

## Flying Star is a Time Machine

On Double Rainbow Ice Cream and Dessert Café's opening day our first customer was a prostitute. Our second customer was a doctor. At night, the streets were dark and lonely, the storefronts vacant.

That was Nob Hill in November of 1987.

The neighborhood was in transition. The really old businesses, like Green's grocery were closing mostly due to owners retiring. Younger entrepreneurs had not yet moved in to try their luck. But soon they did.

Even then, as now, the view from our cafe's dining room windows was and still is our favorite. We loved the charming little buildings lined up against each other, each of them unique in their own way. We remembered the businesses that used to occupy them and were sad for their passing. On the other hand, we were excited to imagine what was next for those empty building. Looking back, we are reminded of the wonderful scene in the 1960 movie the "Time Machine" where the young scientist, H. George Wells, while taking a ride in his time machine, watches the mannequin in the clothing store's window across from his laboratory change outfits over and over again as he speeds through many eras into the future.

Flying Star is in a sense, its own Time Machine – we have been through and have observed the many cycles and changes on Central Ave. In upcycles, Nob Hill's stores and streets were filled with businesses and people, neighborhood houses were spiffed up, the dwindling public schools again swelled with children. The recession of 2009, A.R.T bus then COVID 19 were low cycles, they battered and destroyed many businesses, but through it all, a powerful entrepreneurial spirit continued to flow and fuel the energy and growth of Nob Hill. Entrepreneurs, people of all ages still choose Nob Hill for where they want to live, work, shop and enjoy themselves.

Nob Hill, Central Ave., Albuquerque, New Mexico is like nowhere else in this world and this place means to world to many of us that live and work here. Even though Nob Hill has taken some knocks, even though a number of its businesses have recently gone, we again see so many exciting new businesses opening and thriving. We know that there are many more to come. Gazing out Flying Star's dining room windows, we too, see the future and it looks good to us.

Jean Bernstein