

2018 CONTRACTOR RECOMMENDATIONS

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APPLIANCE REPAIR

2018—Ellen Wry: competent, reasonable, prompt: Fairhills Appliance Repair Service; 215-295-1823

2018—we have used Karl at Fairhills Appliance for years. He is great. 215-295-1823 --- Donald Brokate; Kathi Eckert absolutely concurs! Very professional, reasonable and excellent clean-up.

2018—Georgia Wallar—Joe Calderone 203 6226. He will tell you if it is worth fixing and give advice on the best replacement brand if it isn't. And he has no connections to any store selling them. Another bit of info. When Mr. Eschberger retired (for those of us who used him for years), Joe was his suggested replacement.

AUTO MECHANIC

Andy Rowan---I highly recommend Dario's Imported Car Service on Hillcrest. Dario and Isaac are both VERY trustworthy.

Maria Spillman & John Mole---Mark Rose on Lower Ferry

Ellen Wry--Carroll's Service Station at Sullivan Way just past the School for the Deaf and railroad station for many years for all our repairs and service. We recommend them. I always ask for Sue.

Kathleen Coughlin--Trenton Auto and Tire on Sanhican, <http://www.trentonautotire.com>

BUILDERS/CONTRACTORS

2017---Jim Brownlee---I recently had work done by Victor Delgado, owner of V.I Construction Company and a resident of West Trenton. He recently did my patio with blue stone. I am so extremely happy and satisfied with his work and know that it was the best decision I have made in recent times for work needed. I would recommend him for any work that you are considering for the exterior of your home. He promised a final product that I would not be unhappy about and told me that any problems that I had would be a reflection of his work. I am extremely happy with the finished patio, and it is more than I expected. Do not hesitate to contact him for estimate. 609-695-6344.

02/18---I would like to recommend J&S Distributors of 119 South Olden Avenue. Their prices are great with good quality cabinets. If you have the measurements for your kitchen you can just take the drawing over and they will make a plan for you. ...Reggie Robinson

CARPENTERS:

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Rowan/Ranallo--Jerry Smith 215-378-0622 (good & bad reviews)

Lily--Best ever: Carl Davidson of Davidson Carpentry: 609-915-7383.

Trevor & Brad--Lara Construction. They are in Flemington. Ask for Bob. 908-788-9567

Jennifer Greene--Gerrit Eversen in Ewing is quite good. He's done a lot of very fine work on our house. His contact info is (609) 240-5540.

Maria Spillman--2017--Jerry Smith; bjcarp55@gmail.com (215) 378-0622, Jerry has also completed work on many of our homes. He has a knack for handling the problems we all encounter with the wear and tear of our old houses.

CARPET CLEANING

Donald Brokate—4/2017—We used to use Tashjians. They are very good but have gotten very expensive. We are now using Langs in Wilmington, DE. Their prices are very reasonable if you bring the carpets to them. They are an old family business right off of Rte 95 in Wilmington. 1 he 15 mins from Trenton. I don't know if they pick up here.

Andy Rowan, 119 Buckingham ---Apr 24, 2017---Tashjian's is very good with quality rugs,

Lily---Totally agree, have had great experience with Tashjian's over many years with both wool and silk carpets, including antique Orientals. Lily (2018)--Tashjian on Irven Street—behind the closed Furniture store on Spruce. They are wonderful and have been in business forever.

Georgia Wallar ---They are a very reputable firm and very careful to check whether the rugs have any insects (particularly moths) before taking them. They used to provide pickup service. Not sure if that's still true.

CHIMNEY CLEANING

Donald Brokate & Harry Reyes--Pete & Sons Chimney 43 S Lafayette, Morrisville, PA 215-295-3363

Rochelle Ellis--Call St. John Chimney Sweeps. They did an excellent job repairing my chimney and installing a liner and gas fireplace insert.

DRIVEWAY SEALERS

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Kathleen Coughlin, 205 Kensington ---- We used Collegiate Sealers for our driveway and wanted to pass this on. They beat out two other estimates and did a good job.

“Since 1985 we have been sealing driveways and parking lots in Mercer County and the surrounding area. Thanks for being a part of this 30 year history. We now offer a hot pour crack filing option and can patch potholes and larger areas that are in disrepair with a new product called Aquaphalt. After all, beautiful homes deserve a beautiful driveway. Tom Hurst, Owner and Founder, Collegiate Sealers Inc., www.sealmydriveway.com
609-259-3008

DRY CLEANING

Arlene & Tom Lancsek & Lily Knezevich----2017--we use Greenpia Cleaners in the Marrasso's shopping center, they do a great job on everything.

ELECTRICIANS

Rochelle Ellis--Call Lynch Electric. They gave me great same day service for a real estate listing I have. 609-273-2410, 609-259-4990.

Harry Reyes-- Danny Deleon is a great electrician, pretty much rewired my entire house. (609) 575-1987

Ellen Wry--Erik Swiatkowski; 215 943 9356.

FLOWERS

Gail Czenes (2014)—The garden center at the Trenton Psychiatric Hospital sells floral arrangements for Christmas at ridiculously low prices (starting at \$6!). These arrangements are made by residents as part of program to help individuals learn skills and get experience interacting with the public. All you have to do is call to place your order and indicate your price point. 609-633-1898

GUTTERS & DOWNSPOUTS

Maria Spillman--2018--- Call Mario at Mario's Services (609) 406-1323. He's been cleaning out my gutters and doing work for others on this block for a long time. I think he's good and very reasonable.

Bill Merz---2018---I have used Trenton Roofing for over 20 years with great success. They come

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out and give you an estimate, once you accept it, you pay half, and they come promptly and finish the job. It has worked every time I've used them and they have done a great job.

HANDYMAN

MARIA SPILLMAN--2017--Mitchel; everything from yard work, to clean-outs, demolition, jobs around the house (nothing is a problem for him!).

HARDWOOD FLOOR REFINISHERS:

Donald Brokate—don't use Billy's Hardwood Floors (Vietnamese fellow—he jacked up his prices and did a crappy job. I vowed to never use him again.)

HOUSE CLEANING

Ellen Wry ---We have had Ala Makarovich clean our house for over ten years. I think in that time, she has been sick and unable to come only three or four times. She comes about five minutes before the arrival time, is unfailingly cheerful, and is careful with our house. If there is any little thing that she misses, you can tell her the next time and she will cheerfully do it right. We have been very pleased with her work. On rare occasions, she has gone on vacation for a while, and when she does, her daughter, Angela, substitutes and she is as dependable, cheerful and capable as Ala. I recommend both of them. Her number is 215 431-5644.

KID CONTRACTORS

"Need help around the house? Does your dog need a walk? Does your lawn need mowing?" Text Thomas Knezevich at 609-731-1031. Limited availability during school term.

LANDSCAPERS/LAWN SERVICE

Lily Knezevich---2017-Bill Rich landscapers--they do a lot of work in Hiltonia and are very reasonable; Bill Rich: 609-737-4444

Donna Garcia--2017--<http://dirtygirlgardeners.com>. We LOVE 'Dirty Girls'. We use them for fall and spring clean up. They are gardeners. They know the difference between a weed and a flower. They use organic products and we have very few weeds with their organic mulch. They hand weed. They do not use pesticides. This is important to us. The owner comes on site to check work.

2018—Donald Brokate—Jimmy Marks became very unreliable and after many years I discontinued his service for all of my properties. His helper's name is Edras Hernandez.

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I am now using another very reliable and professional service for lawn care, landscaping, tree removal and snow removal for all of my properties. His name is Rudin Orellana R&S Landscaping. 908-720-2456. Rudin was recommended by a very dear friend and I have not been disappointed. Rudin is a pleasure to work with and has a large crew so things get done in a very timely manner.

Mike Ranallo --- If you are thinking of using Greenleaf Lawn and Landscaping please think twice. I am not saying do not hire them, but please be aware of potential long delays in the start of your job. I contracted Chuck on August 21 to renovate my entire lawn. Since then it has been nothing but delays and missed appointments. Last week he promised me the job would be completed today (after weeks of delay) and did not show. The week before I stayed home because they were supposed to start the job. They did not show up and did not advise me they would not be arriving that day. Not commenting on the quality of their work as others may be happy but I strongly warn potential customers of the possibility of extreme delays and no shows

Mike Ranallo--2016 ---- I have been using H&H Landscaping for a few years. I started them with small clean up type jobs and have been moving them into larger jobs at my house. This weekend they were out to do a large clean up, move some plantings around, a hardscape job I needed, mulching and an aeration/replanting of my lawn coming off of the disaster that was Greenleaf Landscaping.

The crew was prompt, concerned with how they were doing throughout the day and left no debris on the street and so far have done a really good job.

Bill the owner always returns calls and email. Their prices are very reasonable. They are definitely worth considering if you need something done. Plus they are local and it's always good to support the local guys. H&H Landscaping, Address: 6 Abernethy, Trenton, NJ 08618

Rudin has a large company and they also do snow removal. It's R&S Landscaping, Rudin Orellana, 908-720-2456. Tell him that I recommended him. He also does hardscaping and concrete work. We are going to have him replace our bluestone walkway in the spring....Donald Brokate

MASON/PATIO REPAIR:

Victor Delgado, owner of V.I Construction Company and a resident of West Trenton. Do not hesitate to contact him for estimates-609-695-6344. I recently had work done by Victor Delgado, owner of V.I Construction Company and a resident of West Trenton. He recently did my patio with blue stone. I am so extremely happy and satisfied with his work and know

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Lily--McGolgan Masonry has done lots of work for me over the years. They are top quality and reasonably priced. Ask for Mike McColgan--he knows the neighborhood. Mike is a great guy and super to work with. (215) 280-3529; Website: <http://www.mccolgansmasonry.com/estimate-request>

Harry Reyes--Raphael Munoz has worked on many homes in Hiltonia on masonry projects. (908) 415-5146

Maria Spillman--Rafael; office (732) 780-2385, cell (908) 415-5146 Rafael has redone my whole porch, fixed my steps and sidewalk. Here is yet another craftsman who has blessed many of us with his skills. He also works on driveways, retaining walls, etc.

2018--Kathleen Coughlin: I wanted to recommend a contractor for masonry, water repair, basements, etc. I called the two or three masons you have on file. Raphael is no longer in business and neither of the other two called back after two phone calls and an email. Anyway, finally found these guys in an ad and they're great. Anthony Pennacchi & Sons, Oldest masonry, Contracting & Waterproofing company in Mercer County; License No. 13VHO113A400; Phone: 609-394-7354; WWW.APENNACCHI.COM

MOWER REPAIR:

Jessica--Housecalls Mower Repair (609) 558-7751

Harry--Baldwin Repairs located at 1627 Reed Rd., Pennington, NJ 609-737-8348

PAINTING:

ANDY ROWAN: George Greenhalgh at G&H (or G&R) Painting, 215-499-6205

Maria Spillman--2017--Paint and Paper by Pablo; (609) 883-1210, Pablo has painted many of our neighborhood homes, both inside and out. His estimates tend to be a bit higher than others', but it's work that lasts because of the energy and effort he puts into the prep part of

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painting (scraping, etc.), as well as the quality of the paint.

E. Heath--2016--Pablo of Paint & Paper is painting the trim of our house right now, so you can see his work. He is more expensive than others, but he is meticulous and does thorough prep work. We had cheaper painters some years back and now it has to be redone.
Pablo Mastroianni, 609-883-0210

NICOLE FURLONGE: Joe Pugliese; 609-462-8896; Buckmstr311@aol.com; Reliable, thorough, good pricing. Does all our painting, inside and out.

Greg, Brian Viehland—2014--Domingo Maroto--609-334-4106, 609-977-6142

Maria & Ellen Heath--Pablo from Paint & Paper--has painted my whole exterior and quite a bit of interior space; Pablo Mastroianni, 609-883-0210

Trevor--Galardo Home Improvement; Phone: 908-644-6316; Email: gallardohomeimprovement@yahoo.com

Maria Spillman—2018—Rony was recommended by a friend. I would like to recommend him as well: Rony - (609) 954-4836; ronythepainter@live.com; mailto:ronythepainter@live.com
Rony & his coworker did a fantastic job with the prep work, the actual painting and the clean up. I felt that he was very reasonable in his pricing too!

PLASTERING:

Andy Rowan--2017--I highly recommend Jerry Smith, 215-378-0622. He is very good with plaster. He's done some for us, very good work. (He also worked on the State House dome renovation when Whitman was governor.)(He's also good for general carpentry.)

Phillip Steffani--We love our plasterer, Pat Buckley! He plastered M. Night Shyamalan's house in PA! Hilarious, Irishman who does GREAT work! 914-882-4394.

PLUMBERS:

VERNON WILLIAMS--2017--: We recommend Don Stewart of WV Stewart and Son. 609-587-9555. He does meticulous work and is reliable and friendly.

Andy Rowan--Kees Guerds (KG Plumbing, 609-883-9485) and he does great work and understands these old houses, but he can be hard to get hold of.

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Phillip Steffani--We use Dabronzo Plumbing. 609-298-7582. They've always sent out Charlie (sweet man who can talk your ear off! LOL) and his young apprentice.

Rochelle--Don Neuls plumbing and heating. Great guy! 609- 586-5624

Nicole Brossoie--Povio Plumbing. Phone: (609) 610-4808. He does great work and he's reasonably priced.

Donald Brokate--Hoffman plumbing, George Hoffman 989-7174 have used him for everything plumbing and HVAC for 30 years.

ROOFERS:

Treps--(609) 695-8234

Mike R.--I use Leelands Slate Roofing and really like them.
<http://www.leelands.com/contact.php>

Reed G.---Ayala Construction LLC, New Brunswick, NJ; (732) 558-4083 (did 206 Cornwall--2017)

Sandra Spiessl—4/2017—We just had a very positive experience with Accurate Roofing, based in Lawrence. Thorough, careful, responsive, pleasant, excellent clean-up from a messy job, hard workers on a very steep roof. They also do siding...and their salesperson, Bob, is a pleasure with whom to work.—www accurateroofing.com

SNOW BLOWER REPAIR:

Jim Ambrosio: I use Housecalls. Ewing-based, franchised thing. They will come service the machine at your house. Call 558-7751 to schedule.

SNOW REMOVAL:

Ellen Wry--We have had an excellent person for many years. Always prompt and courteous and careful. His name is Fred Hendrickson, 609 309-2263. Shovel and snowblower.

Noreen--MEL 609-635-5993 is shoveling next door at Michael's.

Thomas Knezevich--609-731-1031

Daniel Damron (age 18) & Friend—609-610-6447

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Annette Schroth--Blue Chip Lawn Service--uses plow--609-730-0991:
bluechip0413@comcast.net

TAILOR:

Elise--Rossi's on College Ave. in Chambersburg is supposed to be good.

Ali--Try Schaffer's on business Route 1. Ask for Pasqual.

TREES:

Maria Spillman: Bartlett.com; Bartlett Tree Experts 924-3270.

Bill Merz---Carroll & Company are the most efficient and reasonably priced solution for removing trees in our area.

Maria Spillman--2017--Carroll and Company; David's estimates tend to land below what others have quoted throughout the neighborhood. His crew works very carefully and totally cleans up after the work is finished. <http://www.carrollandcompanytreeservice.com/>

WATERPROOFING IN BASEMENT:

Ambrosio--2017--We used a local masonry contractor, Pennacchi & Sons, who applied a mixture that as I recall was a combination of either Thoroseal and/or UGL Drylock and other materials that they spread on the walls to waterproof our basement. It was about five years ago. That combined with the installation of wider gutters and extending downspouts to channel water away from the house has kept ours dry. <http://www.apennacchi.com/>

YARD WORK:

Ellen Wry--We have a very good person who mows the lawn, does fall and spring cleanup, puts mulch down in the spring, trims the hedge, cleans gutters. He is not a gardener, but he does all those things well, charges a fair price, and is very dependable. Also plows driveways in the winter. Fred Hendrickson, 637-9492.