

*BUY HAMDEN*  
*By Dale Kroop*

Despite the history and success of the Magic Mile with its regional and national box stores and restaurants, there are many unique and successful businesses that provide important and interesting services, employ a lot of people and support families and the communities in where they are located.

They are owned by your neighbors and friends and play a role in the daily lives of Hamden citizens. The Town's Economic and Community Development Department will begin to recognize and promote our local businesses so that they can be provided with the maximum opportunity to local bidding and other procurement procedures.

The Hamden Economic Development Commission believes in business retention is critical for keeping taxes steady in Hamden and setting the foundation for future growth. With the recent closing of Stop and Shop in Southern Hamden it is has never been more important to support local small businesses and to be involved with them to help them in any way that we can.

On a regular basis we will highlight unique small businesses to remind all of us how great they really are.

Eventually the Hamden Economic Development Commission will propose a new ordinance that will provide local businesses with an opportunity to compete better with outside vendors for work that comes from the Town and Board of Education. Hamden's small businesses should be encouraged to compete in the government marketplace, which is the largest marketplace in the Town of Hamden.

## **Highlighting Hamden Small Businesses: SNP Technologies**

Nestled into the top of one of the corporate buildings on Whitney, SNP Technologies has been making waves in the technology sector. Recently named, “Top Cloud Partner in Northeast Region,” SNP has been providing their services to a variety of businesses and organizations. Founded in 1989, SNP has been located in Hamden since it’s inception. “We love Hamden, its diversity and its character,” said Sachin Parikh (owner?) of SNP.

The Town of Hamden recognizes the impact that SNP has on the Town. “SNP Technologies is one of the mos respected and important businesses in Hamden. They are integral to the technology sector”, stated Dale Kroop Director of Economic and Community Development.

SNP Technologies works with businesses to offer consulting services related to information technology. This includes helping businesses with their needs and technology impact analysis of clients’ business practices, assist with developing disaster recovery and business continuity plans, custom application development, data analysis and web applications, advise clients’ in implementing strategies for communication and messaging and security matters related to data protection. SNP is also a Cloud Computing company, ready to help business transition to the cloud and provide direction.

“We love technology and its value to business,” said Parikh.

SNP has been an active member of the Hamden community since their inception. SNP has been active with Temple Beth Sholom, Hamden Education Foundation and Hamden High School Human Relations Club. In addition, staff of SNP helped develop Hamden’s Chamber Choice Awards and participates in many Chamber activities. Individuals from SNP also participated in the early phases of Hamden’s Economic Development Commission.

For more information on SNP Technologies and the services they provide, please visit their website at <http://www.snp.com/> or call them at (203) 287-9114.

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## Highlighting Hamden Small Businesses: #1 Fish Market

One of Hamden's best kept secrets is looking to change that title. For 29 years Bob McNeil, owner of #1 Fish Market has been serving people from all over the New Haven Region. "I attract people from all over. I'm a destination, people make a special trip to come to #1," said McNeil, "I currently serve a third of Yale's faculty, top surgeons and probate judges." However he would still like to see more of the Hamden community visit his shop.

In the coming months, it'll be harder to miss #1 Fish Market. McNeil plans on starting the first phase of his expansion in the next couple of weeks. Already featuring a wide and fresh selection of fish, McNeil plans on featuring more of his organic farm's products as well as prepared foods.

McNeil has long been a fixture on State Street. He grew up around the corner from #1 Fish Market's current location. After working at other fish markets, McNeil tried to fill a void in the neighborhood by opening his fish market in 1979 and subsequently moving to the current location. Not only did McNeil fill the void, but he consistently receives accolades for his business. #1 Fish Market has been voted as the New Haven Advocate's Best Fish Market for nine years in a row.

"My goal is to provide the best, freshest fish possible along with the best service possible and for everyone to leave #1 happy," said McNeil.

For more information about #1 Fish Market please visit their website at <http://numberonefish.com/> or visit their store Monday through Saturday, 9AM- 6PM at 2239 State St.

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