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Secrets of the Trade

In this issue, the Howell Scoop goes behind-the-scenes to gather tips and ideas from shopkeepers that can be used at home. Come visit Howell Plaza Shopping Center to meet our experts in person.



The Baker's Dozen Pay-off

Even when a brunch may include bagels for just six friends or family members, ordering a dozen can be the perfect number.

King of Bagels' owner **Sam Haddad** explains, "Our secret recipe bagels, made each morning, go fast. Customers often order more than they need since there are so many creative options for leftovers."

Sam believes in a true baker's dozen by adding an extra bagel as a thank you. As the King of Bagels, Sam has plenty of ideas for two-day-old bagels beyond simply halving them and popping each side into the toaster.

- Bagel Chips Lay the bagel flat on a cutting board and carefully cut thin horizontal slices. In a large bowl, toss and coat bagel slices with olive oil, salt, pepper and seasoning. A generous sprinkle of parmesan cheese gives them some kick! Put single layers on baking sheet and in a pre-heated 300o oven and bake until crisp. Be sure to ask Sam about his packaged bagel chips; they're delicious!
- *Pizza Bagels* Layer your favorite red sauce or pesto onto each side of your day-old halved bagel and top with veggies or pepperoni. Sprinkle with shredded mozzarella cheese and broil in a toaster over until the cheese starts to bubble.
- Bread Pudding Substitute leftover bagels for stale loaves of bread. Using simple ingredients, you can make a fast and delicious sweet or savory dessert.

For more ideas, visit www.HowellPlaza.com and search "King of Bagels."



DID YOU KNOW...

March is American Red Cross Month

Next time you're visiting Howell Plaza, drop by the **New**Jersey Blood Center to donate a pint.
Not only is this a life-giving gift, but there's a loyalty program, **Rewards**for Life, to thank you for your generosity!

Call **(732) 901-0720** for an appointment.

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Behind-the-Scenes with Bob Colello



The Inside Scoop to Collecting Sports Memorabilia:

Collecting sports memorabilia is exciting and can turn into a lifelong passion.

Bob Colello of Bob's Sports Cards & Memorabilia turned his hobby into a career.



THE SCOOP: Would you share some tips on how to begin collecting?

BOB: Begin with something you're interested in. Whether it is sports cards or autographed memorabilia, let your passion drive your learning. I also recommend:

- · Knowing your item and conducting research first
- Refraining from making impulsive purchases. Many fakes are sold over the internet and if a "deal" seems too good to be true, chances are it's a fake.
- Making your purchases from a reputable source, such as a dealer who can provide a Certificate of Authenticity with each purchase and offers a money-back guarantee.

For youth, like I did, start with something that doesn't cost much nor takes up much room — baseball cards (our packs start at \$2). These can really increase in value, especially if you have rookie cards or could have a card signed by the player.

Collectible purchases licensed by sports leagues/ associations like Major League Baseball, the National Football League and the National Basketball Association are good resources.

Beckett Price Guide is the sports memorabilia bible for up-to-date pricing and value of baseball cards. Download their phone apps so you have quick access when considering a purchase.

THE SCOOP: What was the first piece of memorabilia you acquired to start your collection?

BOB: My first major purchase was an autographed photo of Dan Marino of the Miami Dolphins. I paid \$250.00 dollars. One of my other prized possessions is an autographed Mickey Mantle card that I purchased in 1994. I went down to Atlantic City for a memorabilia show and actually got to meet him.

THE SCOOP: What types of collectibles will people find at Bob's Sports Cards & Memorabilia?

BOB: Among are top-sellers are baseball, football, hockey and basketball sports cards. We also have a good collection of the newest Soccer Cards. Our card selling prices start at \$1.00 and can go as high as \$2,000.00 for a 1956 Mickey Mantle NY Yankee card. We also have authenticated 8x10 autographed photos, McFarlane collectible figurines and a slew of other sports related items.

Please drop by **Bob's Sports Cards & Memorabilia** and introduce yourself to Bob or just give him a call at **(732) 942-0050**. He's willing and ready to help you to build your own collection.

For the full interview with Bob, visit the Howell Plaza Shopping Center website at **www.HowellPlaza.com**.