



Panel 5- Mid Summer. Gardner House Museum. New boat launch by the foot bridge. Biking on the River Trail. The Band Shell - summer concerts. July 4th fireworks. Walking to go fishing. Playing hoop. Skateboarding. Flying a kite. Walking to the P.O. The “Molder” statue.



Panel 6- Late Summer – “A-Maizing Corn Festival”. Back to School. Frisbee. Albion High School - Football games, the new walk way, bicycling, River Trail, walking to Albion Middle & Elementary School. The waterfall in Victory Park. Playing soccer.



Albion Community Mural Project *“Crossing the River”*



See the mural in the heart of downtown Albion Michigan, in the Citizens Bank drive-thru.



A custom designed graffiti sign invited the public to the unveiling of the mural.



The Albion Community Mural Project is a part of the Calhoun County Public Art Program and is supported by the Arts & Industry Council & the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

The First Presbyterian Church of Albion was the recipient of the grant, and managed the project with help from local artist Maggie LaNoue, and professional muralist Tony Hendrick. More information about Albion Community Mural project at: www.AlbionMich.com/mural



Panel 7 (front of brochure)– Fall. Walking the dog on the River Trail. Downtown Albion. Bohm Theatre and Volunteer Center - AVSO 5K run. Festival of the Forks. International flags. The mural in the drive thru alley of Citizens Bank. Parks Drug Store, Cascarelli’s. The luminaries on the Friday before the Festival, the bridge between Rieger Park and Victory Park. The Boy Scout Canoe Race. Raking leaves for “Make a Difference Day.” A couple sits in the park overlooking the Forks, and the entire mural. Squirrels get busy burying their nuts, preparing for winter.

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The Albion Community Mural was designed with input from the entire Albion Community and volunteer painters from the community helped to do the work to create the art. Here, members of the 4-H pose after a successful paint day. More information about these artists is available online at: www.albionmich.com/mural



“The Legend of the Mural”

- The mural “Crossing the River” depicts activities and events in the city of Albion Michigan in winter, spring, summer and fall. The mural was designed with the intent of not only beautifying downtown Albion, but to encourage storytelling about the folklore of Albion. The mural has 7 panels.
- Visit the mural and tell your friends about Albion’s story, our claims to fame, and activities

Panel 1- Winter. The Sledding Hill, the Card-board Classic Race, black squirrels in their nests and digging up nuts. People shoveling snow, the Kalamazoo River. Each panel shows some of the river, and the famous brick streets of Albion.

Panel 2- Early Spring. Walking in the rain. The Train Depot, the Walk for Warmth that began with an Albion man’s idea. Squirrels are getting frisky. Albion College – the Equestrian Center, the Observatory, Goodrich Chapel. Cross Country runners.

Panel 3- mid Spring. The Water Tower, the Coca Cola mural, bicycling. Farming - getting the fields ready to plant. Walking to Kids ‘N’ Stuff museum. Citizens to Beautiful Albion – started with one man’s dream to make Albion beautiful. A family walks home from the Library. Squirrels have families.

Albion Community Mural - “Crossing the River”

There is much history of Albion in the area starting at the alley on Superior Street, leading down the hill to the footbridge, and beyond. The wall where the mural is located was once the 1960-built south wall of Homestead Loan and Building Association. The wall was left when the old Homestead building was torn down, so that the adjoining wall, owned by Illusions Hair Design, didn’t fall down. This area was once part of the “Stone Mill” complex yard owned by Jesse Crowell (1840’s) until his death (early 1870’s.) The mural is on the inside south wall of the former location of the Homestead Bank.

There is another mural along the same alley way further down the hill, with similar rolling lines, reminiscent of a river, and hand prints decorating this ribbon. This mural was created by Albion youth in coordination with the Albion College Art Department. Following these lines, one can walk to the footbridge at the bottom of the hill. There is a new boat launch at this location, to the left, a building that now houses the “Leisure Hour Club” but once was a hide-out for the Purple Gang. Across the river stands the First Presbyterian Church, with a historical marker that tells about how this church burned down twice over the years, but was rebuilt by a determined congregation. More information, including links to all these Albion connections are available online at the mural web site: www.albionmich.com/mural



Panel 4 – Early Summer. Victory for Kids playground, built by volunteers and maintenance including painting done by volunteers. T-Ball – that was invented in Albion. Walking to get ice cream. Mowing the yard at home. The River Trail for hiking and bicycling. Rieger Park with the pond. Canoeing on the Kalamazoo River. Watering flowers planted along the roads.