

★ by JT Crawford

BRINGING PADUCAH

Home

MARTHA BAKER FEELS RIGHT AT home at Superior Care. And why shouldn't she? A resident of Paducah since 1952, she's surrounded by images and art of her hometown. Martha lives in the Midtown "neighborhood" of Superior. Other areas include Lower Town, Broadway, and River Ways, each reflecting unique aspects of Paducah for Superior Care's "community" of residents.

However when Martha looked out of the window in her room across the landscaping to a nearby fence she envisioned something new perhaps could be added to her "neighborhood." "I made a suggestion that it would be a lovely place for a scene.



There's all that available space!" says Martha.

Darla Sims with Superior Care Home agreed. She researched possibilities and eventually connected with Ro Morse, Paducah Wall-to-Wall project coordinator. Ro had images of the floodwall murals on banners, and it was soon agreed that recreating the floodwall along the fence fit the theme Superior had already created for residents.

"So Martha can look at these and relate to them





Ro Morse and Martha Baker

and remember things about her life in Paducah,” says Ro. “That’s what’s going on all the time at the riverfront. People are walking along and reading about our history. We have books that have all that information for the residents here. And if they can’t go downtown to see them, we can bring them here!”

Martha studies the murals carefully, noticing things she missed before. “I noticed a cupola behind the Market House,” she says. “Some said it was attached to the Market House, but I knew it wasn’t. It had bothered me because I couldn’t see what it was attached to. I concluded it was on an old courthouse. I couldn’t get anyone to support that theory, but then I found out it was true!”

Darla now refers to Martha as her art director. “She had this wonderful idea,” says Darla, “and it allows us to continue to bring Paducah and Paducah’s history home to Superior Care and our residents.” **P**

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