

another state. My Grandfather always told me how important the relationship between the store owner and his customers was, you just don't get that with the Big Stores, they don't care!! The community feel that we provide in our store is something I feel very passionate about, and I get that same feeling when I visit other local businesses.

Veggie Bin was originally called the Vegetable Bin, It started as a wholesale place selling and shipping rice & potatoes all up the east coast. The actual store opened in 1977, and was run by my grandfather & parents. I started working when I was 13. I was always at the store after school and the weekends. I did it all! Back then small business was the heart & soul of Charleston, there were so many small businesses. Looking at Charleston now and what you see is chain stores, the Mom & Pop stores are being pushed out by the ever growing price of rent that can only be afforded by the Big chain stores. To me small business is the most important aspect of a city, it makes it unique and allows the owners of those companies to put the money back into the community they live in, rather than it going to some giant company in