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## Central Ave.

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Central Ave.  
Adam Drawdy

I thought it would be interesting to try and recreate how business owners acted or talked to each other during this era. Mainly looking at how neighboring businesses would interact with each other and how they develop their relationships.

It was an early Monday morning, and you could tell that everyone was still reeling from the weekend. I saw my two neighbors this morning just like I do every morning. Ol Bill and Arnold are always getting into something trying to get the community together. You could not get Arnold and Bill away from each other no matter how hard you try. Before I get too far ahead of myself my name is Julia Whitley. I am the owner and operator of a candy store right on Central Ave. Right on the same street, Bill and Arnold also have their respective businesses. Over at 98 Central, that is where Bill's establishment is and over on 100 Central is good old Arnold. I overheard them talking about trying to put something together for their residents over at the Old Folks Community home. Bill is the boss over there. Arnold is the head man over at the St. Johns County Community House, so they were talking about merging the two together to have a big party of some sorts. Well, here they come now, and I have just enough time to ask what is going on with it before I open.

Julia: Good Morning you guys! How are you doing on this fine Monday Morning.

Bill: Not today, Julia

Arnold: Not today, Julia.

Julia: Oh come on, why do not you come into the candy store and grab something for your sweet tooth!

Arnold: Julia you know I love those sweets, but not at eight o'clock in the morning.

Bill: I could not even think about eating a chocolate bar right now, I can only think about the coffee that is waiting for me in my office. You could say last night was a little rough.

Julia: If you have got a minute, I already got a pot goin and it will only take a minute before it is done. Why don't both of you come on in?

Arnold: Julia we really do not got the ti-

Julia: Nonsense come on.

Julia walked on into her store and Bill and Arnold were surely reluctant to do the same. They decided to go ahead and go on in, but not before Bill noticed the one thing that irks him about Ol Julia. It is Monday morning, which for most people is just the start of the week. But over here on Central Ave. It is also trash day. Bill cannot stand it when he has people walking in and out of his business establishment with the smell of week-old coffee grounds filling the air. Bill has made it a point to let Julia know that it bothers him, but she does not seem to care.

Julia: How do you guys want it, black as usual?

Bill and Arnold together: yep

Julia: So I overheard you guys talking about planning something up for the community, something like a party I hear.

Arnold: Yes, we briefly talked about trying to put something together, you have any grand ideas, Julia?

Julia: Of course, I do, look around you. I can provide all the snacks and candy you need.

Bill: I do not think that it is really that kind of party.

Bill: I got a proposition for you Julia. How about if you do not forget to put your trash out on the curb for the next two weeks, you can provide some snacks and candy for our little get-together.

Julia: Oh shoot, was trash day today?

Bill: It has only ever been Monday Julia, every week same day same time same place.

Julia: Well of course I will remember now (She did in fact not remember)! This is so exciting thanks you guys!

Bill and Arnold quickly finished their coffees to thank Julia and headed to work. The day for Bill and Arnold was like any other, sitting behind their respective desks making phone calls to important people doing important things at important times. It was like any other Monday for Bill and Arnold; it was the opposite for Julia. Now knowing the news of this party, she is going to have to make sure everything is perfect. Julia knows that Bill and Arnold might not notice some flaws in her presentations of candy and snacks. But other people will for sure! Throughout the day the only thing Julia could do was think about this party and plan. As the day seemed to drag on for Julia, it went by in the blink of an eye for Bill and Arnold. These two were surprised to see Julia waiting outside her candy store once again just like this morning.

Julia: Hey Guys! Did you have a fantastic Monday?

Arnold: Just like any other Monday, nothing special

Bill: Yep, same here nothing special. Hey Julia, where did your trash go, the trash guys already came through by the time you put it out this morning?

Julia: Oh, you know, I know people in high places.

Arnold: What?

Julia: I went down earlier today to one of my friends' businesses and asked for a favor. He will never say no to chocolate, so it was easy to get something I wanted.

Bill: That is pretty smart Julia did not think you had it in ya.

Julia: Hey! That is not very nice, I told you I would keep up my end of the bargain and this time next week I will do it again!

Arnold: Well I would hope so Julia, it is something everyone else in the city does.

Julia: I know I know, but can you just be happy for me, please?

Bill and Arnold: Okay, but if you forget about it come next week, the deal is off.

Julia: No Problem, won't happen!

The rest of the week went on like any other. Mundane routines followed by mundane routines. Come Monday Morning the following week, Julia can hardly contain herself. This is the day. She waits for Bill and Arnold to show up to show them that she has met their demands and she is now a member of this "party committee". She looks at the clock on her wall that is shaped like a peppermint. "Well, that is odd Bill and Arnold are never this late. In fact, since I have been here, they have NEVER been late. What is going on? She waited and waited outside on the sidewalk in front of her candy store like she has done repeatedly. No bill. No Arnold. By lunchtime people started to worry, everyone on Central couldn't believe it. What was Julia to do, just what happened to those two?

Finally, by the end of the day Julia sees two silhouettes coming towards her and she almost loses her breath. There they are! Julia screamed. “Where have you guys been! I have been worried sick.”

Bill and Arnold: Oh, you know here and there and a little bit of over there.

Julia: Huh

Bill: It does not matter, what does matter is that you kept up your end of the deal so we will keep ours. We were laying out all the planning that is going into this get together and we are meeting next week again on Monday, and we want you to come.

Arnold: Just make sure you put your trash out before you come to the meeting.

Julia: No promises!