air Conditioning for about 20 years and they are VERY good, honest and reasonably priced (as these things go!). B Kravetz

I can recommend F.S. Campbell Co. for heating and Air Conditioning. I have used them for years for routine maintenance. They are honest, courteous, professional and knowledgeable. Their phone number is 301-869-1843. Mitnick123

We had a ductless high velocity system installed for our whole house (which lacks space for ducts.) Kensington Heating and Cooling did the job, and we are delighted with the results. The system required very little space, and cools wonderfully. Kelly Rubenstein Rubacats@aol.com

We contacted Kensington Cooling & Heating, and after comparing systems and costs we decided to go with the Space Pak system, the one using 2 inch flex tubing ducts. This was after we saw a system like this being installed in another

house and returned to see how it worked. It does seem to be the ideal solution for houses with limited space for the conventional ducts. If we experience any problems after we've had it a while, I will let everybody know. Richard Abbott abbott1229@erols.com

For furnace repair and new furnace installation, I wholeheartedly recommend the firm of Mindte Furnace and Air Conditioning in Rockville at 301-424 8786. Herb Hagerty Hahagerty@aol.com

HOUSEKEEPERS -

I would like to recommend a house painting/cleaning service I have just used to do major cleaning and repainting of an apartment rented for 20 years. The husband has been a professional painter for 17 years and his wife has done housecleaning for even longer in the DC area . Our next assignment for them is repainting our own living room! CECILIA & NELSON CORARRUBIAS TEL: 703-913-0379 or Cell 703-362-9822. I have the highest praise for them. Their rates are reasonable, their work very professional (showed up when they said they would, got the job completed as and when promised, cleaned up every night, not noisy while working, etc.) Sarah Horsey shorsey@erols.com March 2005

Selita Ulloa is the best cleaning person we have ever had. She is totally trustworthy, does a great job and is very nice. (301) 645-3745 or (240)210-6089 grant@rand.org March 2005

A neighbor of mine does not have a computer. Her housekeeper is looking for more work. Experienced, with references. Please call Ruth Rodriguez - 202-244-2010 (allergic to cats). Carol Church carch4330@yahoo.com

Our excellent cleaning woman is looking for additional houses to clean, Tuesdays and Thursdays, for a start. She is a very pleasant, decent, and reliable human being; she cleans thoroughly and intelligently. Her name is Irmalinda Chavez and can be reached at 301-728-3185. Andrea Dean aodean@erols.com

If you're looking for a reliable, trustworthy person to clean your house regularly, I recommend our cleaner, Conchita Mejicanos, 301-422-0129. She's very pleasant and does a good job with basic cleaning. She also does laundry and ironing -- a big plus! Bonnie Nevel nevel@eli.org

Our excellent housekeeper, Emelinda Chavez, has time available Wednesdays and Fridays and would welcome new housecleaning work. She is completely reliable, honest, very hardworking, speaks good English, and is a lovely human being. She can be reached at her home, 301-617-9723 or on her cell phone, 301-728-3185. Andrea Dean aodean@erols.com

We are looking to have our wonderful nanny/housekeeper clean for another AU Park family, while our children are in school. If interested, please call 202-362-5883. Jill Palmer JPalmer@Northropgrumman.com

I have a housekeeper who is looking to fill another every week 1/2 day of her schedule. She's worked for me for 13 years and has been very reliable and delightful. If interested, call Marcie at 202-333-7730. Joanne Capper jocapper@att.net

My housecleaner, Anna, is looking for additional work. She has worked for us about 3 years and is very reliable, trustworthy and does a nice job cleaning our house. I actually found her thru this listserv. Anna may be reached on (703) 491-6588. Please email or call me if you'd like to hear more about her. Dona Lenkin donal@nih.gov July 2005

I have a great cleaner - her name is Bia: 301-460-3228. JillCork@tenleytown@yahoo.com October 2005

Maria Arena, cell tel. 240-988-1572 (eves.). The best we've ever had. Also will do laundry. English a problem. Legal. When you call, speak to her daughter, Karen. Has no car, so you must be within striking distance of public transportation. Melvin Blecher @ tenleytown@yahoo.com 2005

I have been using a service called "America's Cleaning Service" for about a year and have found it to be excellent in every respect. They clean thoroughly and are impeccably honest (I find loose change they've found in their cleaning stacked on the counter when they've been here) and courteous. I am happy to talk to anyone about the service if you have questions-- and if you decide to call them, you may give my name. Alyse Graham Nov. 2005 grahamstretch@starpower.net

We hired a house cleaner about three months ago, whose work and personality we like a lot. Today, she told me her daughter is looking for work. The only thing I know about this daughter is that her mother is a good house cleaner. The one looking for work is Claudia, (703) 945-0210. Susan Beale Copingptr@aol.com February 2006

INTERIOR DESIGNERS & DECORATORS -

Shari Daniels in Bethesda at 301-654-1654. Lisa Berger Lberger728@aol.com

JEWELRY & WATCH REPAIRERS -

For excellent jewelry and watch repairs at low prices, I recommend you see Cory Hyon in the lower floor of Rodman's at 5100 Wisconsin. Aaron Epstein aajacks@starpower.net

If anyone is looking for the fantastic watch repair person from G.C. Murphy's he has relocated in the basement floor of Rodman's. Jennifer Rose jenrose1@yahoo.com

I recommend Ecker's Clock and Watch Repair located at 8010 Norfolk Ave., Bethesda, 301-652-0549. Mr. Ecker retired, but the young man who took over has repaired several antique watches for me. It doesn't happen quickly, but he does very good work. Dennis Beaufort and Kathryn Ray kcrdlb@bellatlantic.net

KITCHEN REMODELERS -

Raabs Cabinet Shop did a fabulous job for us. That was many years ago, but friends have used them since and said they were still excellent. Their number is 301-340-7659. Tory Ruttenberg Vrutten@aol.com

Stas Wronka, the manager of HouseCraft, did major work on my home a year ago, and he was wonderful. Among the things he did was build a bathroom from scratch. I recommend him 100%. Ken Giles & Davida Perry kenanddavida@starpower.net

I had my kitchen completely remodeled a couple of years ago. I hired HouseCraft owned and run by Stas Wronka. They did a superb job. The workers were completely reliable and honest, i.e. no concerns about valuables in the house. Stas has an eye for detail and is a perfectionist. Among the bids I received for the job, he was in the middle. I would recommend them without reservation. HouseCraft is advertised in the Northwest Current--you may have seen the ad. The phone number is 301-249-4683. Ann Phillips APhillips@usaid.gov

I highly recommend Watkins Cabinet, 301-428-8510. Rudy Day is the President, 18001 Sellman Road, Barnesville, MD. James Phalen james.phalen@verizon.net

We have a 1927 house on Fessenden St. We completely redid our 1927 kitchen last year. Keeping the 4 walls, but taking every thing down to the studs. Rudy (Watkins Cabinet) had done my sister's kitchen in Kensington a few years ago and he has done a number of kitchens of our friends. I never did get multiple estimates. He is expensive, but has a number of good things going for him. He is adamant about starting on time and finishing when he tells you he will. Our entire kitchen took 6 weeks. A 20' by 10' room and turned out beautifully! He also works with a number of vendors in the area and will give you a list of them. These are the people who will deliver products on time to your house when Rudy needs them. If you don't have a general contractor, he gives you the name of the one who works with him. It was a delight working with all of his vendors and his general contractor. When we checked the costs of products on the internet versus the vendors' prices, they were close if not less. The most important piece of advice is that you should have someone there all the time, not to protect your home but to make the daily small decisions that are not so apparent until the building starts.

I strongly recommend Home Depot. As humble as they are, they nevertheless did a fantastic job for me and friends to whom I recommended their services. David Winn (202-364-4350) dmwinn@starpower.net

LAWN & YARD SERVICES -

(For preparing soil and seeding lawn) - Try the people we use: Lapinski's Landscaping, Inc., per Eric Lapinski, Tel. 301 924 0104. Dr Melvin Blecher MBiplaw@comcast.net - September 2004

Try Jack Spencer, 301 384-3285. Does our twice a year yard and gutter clean-up. Does landscaping, etc. emahar@cpcug.org - September 2004

Kevin Kernan (301) 587-5115. Say that Cynthia sent you, please. Although Kevin lives in Maryland he only works in the Tenleytown area. Cynthia Grant grant@rand.org Feb. 2005

My two boys, Jake and Scot, take care of pets, shovel walks, cut grass, etc. Jake is a senior at Wilson and Scot is at Deal. We live on Jenifer St. and if you live nearby let me know. JOHN HOKE john.hoke@longandfoster.com March 2005

Jack Spencer, 301 384-3285. He was recommended in a previous community

newsletter. I contacted him but unfortunately hired someone else before he called back, which he did with reasonable prices. Susan Ellis Ellisss@state.gov
April 27, 2005

The best & most reasonable gardener/ landscaper you will find is a lady from College Park: Janet "Walkin' Dove" Koles at 301-474-2461. She is intelligent, a real worker, and as honest as the day is long. I've known her for 25 years, and when she's not working, she's volunteering for the Boy Scouts, square dance teams, teaching Sunday school, etc. Richard Bienvenue ourhous@bellatlantic.net

I've just had my spring garden cleaning done by Evaristo Hernandez (trade name: Hernandez and Daughters; reachable by cell phone at 202/421-3442) and recommend him highly. He did an expert job of pruning, mulching and clean-up. Plus, his fee was reasonable and he was immediately available. Lisa Berger
Lberger728@aol.com

My mother hired a Master Gardner to take care of her garden and is extremely pleased with the work. Amanda Ramirez has been working in this neighborhood, Georgetown and Kenwood for many years and has excellent references. She landscapes beautifully, starting with clean-up and goes through planting and mulching. She then continues to care for your garden throughout the season if you so desire. Her charges are very reasonable. 301-330-9260. Amy Bauer
Abauer4600@aol.com

Re: landscapers and patio installers -- Happy to recommend Mark Willcher, who does lovely work and is a fine man to boot. Mark Willcher & Co., 10486 Parthenon Ct., Bethesda 20817. 301-320-2040. Pager: 301-507-7952. Tombethell@aol.com

For a good yard man, who can weed, trim tall hedges, edge, cut down big bushes, etc. I would highly recommend Reginald's Landscaping. He mows, clips, plants and what ever else you might need. He does great work. He has lots of customers in AU Park. Larry Williams lwindc@starpower.net

In response to an inquiry about underground irrigation systems, we had one installed by Heads Up, a Maryland company, about 10 years ago and its been working trouble-free ever since. They also come faithfully to winterize the system (the pipes have to be blown free of water) and to start it up although one can easily do the start up one's self. Unfortunately, I've mislaid the telephone number. Mel Blecher BlecherM@aol.com

We use a lawn service which is very good. The guy's name is Paul Stadtler and his prices are very good. He mows for basically everyone on our block. Phone (301) 460-0719. Real nice guy and dependable. Ann Schweitzer August 2005

Just thought I should tell you that I tried three of the lawn/yard work people recommended in the report on handymen and all proved problematic - Mr. Larry Williams wrote back that he does not do yard work, Keven, whom I sort of know from the 'hood, was very hard to pin down and then in the end never turned up when we was supposed to and did not and has not called, and Hernandez and Daughters' number has been disconnected. Sorry to have to report this but thought you might want to know. Mary P. Haney mhaney@bigplanet.com August 2005

My husband and I have used two people found through your newsletter -- cabinet maker Geoff Seeley and gardener Serena Fossi -- and have been thrilled with the work of both. We called Serena, in fact, just a couple weeks ago, soon as I spotted her note in COMMUNIT-E. She's wonderful and has transformed our mess of

a yard in just a few hours -- and at a very reasonable fee. Thank you again, for making these referrals possible. Sandra_sobieraj@peoplemag.com

Recommendation for good yard work person: mowing, landscaping, mulching, etc., uses natural products; environmentally friendly. Tom Kniezewski (Green Grass Cutters): 610-413-3808 cell; GreenGrassCutters@yahoo.com www.enviro-mow.com
Leonard@tenleytown@yahoogroups.com

Gilberto is great. He does our lawn and cleans the gutters among many other things! You can contact him at 301 949 6941.

VivianaLopezGreen@tenleytown@yahoogroups.com October 2005

I can recommend Mark Willcher & Co., 10486 Parthenon Ct., Bethesda MD 20817, 301-320-2040. Mark has worked with us for years, and he's great.

Tombethell@aol.com February 2006

LOCKSMITHS -

We recently used Bob Lennox of Lennox Lock Service and were very pleased. We first contacted him on the basis of an excellent rating in the Washington Checkbook and found that it was well-deserved. His number is 703-527-2932. Steven Gross gross2@phil.upenn.edu

Good locksmith: Liberty Lock and Security. I have called on Rick several times over the many years, simply because his best friend is my best mechanic for 15 years. I figured good people stick together. And so, I was right. You probably will not see Rick himself, he is the big guy. But I am sure the employees are up to his standards of honesty and customer service. Anji Henderson
vual7@yahoo.com

A locksmith who is extremely good, experienced and AAA rated: Maye's Home-Auto Locksmith (Tech-Owner:Gerry) Phone: Office: 703-551-4109; Home: 703-271-1970. I hope this will be useful to the person who was in search for a Locksmith. Francis D'Silva Fds3987649@aol.com

LOST PETS -

When a pet is missing, contact D.C. Animal Control (run by Wash Humane) at 202/576-6664 and report it missing. Someone there will check the log they keep of "found pets" to see if anyone called in a found report on the animal. Also try Sherlock Bones (<http://sherlockbones.com>; or 1-800-942-6637) which is highly effective in reuniting pets with owners. Darnot@aol.com

MASONS -

John Coronas, 301-946-6318 or 301-674-3343 (cell) or 301-838-1070 (pager), is an excellent brick mason. We and many of our friends have used him, with fine results. He is very busy and not always easy to reach. Dr. Melvin Blecher
MBiplaw@comcast.net Feb. 2005

ALFONSO GIBBS, concrete work: Mitchellville, MD. 301/499-0259. He put in my brick path and steps in front of my home on 42nd St., and has done numerous jobs in the area, including work for Mrs. Reed on Jenifer St. Susan Ellis Ellisss@state.gov Feb. 2005

I would also recommend Paul Sampogna of PASCO Construction, (301) 208-3552. He has done excellent stone and brick work for us (on Brandywine) and some of our friends as well, and has a very long list of projects that he has completed in the neighborhood. jxs@vnf.com Feb. 2005

C. L. Williams at 301-397-4692 (beeper) or 301-856-4967. He does painting, cement, driveways, sidewalks, block & brick work, and hauling.

I've had a lot of brick work done over the years, and always used Virnel Allen. He does great work, though he's not cheap. He's also a grumpy old man, but the quality of his work makes up for it. Mr. Allen's phone is (202) 429-0324. Bachman, Janet jbachman@aiadc.org 2004

Thanks to the kind neighbour who provided the name of Virnel Allen. He was great. Came when he said he would, did an excellent job, was courteous, and even gave me a plant! I highly recommend him. He is elderly and has help to do the heavy work but the actual bricklaying he does himself. His number is 202 429 0324 or 202 396 9556. MGBPA@aol.com

John & Leto Coronas - in Montgomery Co. Phone book. Aug. 2004

MOVERS -

Nice local mover: We have been pleased with Multiple Services in Glover Park. Owner Mike Reidy is honest and nice and has a hard working crew. We've depended upon him for years and would be happy to give him a reference. Mike Reidy is on 202/342-9356. Kathleen McLynn kdmclynn@starpower.net

I do want to recommend someone who does small moving and hauling jobs, whose name I forwarded to a subscriber to communit-e. Actually, he can do handyman jobs as well, or if he can't, he'll recommend a friend who is reliable. This man is: Rodney Young, 202-291-5152. He can put up curtain rods, etc., and minor carpentry; he recommended a painter and a plumber. Kay McClenon kayandpaul@erols.com

We used Town and Country to move here in DC and to move our daughter from San Francisco to Philadelphia. They did a very fine job for us. We also have recommended them to friends who said they were very satisfied. TOWN & COUNTRY MOVERS INC. 7650 RICKENBACKER DR GAITHERSBURG MD (301) 670-4600 Jim Holway JHolway1@starpower.net

I wanted to let people know if they are looking for a mover, DO NOT use Garrett Moving and Storage in Maryland. We had horrible problems with a small move from just a few blocks away - they loaded all the furniture so sloppily that almost every piece of furniture we have was damaged. They were totally non-responsive to follow up, rude, and managed to avoid service of a complaint by moving business locations. I have heard good things about Gullivers. Elizabeth Schickedanz elizabeth_haile@hotmail.com Feb. 2004

My husband and I just moved from our house in AU Park last week (alas, to Bethesda!) and had a terrific moving experience. We used Mullen's Transfer & Storage (tel: 202-829-6676, contact Mike Mullen's), a family owned company in DC. I received several quotes for the move (from Mullen's, Beltway Movers and Commonwealth Movers) and chose to go with Mullen's based on their rating in checkbook.org, references I spoke with, and price (they gave me the best quote by far, and it was for a fixed price). It was a great choice for us. We had not one hiccup, not one damaged piece of furniture or box, and the guys on the team were friendly and courteous. I would happily use them again, and believe they serve both local moves and moves on the East Coast. Maria C. Kozloski
Mkozloski@ifc.org July 2005

MUSIC TEACHERS -

I recall someone asking about a good piano instructor. I recommend Victoria Wyatt, phone - 703.914.0690; e-mai - rvwyatt@msn.com. Please tell her how you heard of her. Thanks! She is known as a fine performer, teacher and adjudicator. As a performing artist, Wyatt has appeared in such venues as the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the Phillips Collection, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Arts Club of Washington. Many of her former students now enjoy professional music careers. Jared Hughes
JHughes@methodisthomeofdc.org

PAINTERS -

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

I would like to recommend a house painting/cleaning service I have just used to do major cleaning and repainting of an apartment rented for 20 years. The husband has been a professional painter for 17 years and his wife has done housecleaning for even longer in the DC area. Our next assignment for them is repainting our own living room! CECILIA & NELSON CORARRUBIAS TEL: 703-913-0379 or Cell 703-362-9822. I have the highest praise for them. Their rates are reasonable, their work very professional (showed up when they said they would, got the job completed as and when promised, cleaned up every night, not noisy while working, etc.) Sarah Horsey
shorsey@erols.com March 2005

Cris Asimakopoulos of H&A Paint Inc. -- 301-942-1140 Elinor Green Hunter
egreenhunter@juno.com

Danny Rodgers (City & Suburban Decorators) Laura Roth roths@sprintmail.com

Gray Phillips at Paint-Tech-Solutions, 301-948-3434 or pgray@erols.com.

Alex Santos -- Alex & Sons, via the Northwest Current. Michelle & Ren LeRouzes
gators1@erols.com

A great interior painting recommendation: no wallpaper and no exterior. They said they were the best and they'd be the most expensive. They are definitely the former and came in cheapest of 4 rather expensive bids. Superb quality: Washington Painting Company, 7106 Westmoreland Rd., Falls Church, VA 22042-2534 (703) 849-8200; Fax (703) 849-8211. Bill Rogers bill.rogers@bigfoot.com

Mike Johnson, a local painter whose name I found in the mail a year or so ago, has lived up to his strong recommendations. He made good suggestions on how we should paint and was considerate of ways to avoid excessive costs. Mike can be reached at mhcjl@yahoo.com. Sid Booth SidBooth1@aol.com

I have used Tim Gribbin as a painter for interior and exterior work. His phone number is 301-982-9863. GSReb@aol.com

I used Edson of E.G. Painting (a one-man show, but he sometimes hires an additional helper), last summer and am very satisfied. He painted inside and outside, carefully, with good clean-up. His cell phone number is 240-876-2191. Feel free to tell him I gave you his name. Lesley Shneier Lshneier@worldbank.org

Painter recommended: I just used Sun Lin and his crew to paint the inside of my house. They did great work - 4 rooms, 2 bathrooms and a ceiling in just 2 days. I got two estimates and his was cheapest - and compared to what some of my friends paid, much cheaper for all that I had done. Here's his number: 703-243-3096. Jcapper@worldbank.org

I highly recommend a licensed and bonded painting company called Gut Painters, specializing in residential work, plaster and drywall repair, wallpaper removal, interior and exterior painting, power wash of siding and decks, cleaning gutters. They are honest, reasonable and very hardworking. Call Willie Gutierrez (410)381-4699 or (410)381-4658, or email at gutsan09@netscape.net. Anthoula P. Gianniotis apg@alphatecpc.com

We very highly recommend Elmer Herrera, both for plastering and for painting. Elmer did major work for us this past fall. He's hard-working, friendly, neat, and an artist when it comes to plaster. His home number is (301)962-8936. His cell phone is (240) 508-2873. Steven Gross and Micki Chen gross2@phil.upenn.edu

Recommended house painter (interior and exterior)and drywall guy: Arturo Arauzo (Arturo Painting). He and his guys are punctual, do a fine job, and cost one-third to one-half less than the usual neighborhood "big names." He came recommended from another neighbor, and has done several jobs for me. (301) 949-7363, or pager: (301) 403-5168. David M. Winn dmwinn@starpower.net

I highly recommend J. Francisco Sorto, a house painter who has worked for us for a dozen years. A true professional, Mr. Sorto takes justifiable pride in his work. He does thorough preparation -- scraping, sanding, caulking -- and his work is meticulous. He is also completely trustworthy -- we feel comfortable leaving him alone in our house. Many of our neighbors have also been pleased with his work. His prices are at the higher end, but quite reasonable given the quality of his work. Phone: 301-434-3660. Joanne Levine joannelevine@earthlink.net

We highly recommend Elmer Herrera for both exterior and interior painting. He also does excellent prep and repair work on plaster and can help with other stuff too. His home number is (301) 962-8936. His cell phone is (240) 508-2873 (assuming there's been no change since last year). StevenGross@tenleytown@yahoo.com September 2005

We recommend Alberto Hernandez who has done a lot of work for us. His number is 301-537-6564. ASCHWE4527@tenleytown@yahoogroups.com September 2005

PEST CONTROL SERVICES -

Alan Cohen of Bio-Logical Pest Management 237-7509. Used "organic" approach to getting rid of wasps. Kelly Rubenstein Rubacats@aol.com

I called the DC rat control office and they sent a guy out with heavy duty rat poison. If that's a problem, call the GT exterminating people at 338-KILL. They can set cages with bait, etc. They removed the beavers from the Tidal Basin. NancyLeRoy@aol.com

I have used Terminix for years to deal with termites, and found them very helpful and pleasant to deal with. Feel free to mention my name as a long term customer when dealing with them. Lesley Shneier Lshneier@worldbank.org

www.washingtondc.gov/mayor/customer_service/services/rat_abatement.shtm
"The Office of Vector Control is responsible for abating the current rat population throughout the District. Areas with reported infestations are investigated to determine the specific location of the rat problem (alley, front yard, back yard) and treated depending on the outcome of the inspection. Rat infestations should be reported immediately to the Citywide Call Center at 727-1000. A service request will be put into the Hansen tracking system, and the caller will receive a service request number." Buddy Yingling buddydcl@msn.com

Bio-Pest Management: 202-237-7509 They're very good and they try to use nontoxic methods. Leonard Rosenbaum leonardleonard1@earthlink.net

I have had excellent service from AT&R Trapping, run by Phil Ardizzone, (301) 625-7900 or (301) 681-3965. He is wonderful and does his best to humanely trap all kinds of animals. He regularly takes ones that can be saved and releases them in appropriate areas. He also works with the fabulous wildlife rescue sanctuary in Gaithersburg called Second Chance Wildlife Center (www.scwc.org). You would be in excellent hands if you hired Phil and his company. Mary Rowse merowse@aol.com

For your termite problem, I highly recommend DIXON Termite. Their phone number (202) 882-6565. JOHN HOKE john.hoke@longandfoster.com April 2005

I can recommend Ward Pest Control, 703-532-3506, for removing mice from your home. They set out traps and carefully inspect the inside and outside of your home to find out where the mice are getting in, and then seal those spaces. They will even come back to check the traps and remove the dead mice. We have also used the company for years for termite inspections, and their personnel are very responsible. Joanne Levine joannelevine@earthlink.net September 2005

I use Capitol Beltway Termite and Pest Control (tel: 301-657-4480) for my home. They are located at 5455 Butler Rd, Bethesda, MD 20816 (behind gas station near River Road and Little Falls Parkway). Susan Jaquet December 2005

I recommend Alan Cohen, Biological Pest Management, Tenleytown cell: 202-237-7509; biopestman@aol.com; uses nontoxic/less-toxic substances; reasonably priced - Leonard December 2005

PET SERVICES -

My two boys, Jake and Scot, take care of pets, shovel walks, cut grass, etc. Jake is a senior at Wilson and Scot is at Deal. We live on Jenifer St. and if you live nearby let me know. JOHN HOKE john.hoke@longandfoster.com March 2005

For another pet-sitting resource, we have used Animal Crackers for many years now. Very trustworthy & attentive to your pets. (They will also take out trash, turn lights on & off, water plants, etc.). You can contact Beatrice at 202-321-1463. Melinda Halpert mjh925@yahoo.com March 2005

We use Puppy Love Pet Sitter. The walker in AU Park is named Brian and is very nice and very dependable. They charge \$15 a walk for a half hour walk with just your dog. The owner of the company is Josh and the number is 337-8456. We've used Puppy Love now for 3 years (2 years in Dupont and one year here) and have never had any problems. skropf@att.net

If anyone is looking for a dog trainer, I have interviewed (and heard good reports) about Bark Busters. You can read about the training methods at www.barkbusters.com and The Northwest Current ran a story about Bark Busters on January 25th. Bark Busters was started in Australia and provides in home training throughout the world. The Web site describes the method as mimicking canine communication and relies on non-physical means. The method can be used on any dog, any age, with any problem, and all training comes with a life-of-the-dog guarantee. There is a dog behavior quiz on the Web site. The local trainer is David Sundland at (577)-224-2239 or sundland@hotmail.com. Gina Trippi sgtrippi@gmail.com March 2006

My fabulous dog-walker (also my yoga teacher) is available to walk dogs in upper northwest between 9 am and 5 pm. Modest grooming also provided. Leave a message at 202/244-8093. Jo March redrufus818@yahoo.com March 2006

PIANO TEACHERS -

I highly recommend Ben Hansen as a piano teacher. He comes to my home to teach my two kids but has several adult students as well. He plays for a chorale, was classically trained at Yale and is a lovely guy. FYI, he will give a trial lesson for free too. He can be reached at benhansen00@hotmail.com. Carla Koppell August 2005

PICTURE FRAMING -

I would like to recommend a picture framer. Allen Custom Framing on Wisconsin, right next to Krupins, is great. It's a family owned business that's been framing for 90 years. They are fair and have a great eye for just the right frame. Janice FitzGerald janfitz@starpower.net

PLUMBERS -

We have used Thomas Clark Plumbing for the last several years and have been generally satisfied. Their # is 202 966-3900. ocracroake@yahoo.com - September 2004

I'll second Thomas Clark - I have also used them for several years - in the spring, they replaced our garbage disposal and I've been happy with it. Stacey Marien samarien@yahoo.com - September 2004

Based on Tenleytown neighbors' recommendations, I had the Thomas C. Clark Co. at my house last week and was not so impressed. I had two outside faucets that could not be opened. The plumber said he would have to break through walls to repair them. I said absolutely not. Fortunately, the plumber's apprentice agreed to take my suggestion: Loosen the faucets gently with a wrench and grease them. They now work fine. But had I acceded to the Clark plumber's recommendation, I'd be in for over \$1,000 in plumbing and wall repair costs. I'll try another company next time I need a plumber. Aaron Epstein

We've been very happy with Joseph Bauer Plumbing. The guy who's always sent to our place is named 'Kenny' -- he's been great. Steven Gross Gross2@phil.upenn.edu - September 2004

W.F. Collins at 301-654-9294. I ask for Doug Seiler - excellent plumber.

Jose Bustillos is a plumber I know personally as well as through his services. I highly recommend him. He is at: 301-674-6333. John B. Mahaffie jbmahaffie@coatesandjarratt.com

A very good plumber we have used for several years is John E. Barry Co. They are in the yellow pages. Good work, fair to the consumer, reasonable rates and usually right on time. We have an old house which has needed lots of plumbing work (such as replacing water pipes) over the years. Cheryl Browning Pavukmatt@aol.com

My family has relied on Thomas E. Clark, Inc. for plumbing and heating for 40 or 50 years. It is a fine firm, with reliable, well-trained staff. Recently the company gave us another reason to praise them: the hot water heater at my parents' house in Bethesda conked out. It is quite old, so my dad figured it was time to replace it. He called Thos. Clark and asked them to send someone out with a new heater. When the plumber examined the old heater, he said there was a "pin-point leak," easily repaired at a fraction of the cost of a new hot water heater. Thomas Clark can be reached at 301-608-0550. Michele Bond BondMT@state.gov

Paul and I have used an independent plumber, Donald Schwartz, 301-596-7378, for several years. His truck is his office and shop. He comes reasonably promptly, is pleasant, neat and effective, and charges somewhat less than most plumbing companies do. You can phone me at 202-363-4581, or contact me by e-mail. Kay McClenon kayandpaul@erols.com

I recommend Andre Hargrave (202-465-2868), an independent plumber recommended by the electrician we use, Kevin Rozier. Jeffrey Modell j.modell@verizon.net

Apparently, my outdated recommendation for Andre Hargraves, a plumber, ended up in the communit-e recommendations. I no longer recommend Andre since he has been unreliable. Jeffrey Modell j.modell@verizon.net September 2005

I have used and heartily recommend a plumbing company named Smallenbroek. Check their listing in the Yellow pages; their DC phone number is 237-6400, I believe. Herb Hagerty Hahagerty@aol.com

I wanted to share the name of a really good plumber. He used to be with a large company and has now started his own. He has solved many plumbing "issues" for us in the past. His name is Matt Wilson and the company is Flowright @ 202-543-8232. Very dependable, pleasant, neat and affordable. Ann Schweitzer August 2005

For several years we have been very happy with David Stang & Son, 301-926-1462. Joanne Levine joannelevine@earthlink.net December 2005

I have used W F Collins for twenty years, and they have never let me down. Phone number is 301 654 9294. Talk to Maggie, she's wonderful. Mention my name if you like. Margaret Beveridge MGBPA@aol.com December 2005

POWER-WASHING & DECK CLEANING -

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

I recently used Mardecks, who are located in Alexandria. They were efficient, tidy and nice although I do recommend that you bargain with them on the price. We knocked off \$50 off their initial quote after doing so. AmyBNHoang@aol.com April 2003

REFERRAL SERVICES -

HOME CONNECTIONS, a free referral service for all kinds of home repairs, etc. All of their referrals have been checked out, (kind of like Washington Consumer Checkbook). 301-565-5902 OR 1-888-POINT-ME. I have used a variety of service/repair people through them. Robmayers@aol.com

I've seen many requests for contractor referrals that may or may not have been addressed. With that in mind, I thought the community might appreciate knowing that there is a local company, called Urban Referrals, LLC, that exists to match homeowners and home improvement professionals. There is no cost for the referral, which is what caught my eye. I have used Urban Referrals for my roof repair/replacement, and it made the world of difference to have screened contractors recommended by a professional service. In case anyone is interested, here's the official description and contact information:

"Urban Referrals is an organized network of highly skilled, pre-screened home repair and improvement specialists. They will connect you to a multitude of professionals who can assist you with any large, small or unique home projects such as home additions & renovations, painting, interior design, landscaping, chimney repair/cleaning, home computer systems and more! Best of all, there is no cost to the homeowner for using Urban Referrals' service. Urban Referrals is constantly updating their network of service providers and welcomes contractor recommendations. Please contact Marla Selko at 202.332.0848 with any questions, job requests or contractor recommendations, or visit Urban Referrals on the web

at www.urbanreferrals.com." Email - marla@urbanreferrals.com Susan Baer
baer@aclcinc.com

ROOFERS -

Immediately after last month's two-inch rain, I called four roofers because of a leak behind the chimney. One said he could not take any more names. Two did not even return my calls. However, Frank's Gutter and Roofing actually appeared within 48 hours and fixed the leak. Moreover, while Frank's could have claimed I needed new flashing around the chimney, as happened to a neighbor for many hundreds of dollars, they simply fastened down and cemented the loose flashing, for \$100. Frank's at is 301-261-4674, or 410-956-3218. David Winn
dmwinn@starpower.net 2003

Jack's Roofing Company, Inc. 301-585-4985

Troy at D&M Roofing has been taking care of my steep slate roof, and gutters, for years and done good work at acceptable prices. And he's very reliable. His number: 301-948-0100. Lisa Berger Lberger728

In response to your request for a roofer, call John Gwynn on 301-530-6169. He is excellent and very reasonable. E-mail me if you want additional info or references - you won't be disappointed. David Howcroft howcroft@msn.com

I recommend: Maggio Roofing, 6476 Sligo Mill Rd., Takoma Park, MD 20912, 301-341-4666, Steve Piccirelli. John Canon jcanon@earthlink.net

We just had Association Management install a new flat roof and deck at the rear of our house and were very pleased with the quality of their job and efficiency of their work (Association Management also had repaired portions of our slate roof and cleans our gutters, both of which they have done ably and inexpensively). Call 301/384-5677 and ask for Richard (let him know the Spigel's recommended you). Jeff Spigel jspigel@hotmail.com

I have another roofer recommendation -- just had mine done by Tomlinson Company whose office is in Bethesda, but Tracy Tomlinson is our neighbor and he was very helpful. They do slate roofing as well as fiberglass (decided I couldn't afford slate, but nice to know they can do it). Their phone number is 301-913-9111. Mary McComb maryemc@yahoo.com

Someone on this list recommended D&M Roofing and I have had very good luck with them. Ask for Troy - 301/948.0100. Joe Pinder Joe.Pinder@mail.house.gov

We'd like to recommend Paul Hair with Action Roofing. Reliable, honest, competitively priced, and outstanding workmanship are all hallmarks of Mr. Hair. He has repaired and painted our roof, fixed leaky windows, improved our gutters (and even replaced old tiles on our porch at no charge). Clearly, he takes real pride in his work and is intent on building solid client relationships, it is truly refreshing to work with him. Paul Hair can be reached at (301) 275-1545 (cell) or (301) 292-6393. (changed to 6300?); also recommended by Nancy LeRoy (3/03). Stephanie Hellerman stephanie.hellerman@verizon.net

As I recall, Maggio Roofing did a good job replacing an asphalt roof on our Florida Room when I lived in AU Park. And the price was reasonable too. -Buddy Yingling December 2005

I am pleased to recommend this young man who is reliable, honest and an excellent worker. He is clean, quick, and a fine roofer. He is able to spot trouble before it happens, and his repairs are great!!! His prices are fair. George Ugaz, Superior Home Improvements, 547 Pelican Ave., Gaithersburg, Md. 20877. Office (301) 963-0329; Home (301) 963-1528; Cell (301) 537-7957 Hope Phillips hihopel1999@aol.com January 2006

I wanted to recommend a really good roofer. He is: George Ugaz, 547 Pelican Ave, Gaithersburg MD 20877; 301-963-0329 (o), 301-537-7957 (cell). I found him right here in this newsletter a few weeks ago. He did the evaluation and repair work and it was a perfect job. The price was also very good. And on top of all that, he is a nice guy. John Natali john.natali@verizon.net April 2006

I've used Samuel Boyd & Son Roofers for years and have always been very happy with them. Phone is (301) 386-4800. GMarieW@tenleytown@yahoo.com January 2006

SECURITY SERVICES -

I can recommend Satellite Industries, Inc. (located in Maryland). Their installation representative knew what he was talking about, thoroughly explained the options available, and seemed to have good common sense about what was really necessary and what was not. Their prices were very competitive. Laurence Groner GronerL@pentagon.af.mil

SNOW SHOVELING -

My two boys, Jake and Scot, take care of pets, shovel walks, cut grass, etc. Jake is a senior at Wilson and Scot is at Deal. We live on Jenifer St. and if you live nearby let me know. JOHN HOKE john.hoke@longandfoster.com March 2005

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

TAILORS & SEAMSTRESSES -

I'd like to recommend: Caterer, chef and home decor seamstress: Marla Gooriah. A fabulous cook who has catered several parties for me - very creative cuisine, generally with a multi-ethnic flair. Also is a great seamstress of decorative window treatments, tablecloths, pillows, etc. Very reasonable. (703) 354-7957 Joanne Capper Jcapper@worldbank.org

There is a tailor on the south end of Mt. Pleasant Street who is good, quick and inexpensive and it is next door to the Raven Bar & Grill. - Roy Stewart December 2005

Good tailor - Kim's Alterations at 4115 Wisconsin Avenue, 2nd floor. She is open Tues-Sat.(9.00am- 7.00pm, except Saturday, when she closes at 5.00pm. -Mel Blecher December 2005

My cleaning establishment, Lee's Laundry, on Livingston St., NW off Connecticut Ave. did a great job of mending my cashmere sweater. They may have sent it out. I don't know. But it looks great and as I remember was not expensive. - Susan Ellis December 2005

TREE SERVICES -

We and our neighbors just split the cost of having their tree (which was very much overhanging our yard) trimmed. I highly recommend Tony Smith of Smitty's Tree Service. He was very tolerant of the frequent scheduling changes that were necessitated by working around four peoples' schedules and his work was quick and tidy. His number is 1-800-406-7147. amybnhoang@aol.com - May 2004

Wayne Anderson at 301-926-6281. Laura Akgulian akgulian@ix.netcom.com

I have found that Woodacres does excellent work at very reasonable prices. Telephone 301-949-4100. Lesley Shneier Lshneier@worldbank.org

The best & most reasonable tree man that I've used for many years [I have a bunch of trees on a double lot and many friends & neighbors who use him] is Tony Smith of "Smitty's Tree Service." His number is 1-800-406-7147. He's insured and all that stuff, and his prices are great. Richard Bienvenue ourhous@bellatlantic.net

For anyone whose trees need work or removal, I recommend M&M Tree Service, owned by David Merritt, Jr. His rates are reasonable, his work is professional, he and his crew are polite and punctual. Phone free 877-520-1515. Kay McClenon kayandpaul@erols.com

We used Ace Tree Movers, 301-258-0008, to remove a 20 ft holly tree from our yard. They did an incredible job, very quick & cleaned up well. And, the best part, is they did it for free, because they then turn around & sell the tree. Highly recommended. Karen & Dan Rosenthal kdrofwdc@mindspring.com

I had a good experience with L&L Tree Service run by Kenny Lantinga 1-540-825-2164 or 1-540-825-4194. I did some background checking and had him get me copies of his insurance and bonding documents. It all checked out and his insurance was enough that if the tree had fallen and destroyed my house, it would be covered. Once the contract was signed and set, the crew arrived two minutes early and promptly did the job for slightly more than half the estimate of a well-known tree company that I had earlier considered. John Watson jwatson@american.edu

TUTORS -

Here is a great recommendation for a tutor. Does your student need help with math, reading, study skills, homework and more? Certified teacher with Masters in Education can help. Full Time classroom teacher working with children who have learning disabilities. Travel included in cost of tutoring. \$40.00 an hour. Call Colleen at 202-399-0041. Jennifer Rose jenrose1@yahoo.com

UPHOLSTERS -

Yi's Custom Upholstery in Rockville - (301) 770-3687, 12200 Parklawn Drive
Absolutely recommended - we have used 3 times, referred people - always happy.
Has warehouse with tons of rolls of fabric, in addition to swatch books. Very
good prices. Fast turn around, pickup & delivery when they say they will.
Katherine Mitchell katherine.mitchell@USPTO.GOV June 24, 2004

I also want to thank those folks who recommended Yi's in Rockville for
upholstering. They did several chairs for me and I am very pleased with their
work. They have an impressive selection of fabrics. Kathy Smith
ksmith1804@starpower.net March 2006

WET BASEMENTS -

We used Aquaguard, and they did a good job. They were not the least expensive,
but, they seemed to know their stuff. I don't recall the exact details of the
warranty, but it was as good or better than others. Before the waterproofing, we
had LOTS of water in our small basement. We haven't had any since.
deborahlynn89@yahoo.com May 24, 2005

Check out B-DRY also. We used this company and were satisfied. Many of our
neighbors have also used B-Dry. Constantia Dedoulis dedoulis@law.edu May 2005

I had good luck several years ago, when I had a wet basement problem, with Turf
Center Lawns in Spencerville MD. Phone: 301-384-9300. Despite their name, they
looked at where the water from my roof and my neighbor's roof was going, how the
land around the house sloped, etc.

I wanted to recommend AquaGuard for anyone looking for a professional firm to
assess a wet basement. Their representative came to my house for a free and
thorough assessment; identified my problem; told me that the "fix" wouldn't
require his services (which start at \$3,500), and made an excellent referral for
someone who could do the work at a much, much smaller price.
br.hurley@verizon.net November 2005

WINDOW REPAIR & REPLACEMENT -

Try Jose Vallejo 966-4771. dbedc@aol.com - Nov. 2004

I'd recommend getting window replacements through PEPCO. They're a bit
expensive, but they're fast and extremely professional, and the windows are
wonderful and high-quality and look wonderful.
Josh Mendelsohn Josh@ElliMend.com Oct. 2004

Blaines Windows at 301-933-1310 -- for all types of window repairs.

We had windows installed by Capital Investments/Improvements (301) 699-6161 and
were very pleased. Work was completed on six windows in a matter of hours and
the windows work beautifully. The cost was reasonable. JenNielsen007@aol.com

We had our windows replaced by Pella/KC Windows in Bethesda. The sales person was Yetta Rushford 240-508-7203. They did a good job. Gail Rebhan
grebhan@starpower.net

We used Renewal by Anderson for window replacements. The people who installed them were amazingly efficient, able, quick and tidy - a tremendous contrast to many of our home maintenance experiences. And we really like our windows. Email me if you'd like to take a look. Johanna Turner joturner@speakeasy.net July 2004

I highly recommend Blaine Windows - they are in Silver Spring. They service and replaced my windows in my old house and they installed new basement windows in my new house as well as putting in a screen door with a cat door. Stacey
Marien@tenleytown@yahoo.com October 2005

I heartily recommend Quality Windows and Doors, Inc. Unlike the three other firms we contacted, the salesman put on no pressure, answered questions honestly and readily, the price was the best of the four, and the workers did the job well and replaced all the windows in our house (13 of them!) in one day.
- Boris Weintraub December 2005

WINDOW WASHERS -

I would like to recommend Kirk Weaver at 301-762-5496 or 301-774-7258. Wanda Avila wavila@synpub.com

Window Washers at 337-0351. Fred and Betty Bullock fabullock@erols.com

I use "We do Windows," at 301 946-3697. Willie Schatz willie@his.com