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## Taking time to smell the coffee ... and water and bagels

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They had me at goody bags

Fellow Forum reporter Jason Parsley, my new sidekick, and I decided to hit up the VIP Sneak Preview Party of The Original Brooklyn Water Bagel Co., 14451 S. Military Trail, in [Delray Beach](#) last Friday.

I wanted to resort back to my Jewish heritage, so what better way than trying a bunch of bagels? No, they did not have dreidels or Manischewitz wine at the opening.

They did offer to give us goody bags filled with a half-dozen bagels, a six-pack of Brooklyn water and gourmet coffee. We arrived at the opening, which was in a storefront next to a dry cleaners and a Chase bank. You can grab a bagel sandwich, pick up your clothes and deposit a check all at one time.

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They were handing out the special bottles of Brooklyn water like it was, well, water.

I thought it was a little crisper and somewhat different than water here in Florida.

"What are you doing?" Jason snapped. "Taking notes on the water?"

<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/palm-beach/boynton-beach/sfl-flbbfmike0812bbfaug12,0,2508944.story>

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When can I ever say that again?

Jason is a little guy, but he ate enough Friday that he can go hibernate for a few months. I think I saw the man put down four bagel sandwiches, whether it was [turkey](#) and cheese, roast beef or even tuna.

He also inhaled a brownie and some muffins.

I was not as hungry. I grabbed a cup of the Brooklyn Best coffee to see what all the fuss was about. From the first sip, I understood.

Wait, wait. I forgot to explain how the bagel shop has a specialty creamer machine with hazelnut and other flavors.

The coffee was so delicious that I drank so fast that I was sweating a bit. So my exciting evening consisted of drinking a bottle of water and having a coffee at a grand opening. But it was special water and special coffee.

In the end, it was a good time. We are a society of young adults who never embarked in the pleasure of enjoying breakfast. It is just run, run, run.

The Original Brooklyn Water Bagel Co. is a place to slow down in the morning for just a second and smell the coffee.

I'm starting to feel very special. This is the second time I've been asked to fill Dave's big shoes on the Hometown/Downtown column. But I only said yes because I wanted to go on assignment with Mike Rothman again.

When Mike asked me to attend a grand opening celebration of The Original Brooklyn Water Bagel Co. in [Delray Beach](#), I wasn't expecting much. I mean, it's just another bagel shop right? Wrong. First, the Brooklyn Water Bagel Co. has gone to extreme measures to replicate bagels made in Brooklyn. They believe the key ingredient that makes New York bagels so different and tasty is the water. Since they couldn't import the water, they've been able to find a way to convert local water to water of the same quality and characteristics of New York's. They even sell it in bottles in case you want to take some home with you.

Second, the bagel shop truly wants to make visiting the restaurant an experience and that's why it features a glass-enclosed display that allows the customers to see the entire bagel-baking process from start to finish. But how different can a bagel really taste? I have a good friend from [Brooklyn](#) who has repeatedly told me and drilled into my head that there's no place that makes bagels like they do in New York. And after trying one of their bagels I must admit it was pretty damn good. One of the best I'd ever eaten, if not the best. As for the bottled water, it tasted very much like ... water.

The owners of The Original Brooklyn Water Bagel Co. certainly know how to fill up their guests. After serving bagels, they served muffins, and then bagel sandwiches. I grabbed a chocolate chip muffin and then a tuna bagel sandwich and a turkey bagel sandwich.

Finally, they served us a brownie that must have come straight from heaven. It was delicious. The inside was moist and it was covered in chocolate icing with chocolate chips on top. Amazing.

Throughout the evening though, something seemed to be missing and I realized it was Mike's date. He didn't have one. As I left the bagel shop I realized Mike is much more fun with a date. Unfortunately for him, those come along few and far between.