

TUSCANY-NTERBURY

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION P.O. Box 26223 Baltimore, Maryland 21210

A Brief History of Paradise Mill

by John McGrain, edited by Kate Richardson



In 1799, a sturdy stone mill sat by a mill race that streamed from a mill pond south of Cold Spring Lane and west of Charles Street Avenue. The mill race ran parallel to Stony (or Union) Run, which fed the north end of the mill pond and ran south from it down to Merrymans Lane, which is now University Parkway. The mill race was not a large stream. The 1798 tax list called it a "thundergust mill," suggesting that in ordinary weather, there was not much water; only a thunderstorm could bring enough flow to make it a powerful stream.

This mill and the land it sat on were owned by Abraham Van Bibber (1743-1805), who was a successful Baltimore merchant, landowner, and privateer. He was an agent for Maryland and Virginia and was one of the purchasers of a sloop used at the outbreak of the American Revolution.

The sloop, USS Lexington, was originally a merchant brigantine named the Wild Duck. Abraham Van Bibber purchased it for the Maryland Committee of Safety. At the time it was stationed in the Dutch West Indies island of St. Eustatius. Van Bibber bought it in February 1776, and sent it to Philadelphia with a much-needed cargo of gunpowder secretly supplied by the French. The Marine Committee of the Continental Congress immediately saw the value of the ship and purchased her for the new Continental Navy within four days. They sent her off to the ship builders Wharton and Humphry to be refitted for the navy.

Van Bibber had many landholdings in Virginia and Maryland, but his county seat was in the valley of Stoney [sic] Run "which gloried in the name of 'Paradise' and the millseat known as 'Paradise Mill.'" Paradise Mill was a grist mill. A large upright wooden wheel was turned by the flow of the mill race. This wheel provided the power to turn the millstones used to grind grain or corn into flour or meal. Van Bibber did not run the mill himself; he was a businessman and investor. He owned slaves and probably had other workers as well to do the manual labor of millwork.

When Abraham Van Bibber died, he had no heir. Although he married twice, his only child, a boy also named Abraham, died at five years of age. Van Bibber left his Paradise landholdings, including the mill, to his two nephews.

After Van Bibber died, the Paradise property and mill changed hands many times. In 1809, Arnold Richardson bought the mill and renamed it Kensington Mill.

continued on page 3

TCNA ANNUAL **MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Tuesday, June 25 7:30-9:30 p.m. Calvert Middle School atrium (Enter building from Tuscany Road; enter parking lot from Charles Street.)

AGENDA

- Call to order
- 2. Opening remarks
- 3. Treasurer's report
- 4. Committee reports
- 5. Old business
- 6. New business Election of Board of Directors (See page 4 for list of nominees.)
- 7. General forum

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PARADISE MILL	P. 1
FROM THE PRESIDENT	P. 2
CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD	P. 4
VOLUNTEER AT GHCC	P. 4
IN AND AROUND THE	
NEIGHBORHOOD	P. 4
USING 911	P. 5
SAVE A TREE	P. 5
TRAFFIC & PARKING REPORT.	P. 6
MEMBERSHIP REPORT	P. 6
PROPERTY SALES	P. 7
THE DOOR	P. 7
WINNER OF CAPTION CONTES	ST P. 6
TCNA COMMITTEES	P. 8
JOIN TCNA	P. 8

TCNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012-2013

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WEBSITE

www.tuscanycanterbury.org

LISTSERV

All members @TCNA.memberclicks.net

President's Column

by A.J. O'Brien, President, TCNA Board of Directors

My brief term as president is coming to an end in June. Many things have changed since I was last TCNA president eight years ago. During that time, I started a dumpster Saturday and a monthly email calendar for the email-savvy members. Eight years ago, board meetings were spent creating problem-solving committees and gathering the widest number of volunteers to address neighborhood concerns. Today, TCNA board members work with committees to negotiate with outside entities and bring solutions to our two general meetings. Witness the community input on the roundabout on 39th Street.

In 2001, after Calvert School built its middle school, TCNA and Calvert entered into covenants that capped future enrollment, attempted to limit the impact of Calvert traffic on the streets of Tuscany Canterbury, and prohibited the school's further physical expansion in Tuscany-Canterbury without the approval of the neighborhood. Several years later, in 2008, when Calvert bought the former fraternity house at 3921 Canterbury Road in order to enlarge its lower school, amendments to the covenants were agreed upon that provided an orderly demolition and construction process for the new addition. These amendments also included provisions affecting the afternoon carpool lines on Tuscany Road and created a Calvert Liaison Committee to promote regular dialogue between the school and neighborhood. Because of the importance and value of the 2001 covenants and 2008 amendments to the neighborhood, both are on the TCNA website.

On behalf of the neighborhood, I would like to thank the members of the Calvert Liaison Committee—Sue Talbott (chair), Anne Perkins (vice-chair), Liz Nilson, Ralph Kurtz, Ferdinand Latrobe, Miriam Shark, and Arna Margolis—for keeping on top of the construction issues at both the lower school on Canterbury Road and at the middle school. Since work began last year, the neighborhood members of the committee have been meeting every Tuesday morning at 8:00 am. I am sure their hard work has resulted in lessening the disruption caused by construction.

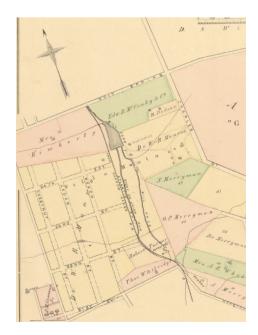
Our Garden and Newsletter Committees have a large number of faithful volunteers. Look how beautiful our public gardens are. Witness how important the Traffic and Parking and the Calvert Liaison Committees are in solving neighborhood difficulties. What the city can't do, our residents have volunteered to do.

Our spring general meeting will be on Tuesday, June 25th at the Calvert Middle School atrium. At this meeting, Area 21 parking permits will be distributed. Elections for new officers and board members are part of our agenda. An open forum is possible if residents submit neighborhood issues to me in advance. There will be an update on Calvert's new headmaster and building progress. With the elections on June 25, we will have a new president and vice president. I ask all to welcome the new officers and help the board by joining a committee.

Have you noticed the construction marking stakes on the hill near University Parkway on Linkwood Road? These are the beginnings of a pedestrian bridge across Stony Run. Soon all, young and old, will be able to cross Stony Run into Wyman Park.

Thank you to all, especially our current board members, for their time and devotion to making Tuscany-Canterbury a great place to live and a beautiful, safe, walk-friendly neighborhood in Baltimore City. I hope to meet you out walking.

Paradise Mill (continued from page 1)



Richardson died in 1813, but the mill was still on his tax account in 1823 when the Assessors Field Book on folio 5 showed "Arnal Richardson" as owner of 130 acres of Ridgely's Whim and Merryman's Addition to Convenience, plus "1 grice mill" worth \$300.

The mill was sold at auction to Charles Gwinn for \$3,000. Then, in 1840, it was sold to Samuel Buckman. That sale is reflected in the Transfer Book of 1842–1845 where an update made in 1843 showed Paradise Mill passing from William Broadbent to Samuel Buckman. Buckman sold it in 1846 to Larkin Reed, a miller from Dorchester County. (Side note: L. Read of Paradise Mill placed an advertisement in the *Baltimore Sun*, August 12, 1852, seeking the return of a runaway slave, Jim Ward, age 17, who had hidden in the woods near Govanstown, Northfield Road.)

Finally, in 1855, Robert Turner bought and operated the mill. But Baltimore City had other plans for the water that powered it. The Baltimore Water Board, a city government agency, had been established recently to take the place of the privately owned companies that had been providing the city with water. A *Baltimore Sun* article dated April 16, 1856, announced the creation of the Commissioners of the Baltimore Water Works Extension. This group

was tasked with obtaining "the right and title to the waters of Stony Run and its tributaries, so far as may be deemed necessary, up to and inclusive of the water-power of the Paradise Mill." The water from Stony Run would be captured to create three reservoirs that would supply water to the city. These reservoirs would also be filled by diverting the waters of Jones Falls.

In December 20, 1856, the Office of the Water Board wrote to the mayor and City Council that that R. Turner at Paradise Mill on Stony Run had been awarded \$17,000 for the water rights to his property. The reservoirs, however, were never constructed. Instead, construction of Lake Roland was begun in 1858. When it was completed in 1862, it became the first municipal water source for the city.

Turner was not happy. He still owned the mill but could no longer operate it. The *Baltimore Sun*, February 11, 1858, reported that the City Council had received a petition from Robert Turner asking \$1,000 in damages incurred in consequence of the city's not taking Paradise Mill property after it had been condemned for the use of the Water Board.

The 1876 Tax Ledger of Baltimore County Election District No. 9 showed Robert Turner still owning 7.5 acres of Paradise Mill and a store and an old mill, together worth \$200. A frame dwelling was assessed at \$600. In the G.M. Hopkins *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*, the mill was located south of Cold Spring Lane (see map above).

Turner couldn't use the mill, but he leased its pond to George Biemiller, an ice merchant who had an ice house nearby for storing his product. The *Baltimore Sun*, January 6, 1879, reported, "Biemiller's ice pond, on the old Paradise Mill property, west of Charles street avenue, near the first toll-gate, presents a lively appearance as workmen commence cutting the ice. The ice is from 12 to 14-1/2 inches thick. Already, 1,500 tons have been stored, and in a day or two the house will be filled."

In the fall of that year, however, disaster struck Turner's property. The *Baltimore Sun*, October 6, 1879, reported that a flood car-

ried away the breast of the old Paradise Mill dam and also a substantial bridge built by the narrow gauge railway. "The flood then swept over Robert Turner's Paradise Mill property, and destroyed a large ice pond of Mr. Biemiller, the ice dealer, who is a tenant of Mr. Turner's. Two carts belonging to Mr. Biemiller were also carried away by the flood." Abandoned, the ice house and mill eventually disappeared. The Paradise Mill remains in history as a sepia image on a stereograph owned by John McGrain, whose extensive research made this article possible.

Sources:

American War of Independence at Sea: www. awiatsea.com/Officers/Officers%20V.html

ancestry.com: 1790 U.S. census

Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, Volume 4, edited by James L. Moone

Journal of Proceedings of the First Branch City Council of Baltimore (157)

Maryland Historical Society genealogy index "Van Bibber's Mill (Baltimore City)" by John McGrain



The old ice house at Paradise Mill

Candidates for the 2013-14 TCNA Board

The TCNA Nominating Committee submits the following slate of candidates for election to the Board of Directors. These (and any other candidates nominated by TCNA members in accordance with the Association bylaws) will be voted on by the members attending the annual meeting on June 25. The complete roster of nominated officers and other board members is included here. Those whose names are followed by an asterisk (*) are members of the current board.

President: tba

Vice-President: Thomas Forno (Ridgemede/Ridgemede Condominiums)*

Treasurer: Bill Bass (Cloverhill Road)*
Secretary: Elsie Grant (Canterbury Road)*

Ralph Kurtz (Canterbury Road)

Ned Lewison (Gardens of Guilford)*

Arna Margolis (Tuscany-Lombardy Cooperative)*

Claire McMillan (Canterbury Road)

Eugene O'Dunne (N. Charles Street)*

Rob Snow (39th Street)*

Susan Talbott (N. Charles Street)*

Jean Van Buskirk (W. University Parkway)*

Bruce Whitaker (Canterbury Road)

Any member of the Association in good standing may nominate any other member to any of the positions filled by election, provided that the nominee has agreed to serve if elected. Nominations from the membership must be in writing and must reach the current president (A.J. O'Brien) at least fifteen days prior to the annual meeting. Nominations may not be made from the floor at that meeting.

2013 Nominating Committee: John Rabb, Chair Tina Tapane Linda Eberhart Anne Perkins Kenna Forsyth (Ex-Officio) A.J. O'Brien (Ex-Officio)

Volunteer Opportunities at GHCC

Greater Homewood Community Corporation needs volunteers. Here are some opportunities:

- Get That Job! Instructor: Help prepare participants to find and retain rewarding employment by leading an employability workshop on resume writing, job searching, and interviewing. Volunteers teach or co-teach one five-session workshop.
- Job Coach: Meet one-to-one with participants to help them search for jobs using the Internet, write and revise resumes, and practice interview skills. Job Coaches meet with learners for at least two hours every week; scheduling is flexible.
- Barclay Youth Safe Haven Mentor: Be a mentor to a child aged 6-12 living in the Barclay community in north central Baltimore. Play a positive role in a young person's life and help build an innovative community-based mentoring program.

Check the GHCC website for more volunteer opportunities: http://www.greaterhomewood.org/give-to-ghcc/volunteer.

For further information contact Christy Zuccarini, Director of Development, Greater Homewood Community Corporation, 3503 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218.

- (p) 410-261-3504
- (f) 410-261-3506

After many years in Tuscany-Canterbury, Jack Goellner and Barbara Lamb are moving from our neighborhood. We thank both of them for their many years of service to TCNA and wish them well in their new location.

In and Around the Neighborhood

by Elsie Grant, TCNA Board

We bid farewell to fellow TCNA member Dr. Andrew D. Martire as he leaves his post as Calvert School's headmaster at the end of the school year, June 5th. He has led Calvert School since 2004. We extend best wishes to Andy and his family as they prepare to move to Houston, where he will become headmaster at the Kinkaid School, a pre-K through 12th grade coeducational independent school.

In July, Andrew Holmgren will become the headmaster at Calvert School. He and his family will be moving from New York City to Baltimore, and we look forward to welcoming them.

Evergreen Museum & Library presents an outdoor exhibition by Baltimore artist Loring Cornish in honor of the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington. The history of the Civil Rights Movement is visually narrated in 12 sculptural panels made from found materials. In Each Other's Shoes: The Art of Loring Cornish is on view through September 29 (closed on Mondays, free admission).

Baltimore Museum of Art's special exhibits include On Paper: Drawings from the Cohen Collection, through August 25, and video artists Nathaniel Mellors and Jimmy Joe Roche in the front room, July 3 to September 29 (free admission).

Homewood Museum will hold a gala benefit on October 12. The event will recreate the atmosphere of an early 19th century party at the former residence of the Carroll family, including costumed re-enactors and dancers, a harvest-themed dinner based on historical recipes, and live music with dancing after dinner. Information: http://museums.jhu.edu/calendar.php.

Using 911

by John Rabb, TCNA Representative Northern District Community Relations Council

Concerns have been raised by both residents of Tuscany-Canterbury and the board regarding the 911 system. As your representative to the Northern District (Baltimore City Police) Community Relations Council, I raised the issue in one our meetings. I have been asked to update 911 information in light of recent concerns.

- The 911 system is centralized, and all calls for police, fire, and ambulance go to a central dispatch from which they are directed to the closest police, fire and ambulance centers.
- It is essential to be clear as you give the dispatcher the address and exact location. When you are making an emergency call, it is never a calm time, but you should ask for the address and location to be repeated back to you. Our neighborhood has many similar-sounding streets, and some are named roads, and some are called courts.
- Give as much information as you can; even as you are talking, the response process is starting. Do not be afraid to advocate. It is not up to you to determine the seriousness of the situation; that will be done by the respondents, so it is better to advocate.
- If you see someone looking into cars or houses, this should be called a "crime in progress." The leadership at the Northern District stresses this point repeatedly. If you see or fear there may be weapons, report it! You may be asked further questions; this is not to test you or doubt you but to be certain the proper response is sent.
- For medical emergencies, give the maximum information and, again, do not worry that you may be overstating. The respondents are trained in determining what to do.
- All houses should have street numbers on both the front and the back. If you call for help, turn on outside lights to help the responders locate the exact place.

Tuscany Canterbury is served by police through the Northern District. Most ambulances will be dispatched from local fire stations and are usually, unless another location is needed, directed to Union Memorial, the closest hospital. The fire stations serving our community are in Hampden, Roland Park and Waverly. Dispatchers know which stations to use and which calls have already been dispatched to other sites.

Save a Tree

Remove English Ivy From the Trunk

IVY KILLS TREES! The trees in Tuscany-Canterbury are threatened by ivy that grows on their trunks. YOU can help by removing ivy on trees in your yard or by asking staff in your building to remove ivy from trees on common property.

While removing ivy, wear gloves, a long sleeved shirt, long pants, and sturdy shoes. Use the smallest cutting tool possible, such as clippers or a lopper.

- 1. Cut each vine at the ground level and again at shoulder level. Gently pull the cut section from the tree to avoid damaging the bark.
- 2. Pull ivy from the ground to create a six-foot ivy-free circle around the tree.
 - 3. Stack the vines in a waste container for disposal.
- 4. Ivy vines left in the tree will slowly die and ultimately fall off the trunk.

For more information go to: http://www.invasive.org/gist/moredocs/hedhel02.pdf.



Traffic and Parking

by Jackie MacMillan, Chair

On March 13, the Traffic and Parking Committee met with representatives of the Baltimore City Department of Transportation (DOT) to discuss traffic safety concerns along University Parkway and 39th Street. The meeting was attended by DOT's recently appointed Deputy Director Billy Hwang, project engineers Mohammed Habib and Kevin Livingston, and DOT's community liaison Kohl Fallin. Also attending were Jennifer Mielke, JHU's Director of Community Affairs, and representatives of the Guilford, Roland Park, and Wyman Park neighborhoods with whom we are partnering in efforts to make University Parkway safer.

The committee continues to wait for a substantive response from DOT to letters sent in August 2012. Mr. Hwang listened to the attendees' concerns and has promised to address questions raised in the letters and provide relevant data at the committee's June 12th meeting.

DOT will now wait until the current school term closes in early June before beginning construction of the traffic circle at 39th Street and Canterbury Road. Ms. Fallin will provide neighborhood residents with details about the construction process and alternative routes before ground is broken.

Those interested in more detail about the issues that have been raised with DOT by the committee may contact Jackie MacMillan: gormac@qis.net. New information about the circle will be shared with all members immediately when received.

Membership

by Carol Doctrow, Chair

The Membership Committee has been calling former members whose memberships lapsed in 2012. The committee met on Thursday, April 18, 2013. At that meeting, we reviewed the effectiveness of our outreach efforts and considered other possible ways of reaching out to lapsed members. We discussed possible wording for a third notice to be sent to members whose memberships are about to expire.

Membership rates in multi-family buildings remain extremely low, and the committee is exploring ways to recruit new members in those buildings.

If you would like to join the Membership Committee, or if you have ideas that you would like to share with us, please call Carol Doctrow at 410-532-6292.

Email Blast Alerts TCNA Neighborhood

In April, there was a rash of thefts in the area. TCNA was asked by Major Tapp-Harper of the Northern Police District to disseminate a wanted poster via our email system. As a result, several neighbors who saw the man depicted in the poster called 911 as requested. The suspect was arrested on April 15th. Major-Tapp Harper has made it very clear that we need to help her and her staff prevent crime as well as assist in the identification and arrest of those who commit crimes.

TCNA Members Join the TreeKeepers Program

Thanks to a mutual effort by the city Forestry Board, the nonprofit Baltimore Tree Trust, and Tree Baltimore, residents citywide are able to sign up for Baltimore TreeKeepers, which offers free tree stewardship classes and will aid in achieving the city's goal of increasing tree canopy from 27 to 40 percent by 2040. Amanda Cunningham, executive director of Baltimore Tree Trust, explains TreeKeepers mission: "Get more trees in the ground, protect the ones we have and educate the public."

"TreeKeepers promotes healthy trees by educating residents and increasing their role in the care of the city's trees," states a flier from the Baltimore Tree Trust. "Through this training, citizens can become tree advocates and share the responsibility to plant and care for trees in their neighborhood and throughout the city."

TCNA members Jane Pilliod and Tom Forno have signed up for the program. They hope to share the information they learn with other members.

In a *Baltimore Sun* article, Jane explained her interest: "I would like to do something civic and I like trees." Last fall, she and Tom participated in a tree survey in Roland Park that focused on identifying trees and describing their age and condition.

Jane and Tom attended the two classes that were held this spring. The first, "Trees & Baltimore," focused on environmental issues. The second class, "Science of Trees," included information on how trees grow and how to maintain and plant them.

Two classes are scheduled for this summer and fall: "Advanced Tree Planting for Leadership Certification" and "Advanced Tree Pruning for Certification."

Thanks to Jane and Tom for their involvement in the Tree-Keepers Program.

Property Sales in Tuscany-Canterbury

Address	List Price	Sold Price	
101 W. 39th Street # H2	\$195,000	\$170,000	
101 W. 39th Street #C3	\$200,000	\$!85,000	
4203 Tuscany Court	\$325,000	\$320,000	
4209 Tuscany Court	\$349,999	\$365,000	
333 Tuscany Road	\$595,000	\$575,000	
Under Contract			
220 Stoney Ford Ln #DG	\$130,000		
103 W. 39th Street #G3	\$135,000		
221 Stony Run Ln #E1	\$289,000		
3923 Cloverhill Road	\$379,000		
3801 Canterbury Road #1009	\$434,900		
331 Tuscany Road	\$525,000		

Note: This data represents real estate activity from January 1, 2013, through March 31, 2013, in the Tuscany-Canterbury neighborhood. The information is deemed reliable but is not guaranteed.

Source: This information is gathered from the Metropolitan Regional Information Systems, Inc., and is provided courtesy of Karin R. Batterton, GRI, CRS Realtor Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, Village of Cross Keys. Kbatterton@cbmove.com, or (410) 218-2566.

The Door

At dawn, my daughter and I
stepped out into crisp, early spring,
cheek-pinching cold under a sky
dazzled pink and gold, promising
perhaps a longer day, a kinder sun,
though April's green had not begun.
Our breath in clouds, we couldn't imagine
winter closing its icy rooms.

And then the sky was drawn with V's, impossibly high wings, ranks of birds beating steadily north in arrowed patterns, calling their thousand-mile secrets, rough voices falling from airy highways onto us who watched and saw, far off, summer's door unlatched.

-Marianna Busching

Winner of the First TCNA Caption Contest



The winner is Tony LaPorta, a longtime resident of Ridgemede Road! His caption is:

Where did you say you parked your car?



Tony LaPorta, second from left, receives his prize from A.J. O'Brien, president of TCNA: a gift certificate to gourmet meals at the Alizee American Bistro in the Colonnade. On the far left is Stephen Nyitrai, General Manager of the Colonnade. On the right is Ricardo Espinosa, Alizee Food and Beverage Director.

TCNA Committees Provide Opportunities to Serve Our Community

CALVERT LIAISON

Susan Talbott, Charles St. • Chair • talbottsue@gmail.com Anne Perkins, Tuscany Rd. • Vice-Chair

Howard Casey (Gardens of Guilford), Ralph Kurtz (Canterbury Rd.), Ferdinand Latrobe (Canterbury Rd.), Arna Margolis (Tuscany-Lombardy Community Corp.), Joe McGraw (Calvert School), Liz Nilson (Canterbury Rd.), Miriam Shark (Canterbury Rd.)

GARDENING

 $\textbf{Kenna Forsyth} \bullet \textbf{Chair} \bullet kj for syth @verizon.net$

Lisa Akchin, Ann Finkbeiner, Ronald Forcier, Sharyn Frederick, Tom Greene, Marie-Camille Havard, Meg Hyman, Marion Lyttle, Mary Matheny, Jo-Ann Orlinsky, Tracey Roberts, Ellen Silbergeld, Susan Talbott, Kristen Whitney, Matt Van Itallie

INTERNET AND WEB PAGE

Susan Talbott • Chair • talbottsue@gmail.com Brian Nelson, Andy Parsley, Kate Richardson, Brad Walker

MEMBERSHIP

Carol Doctrow · Chair · cdoctrow@verizon.net Fred Chalfant, Elsie Grant, Ned Lewison, Hannah Mazo, Kate Richardson, Deborah Rose, Rob Snow

NEWSLETTER

Kate Richardson • Chair • katecrichardson@gmail.com Ann Bond, Marianna Busching, Anna Clarkson, Julia Evins, Kenna Forsyth, Sylvia Gillett, Barbara Lamb, A.J. O'Brien, Susan Talbott

TRAFFIC AND PARKING

Jackie MacMillan • Chair • Gormac@qis.net
Karin Batterton, Betsy Cunningham, Bernie Guyer, Ned
Lewison, Irena Makarushka, Michael Matunis, A.J. O'Brien,
Eugene O'Dunne, Lili Rehak, John Ruzicka, Tina Trapane,
Jean Van Buskirk, Stan Whiting

PLEASE JOIN THE TUSCANY-CANTERBURY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

All residents businesses, and institutions within the neighborhood are eligible for membership in the Tuscany-Canterbury Neighborhood Association. We encourage you to join online. Please go to **www.tuscanycanterbury.org** to become a member and pay dues. All members are entitled to receive email alerts from the TCNA board and use the listery. If you have questions about membership, click on the *Contact Us* link on our website. To join by mail, use the form below.

Name	_E-mail			
Second Name	E-mail			
Address	Telephone			
Business/Institution Name				
I would like to receive updates from TCNA by e-mail: Yes No				
Annual Dues: ☐ \$20 Individual ☐ \$30 Family ☐ \$55 Business/Institution				
Make checks payable to TCNA and mail to: P.O. Box 26223, Baltimore, MD 21210				

Thank you for your support!

I'd like to volunteer for:

☐ Newsletter Committee

☐ Gardening Committee

☐ Traffic & Parking Committee

☐ Internet & Web Committee
☐ Membership Committee