

Jeff Around Town – September 2nd, 2025

Jeff: It's Jeff around town and I'm here with Abbi Eccleston in Ashland, Nebraska. Welcome.

Abbi: Hi, welcome.

Jeff: Thanks for being here. And I'm here at Postscript, this delightful little shop in magical Ashland. And you have notebooks and sketchbooks and I'm looking at a typewriter and pencils and pens and gifts. And you told me that you've moved here from Chicago.

Abbi: Yeah. Yeah.

Jeff: Tell me, tell me why you love Ashland.

Abbi: I love Ashland for a lot of reasons. But I mean, first and foremost, my grandparents settled and raised their families here. So, my mom and dad were junior high sweethearts. They met in band and I've been coming here my whole life. In third grade, I wrote a paper. Everyone had to write a paper about where their favorite place was. And everyone was like Disney World and all these great places. And I was like, Ashland, Nebraska, because my family was here.

Jeff: Wow. Wow.

Abbi: It just it feels really special and like home to me. I so I've loved it my whole life. But we moved back from Chicago in 2020. I came... I had been coming in the shop. The shop had been open for five years.

Jeff: You want to tell us a little bit about who opened the shop?

Abbi: Laura Capp. And when I came in, I was like, this store is better than any store I've seen in Chicago. And I hope the Ashland people appreciate this. And they do. They love it.

Jeff: Laura had moved here from Iowa.

Abbi: Yes, Laura. Laura was raised here close to Ashland. And then she went away for school and then got her degree at the University of Iowa and then came back and opened the shop. And it's a shop in the front and then a workshop and a classroom space in the back.

Jeff: For printing. And you have a printing...

Abbi: Yes, we have a working printing press and workshop space, obviously. So, we are constantly crafting and Laura does bookbinding. We teach a lot of classes in the back. We do calligraphy and flower making, bookbinding. There's actually a class going right going on right now, which is paper collage.

Jeff: Awesome. And you have a little espresso machine. And so tell us a little bit about the rest of Ashland. You have Farineh and Flutterbees and the Mercantile. And it's just, yes, galleries.

Abbi: We have a really eclectic collection of different shops and small town people that have just come together and made this downtown super special. It's kind of got like rooted down with Glacial Till when they came in and opened their big space. People had a space to come and grab a drink and grab some food. There's an amazing chef over there. So, there's just some really special food. And after that opened, like everything else kind of exploded. Yeah. The bakery came, which is just so...

Jeff: It's awesome.

Abbi: It's amazing.

Jeff: I feel like I'm in Europe.

Abbi: I know.

Jeff: It's incredible.

Abbi: Well, we've had we had a French student stay with us a couple of summers ago and he was like, oh, he was shocked. He was like, this is like home. So, it's incredible. And yeah, all kinds of shops have moved in now. We do have several different art galleries also down here. So, it's a great place to spend a day. It's right in between Omaha and Lincoln. So, we pull from both of those cities and obviously everywhere in between.

Jeff: Abby, thank you so much. You're a great spokesperson for Ashland. Appreciate your enthusiasm.

Abbi: Thank you for having me.

Jeff: Thanks for chatting.

Abbi: Have a great day.