

Welcome to Madisonville

We invite you to enjoy our city by using the *Walk Madisonville!* downtown walking tours. These three tours highlight the historical, patriotic, and artistic points of the heart of our city. The points of interest are numbered, but you may begin your tour at any point along the route, as each of the three paths make a loop.

Historic home information on the History Tour was obtained from *Eighty-Six Madisonville Historic Homes: Each Has a Story* (2013) by Jane Ann Jackson with Thomas Wortham. This book is available for purchase at the Historical Society of Hopkins County and the Hopkins County Genealogical Society.



The Woman's Club of Madisonville turned old bicycles into art. Displayed throughout downtown, the brightly painted bikes are decorated with seasonal flower baskets. The bikes are put to bed each winter and bloom again in the spring.

Walking Toward a Healthier Tomorrow

Regular brisk walking can help you:

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Prevent or manage health conditions, such as heart disease, high blood pressure, and non-insulin dependent (type 2) diabetes
- Strengthen bones and muscles
- Improve your mood
- Improve balance and coordination



Other Places to Walk in Madisonville

Madisonville City Park
745 City Park Dr.

Mahr Park at Hidden Hills Farm
642 Nebo Rd.

Dr. Festus Claybon Memorial Park
Corner of Hopewell St. and Elm St.

Trover Wellness Park
900 Hospital Dr.



Thank you to Gina Munger for providing photography.

History Walk



1 BRANSON HOME 307 NORTH MAIN ST.

Built sometime between 1884-1914, this home has seen many civic and professionally-minded owners over the years. Former residents include: Dr. Fred Price Strother and his wife Fannie Mae Williams (whose son once owned Barnett-Strother Funeral Home), John W. Thomson, Jr., partner in Thomson's Mill on West Center Street, and his wife Kathyne Pearce Thomson, member of the Hopkins County-Madisonville Public Library Board of Trustees for 35 years; and Carroll G. and Anna Mae Branson, who owned the local Dairy Queen for many years.

2 ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 163 NORTH MAIN ST.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church was dedicated in June 1917 with a congregation of only eight members. Remodeling projects have continued to modernize the facilities while maintaining the beauty of the original building.

3 TAYLOR'S APARTMENTS 155 NORTH MAIN ST.

Built about 1905, this house was sold in 1911 to Dr. J. Edgar Taylor, a local dentist, who converted it into a four-unit apartment building that became known as "The Taylor Apartments." Following Mrs. Taylor's death, Larry Wilson purchased the building in 1973 to house his CPA firm's office. Since 1988, Bruce & Company, PSC has occupied the building.

4 FERRELL'S RESTAURANT 112 NORTH MAIN ST.

One of the first restaurants to be open 24 hours a day, Ferrell's opened in 1929, and is known for their famous hamburgers. As part of a chain of restaurants owned by David

Ferrell and his brothers, eight locations served customers throughout western Kentucky.

5 DULIN BUILDING 31 SOUTH MAIN ST.

Dulin's Department Store was established in 1894 and the building at 31 S. Main St. was erected in 1911. One of the first stores in Madisonville, it was owned by Walter Dulin along with his brother R. Smith Dulin. The building was most recently the home of the Hopkins County-Madisonville Public Library.

6 1ST HOSPITAL S.W. CORNER OF MAIN AND SUGG STREETS

Now Beard's Park, this area was home to the YMCA Building, completed in 1906. Hopkins County was the first county in Kentucky to have a YMCA, and Madisonville was the smallest town in the country to have a YMCA facility. In 1916, Hopkins County Hospital opened with 8 physicians using rooms in the YMCA building. It was later called the Doctor's Building until it was destroyed by a tornado in 1961.

7 HAMMACK-MOORE HOUSE 129 SOUTH MAIN ST.

Built in 1895 by John Solomon and Amelia Whittinghill for a cost of \$7,500, this Victorian house was later owned by Dr. William Moore Hammack who purchased the property in 1907. It was also the home of Mary Lucile (Keil) Hammack Moore and her husband J.B. Moore, a pharmacist, who rented its rooms. After the death of Keil Moore in 1997, the Hammack-Moore House passed to Mrs. Moore's husband, J.B., from whom the current owners, Joe and Shirley Thomas, purchased the property in 2000. Today, the Thomases have restored the home and it is a popular bed and breakfast.

History Walk



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8 MORTON HOUSE 140 SOUTH MAIN ST.

This home is named for Helen Morton Hall, descendent of one of the pioneer families in Hopkins County, and was owned by the Morton family for over 135 years. The house was built as a one and a half story log home in 1857. After the Civil War, the log portion was removed and a frame addition was added.

9 DULIN HOME 231 SOUTH MAIN ST.

While the construction date of this house is unknown, it was sold to Walter J. Dulin in 1907 and remained in the Dulin family for 82 years. Walter Dulin opened and operated Dulin's Department Store, one of the leading stores in Western Kentucky for many years.

10 RASH HOME 325 SOUTH MAIN ST.

The property on which this house was built was purchased in 1873 by Mrs. Eliza Rash, a wealthy widow, whose husband Stephen Decauter Rash, a tailor, had substantial property. According to her 1893 obituary, Mrs. Rash was "one of the best known and best beloved women of Madisonville." Dr. John Robert Corum purchased the house in 1926 and it became commonly known as "The Corum House" whose family resided there until the early 1970s.

11 UTLEY HOME 266 SOUTH MAIN ST.

Built sometime between 1901-1919, this house is commonly known as both "The Utley Home" and "The Bishop Home." Reportedly built with bricks shipped from England and chandeliers purchased in Chicago, history suggests that it was built by the Bishop family of whom Miss

Georgia Bishop was the proprietor of Bishop's Millinery for many years. Later owned by the Melton family, Cynthia Utley Melton's father was a prominent educator in Hopkins County and owned Utley Furniture Store.

12 OLD SHIP/CARLOW'S WALL 304 UNION ST.

Built in 1857, this Federal-style brick house is known as "Old Ship" because it has "weathered many storms." It was built by Chittenden P. Lyon, son of the Honorable Chittenden Lyon of Eddyville, Ky., a Congressman from Kentucky from 1825-1837. Chittenden P. Lyon was a merchant, real estate dealer, and money lender. His first cousin was General Hylan Benton Lyon (C.S.A.), who in 1864, captured and burned several Kentucky courthouses, including the original courthouse in Madisonville. Reportedly, prior to burning the Hopkins County Courthouse he ordered that its records be removed and stored at the "Old Ship" house.

13 RUBY HOME 264 UNION ST.

Built around 1896, this house is classified as Colonial Revival, but also incorporates Queen Anne, Gothic, and Romanesque styles. It was built by the Ruby family, the ancestor of whom, John Edwin Ruby, came to Madisonville in 1869. Ruby opened a general store, and in 1907, the family expanded the business - Ruby Lumber Company - the largest retail store west of Louisville at the time. The Ruby Home was one of the first in Madisonville to receive electricity in 1913. Ruby Lumber Company continues in business today under the name Ruby Concrete Company.

History Walk



14 FINLEY HOME 226 SOUTH SCOTT ST.

Built around 1907 by Thomas E. Finley, Sr., a Madisonville attorney, this house is now the home of Dr. Jon and Nancy Love. The 80-year-old coach lamps on both sides of the door are reported to have been brought from Pennsylvania, and were taken off the funeral home wagon which carried Dr. Love's father to his grave. The stained-glass window on the left side of the porch is original. The only structural change to the exterior of the original house is a family room added by the Love family.

15 HOCKERSMITH HOME 218 SOUTH SCOTT ST.

This French Mansard-style house is thought to have been built in the early 1880s and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Its first owner was Capt. Lorenzo Dow Hockersmith, a brick mason, who moved to Madisonville in 1855 and fought with General John Hunt Morgan, C.S.A., during the Civil War. Major renovations were made to the Hockersmith House by Charles C. Ashby in 1970.

16 OLD MADISONVILLE BUSINESS COLLEGE 149 EAST BROADWAY AVE.

This historic house was built approximately 1883 and was originally the Madisonville Normal School and Business College. Since then, it has also housed the Hopkins County College and Training School, and the East Broadway Public School (grades 1-4). From the mid-1920s to early 1930s, it was known as The Parker Apartments. It has been a private residence since 1975.

17 DEMPSEY HOME 124 UNION ST.

This Queen Anne Victorian house was built sometime between 1880-1900. For the first years of its existence it was a boarding house owned by Mary Ashby and her daughter Kate Barnett. In 1919, it became known as "The Dempsey Home" for its longtime owners Lelia Holeman Dempsey and Judge James Fletcher Dempsey. Judge Dempsey, a native of Hopkins County, served twice as County Attorney, once as County Judge, and was also County Treasurer in addition to serving as a railroad commissioner for Kentucky.

18 HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HOPKINS COUNTY 107 UNION ST.

Originally this building was the Madisonville Library. Helen Morton Hall donated the lot for construction of the building around 1926. The building was financed with a variety of fundraisers, including a Buy-A-Brick campaign. The Historical Society moved into the building around 1975. The Ruby Laffoon Cabin, birthplace of Governor Ruby Laffoon, Kentucky's 43rd governor, was relocated to the Historical Society from its original location on a farm east of Madisonville.

19 HOPKINS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 14 COURT ST.

The Genealogical Society was organized in January of 1966. The mission is dedicated to promoting an interest in genealogy, preserving historical records, and promoting an attitude or feeling of reciprocity among the members of the society and the general public.

History Walk



20 HOPKINS COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE 10 SOUTH MAIN ST.

The current structure was built in 1935 through the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and is the fourth courthouse erected on this site. The first courthouse built in 1840 was burned by the Confederate Army in December 1864. Fortunately, volunteers removed all the records prior to the burning. A second structure was built in 1866 to replace the burned one. (See marker on courthouse lawn.) It remained in use until 1892 when a third structure was built. The Hopkins County Historic Courthouse houses various agencies since the completion of the new Justice Center in June 2012.

21 OLD POST OFFICE 56 NORTH MAIN ST.

This Neo-Georgian style building is a Work Progress Administration (WPA) project built in Madisonville during 1929. This post office was dedicated in 1931 and became the Hopkins County Government Center in 2002.

22 GORDON HOUSE 220 NORTH MAIN ST.

The Gordon House was built around 1842 by the Waddill family and sold in 1902 to W.J. Dulin. The property was sold to Dr. Fred Strother in 1910. In 1924, it was bought by Maurice and Maymie Nisbet Gordon. Mr. Gordon served in WWI and is credited with suggesting the name "American Legion" at the organizational meeting in Paris. The local American Legion bears his name. He also authored *The History of Hopkins County* in 1933, which is considered the most complete history of the county.

23 RAMSEY HOME 320 NORTH MAIN ST.

This home was built around 1891 and was owned by James A. Ramsey. The Ramseys were tobacco businessmen. In 1926, the home was sold to Dr. A.W. Davis and his wife Edna Cox Davis. Mrs. Davis became the Director of Nursing for the Hopkins County Hospital.

24 VANHOOSER HOME 350 NORTH MAIN ST.

This house is believed to have been built between 1885-1895 by the Bassett Brothers, builders of other houses around Madisonville. The room with the horseshoe shaped window is thought to have been added after the original construction. It was purchased in 1895 by John G. Morton, a prominent businessman, Hopkins County Judge, and banker. However, they are not believed to have lived at this location since their residence was Morton Hall on South Main Street. After many owners, it was bought by Dr. William VanHooser in 1971.

Gov. Ruby Laffoon Cabin



Walk Madisonville!

downtown walking tours



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MAIN STREET

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NORTH STREET

WADDILL AVENUE

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NOEL AVENUE

ARCH STREET

P
14
21

FEDERAL STREET

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MIION STREET



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22
To Arch Street
Art Park
(See Inset)

To Madisonville-Hopkins Co.
Public Library
425 E. Center St.
(See Inset)

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Map Legend

-  History Walk Route
-  History Walk Point of Interest
-  Patriotic Walk Route
-  Patriotic Walk Point of Interest
-  Art Walk Route
-  Art Walk Point of Interest
-  Art Walk Art Cars
-  Public Parking
-  Hopkins County Regional Chamber of Commerce



Patriotic Walk



1 MADISONVILLE VETERANS MEMORIAL 505 NORTH MAIN ST.

This memorial was built to honor the men and women who have served in the nation's military. Names of local veterans were honored by engraved bricks making up the Patriot's Path to the Founder's Wall. Construction was completed in 2012. Plaques and flags recognize every branch of the military.

2 OLD L&N DEPOT 38 WEST ARCH ST.

The L&N Depot was dedicated in 1929 as Madisonville's Passenger Station. The L&N and other railroads were called on to move unprecedented numbers of passengers and amounts of freight during World War II. More than 90% of the nation's military equipment and supplies and 97% of all its troops rolled by rail to military bases and ports of embarkation. With dozens of on-line training camps and defense plants, L&N traffic soared, with increases of 80% in freight traffic and more than 300% in passenger traffic. During World War II, some 6,900 L&N employees were furloughed to the armed forces. Renovated in 2017, Innovation Station is a place where entrepreneurs can connect, work, and collaborate.

3 OLD CITY BANK (MORTON'S BANK) 5 NORTH MAIN ST.

The Morton Bank was opened at this site in June 1898 and was later bought by Hopkins County Bank in 1908. (Inscription on the bank was changed from Morton Bank to Hopkins County Bank.) Farmers National Bank and Trust Company purchased the bank and occupied this location from 1935-1958.

4 HOPKINS COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE 10 SOUTH MAIN ST.

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5 HOPKINS COUNTY KOREAN VETERANS MEMORIAL HISTORIC COURTHOUSE LAWN

Dedicated May 27, 1996, the inscription reads, "In Honor of Those Hopkins Countians Who Served and Those Who Died In The Korean War and Their Families Who Suffered at Home."

6 ILLINOIS CENTRAL RR-MAINLINE MID-AMERICA MEMORIAL HISTORIC COURTHOUSE LAWN

The Illinois Central Railroad and the coal industry were linked as coal was transported across the country from mines around the Madisonville area. This marker was dedicated at a picnic in Madisonville City Park.

7 VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL HISTORIC COURTHOUSE LAWN

Dedicated November 10, 1985, the inscription reads, "Hopkins County Vietnam Veterans Memorial: In Honor of Those Hopkins Countians Who Served and Those Who Died In The Vietnam War and Their Families Who Suffered At Home."

Patriotic Walk



8 WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL HISTORIC COURTHOUSE LAWN

The memorial includes a list of WWII veterans from the county. The inscription reads, "To The Men of Hopkins County, Kentucky, Who Gave The Last Full Measure of Devotion For The Preservation of Freedom in World War II."

9 CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL COURTHOUSE LAWN WEST SIDE

In the 1900s, the widow of Confederate Captain James W. Pearce of Earlington requested the fiscal court to construct a monument to honor the Confederate dead of Hopkins County. The monument, created in Rome, Italy, was dedicated in 1909. Many years later the rifle was struck by lightning and only the handle and butt of the rifle remain today.

10 CIVIL WAR HOSPITAL EAST SIDE OF MAIN ST. NEAR MAIN & BROADWAY

Now an empty lot north of Morton House, this was the site of the First Methodist Church built in 1848. The church auditorium was used as a hospital by Federal troops.

11 HOPKINS COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER 120 EAST CENTER ST.

In 2006, the Kentucky General Assembly authorized the construction of a new Hopkins County Justice Center. In 2008, \$20.4 million was approved for the 71,128 square-foot building. The facility was designed with the latest computer, video, and networking technology, as well as the highest level of court security. It was dedicated June 2012.

12 MADISONVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT 98 EAST CENTER ST.

The fire department was established in 1936 and became a department with a paid staff. The current building, dedicated in fall 1985, has four bays for fire trucks, as well as living and sleeping quarters for its staff.

On display is "Big Mama," a fire engine purchased in 1928, an American La France 1,000 gallon per minute pumper. The purchase price was \$13,000.

The fire bell sat atop the jail across the street and was used to communicate fire information by tapping loudly for several seconds. The number of taps informed the volunteer firemen of the location of the fire. It was taken out of service in the early 1960s. Visitors are welcomed to ring the bell.

13 MADISONVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT 99 EAST CENTER ST.

The current building was dedicated in 1985. The previous headquarters was established in the same location in the late 1920s. In 1928, the police department purchased its first automobile. Chief of Police John H. Ashby could not drive and had to have someone drive him when he needed to use the car. He was also one of only two city police officers killed in the line of duty.

14 OLD POST OFFICE 56 NORTH MAIN ST.

This Neo-Georgian style building is a Work Progress Administration (WPA) project built in Madisonville during 1929. This post office was dedicated in 1931 and became the Hopkins County Government Center in 2002.

Art Walk



Art Cans



Take a stroll in downtown Madisonville and enjoy the sculptural Art Can trash receptacles, designed by local metal sculptor Tim Corum. The prototype can, now known as "Jenny's Garden," was dedicated to the City of Madisonville and

is prominently displayed in front of City Hall. The Art Can Project was born out of a desire for a unique art feature along downtown streets.

1 ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH GARDENS 163 NORTH MAIN ST.

Walk these lovely gardens located on the north side of the church.

2 ART CAN AT MADISONVILLE CITY HALL 67 NORTH MAIN ST.

Title of Work: "Jenny's Garden"

3 ART CAN AT FERRELL'S SNAPPY SERVICE 112 NORTH MAIN ST.

Title of Work: "Assembly Required"

4 ART CAN AT THE CORNER OF CENTER ST. AND MAIN ST.

Title of Work: "The Four Seasons"

5 ART CAN AT CENTER STREET ART PARK Title of Work: "Sweet Dreams"

6 CENTER STREET ART PARK Title of Work: "Round Portal Garden Bench" Artist: Lawrence "Beau" Bilenki

7 SUGG STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN CORNER OF SUGG ST. AND RAILROAD ST. Title of Work: "Me and My Chainsaw" Artist: Lee Gibson

8 ART CAN AT PHILOSOPHER'S WALL 24 SUGG ST. Title of Work: "From Ruby's Porch"

9 PHILOSOPHER'S WALL 24 SUGG ST.

The Philosopher's Wall—dedicated to the memory of Ken Bivins, a visionary for downtown Madisonville—is hands-on street art for passers-by to record their vision for Madisonville.

10 BUTTERFLY MURAL 23 SUGG ST.

Visit the Butterfly Mural behind Big City Market and Coffee Bar and try on your butterfly wings for a great photo opportunity. Post #BigMadButterfly on social media.

11 MONTPELIER MURAL NORTH CORNER OF SUGG ST. AND MAIN ST.

On the north corner of Sugg and Main Streets, Montpelier Mural has been a focal point of downtown for many years. In 2015, the mural underwent a facelift to more accurately represent the home of Madisonville's namesake, James Madison.
Artist: Glenda Krauss

Art Walk



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12 BIG MAD CHAIR AND BUTTERFLY MURAL AT BEARD'S PARK SOUTH CORNER OF SUGG ST. AND MAIN ST.

Take a load off! Stop by Beard's Park on the south corner of Sugg and Main Streets and lounge in the iconic Big Mad Chair. Use #BigMadChair on social media to share your photo. Take a stroll through the adjacent alley to see the second of the Big Mad Butterfly series, entitled, "Butterfly Memories."

13 ART CAN AT MONTPELIER PARK NORTH CORNER OF SUGG ST. AND MAIN ST.

Title of Work: "Ready, Aim, Fun"

14 ART SCULPTURE AT MCGARY PLACE 44 SOUTH MAIN ST.

Title of Work: "Embrionic"
Artist: Julie Byczynski

15 ART CAN AT MCGARY PLACE 44 SOUTH MAIN ST.

Title of Work: "Within My Reach"

16 ART CAN ON HISTORIC COURTHOUSE LAWN NORTH CORNER OF COURT ST. AND MAIN ST.

Title of Work: "The Master's Keys"

17 PRESERVATION WALK NORTH & SOUTH SIDES OF EAST CENTER ST.

The Preservation Walk honors individuals, families, and businesses as a remembered part of Madisonville's history. The Preservation Walk helps instill tradition and community pride.

18 ART CAN AT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 15 EAST CENTER ST.

Title of Work: "Center of Paisley"

Butterfly Memories



19 ART SCULPTURE AT FIRST UNITED BANK PLAZA 37 EAST CENTER ST.

Title of Work: "Mahogany"
Artist: Shawn Morin

20 ART CAN AT MADISONVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT 99 EAST CENTER ST.

Title of Work: Untitled

21 CHILDREN'S MURAL AT HOPKINS COUNTY-MADISONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY 425 EAST CENTER ST.

Stop by the library and view this lovely nature mural in the children's area.
Artist: Orange Moon Studios

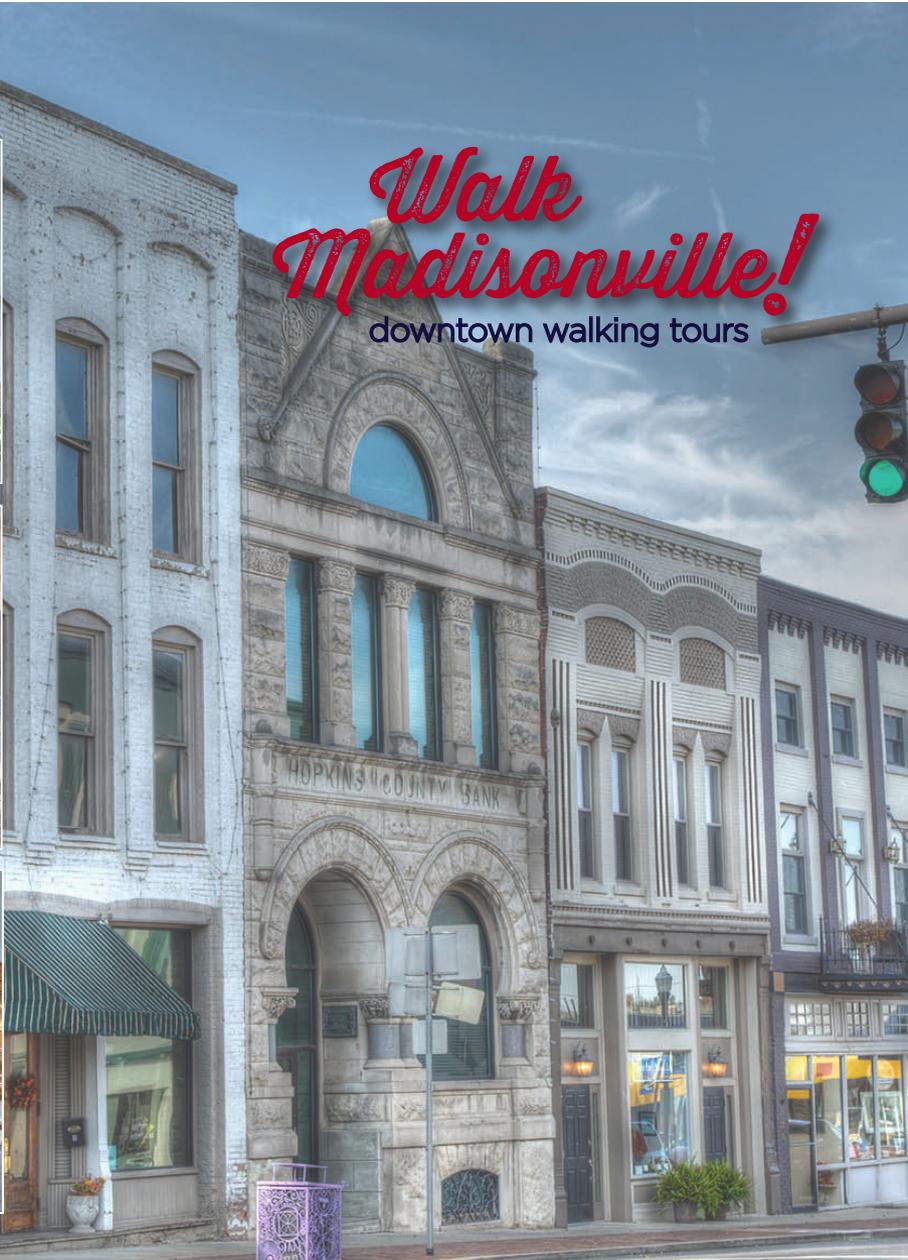
22 ARCH STREET ART PARK Title of Work: "Bramble Tunnel" Artist: Cathy Perry

23 ST. VINCENT DE PAUL STORE MURALS 109 EAST ARCH ST.

Enjoy these murals displayed on the east and west sides of the St. Vincent de Paul store.
Artist: Karol Hilker

Walk Madisonville!

downtown walking tours



Hopkins County Tourist &
Convention Commission
www.visitmadisonvilleky.com



City of Madisonville
www.madisonvilleky.us



Woman's Club of Madisonville
www.womansclubofmadisonville.org