

Ashland's latest mural celebrates women

The Historic Murals of Ashland recently dedicated its 19th mural, "The Women of Ashland."

The mural includes 32 portraits of women from the town and was dedicated on Mother's Day weekend. Ashland was designated "The Historic Mural Capital of Wisconsin" in 2005, and this mural complements the collection with an addition of powerful, good-hearted women of Ashland who helped make the town what it is today.

These 32 women will be honored for generations in this historic mural on the Vaughn Avenue side of the Moore's Army Navy building. The artist, Sue

Prentice Martinsen, has been painting murals in Ashland for 20 years. She explained the idea for using a quilt as the background by saying the quilt is not just any quilt. She chose the pattern from the family of Ashland's leading physician, who also served as mayor, Dr. John Dodd.

The stories of the lives of these powerful women goes on, and the popularity of the women's mural has inspired other families to request a second one to be painted. The next mural will be at DePadua Catholic

High School, which has portraits and buildings quickly being sponsored.

Ashland will offer mural tours aboard the Trolley Bus on Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays, starting on June 22. Join Ashland in celebrating the 20th anniversary of the historic murals during the Mural Fest and Car show in downtown Ashland on Sept. 8. For more details, go to visitashland.com.

Submitted by the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce.

"The Women of Ashland," painted by artist Sue Prentice Martinsen.

