

Announcing... Dog Lane Café @ Storrs Center

Dog Lane Café, our latest sister restaurant is scheduled to open in September in the Storrs Center. Our new address, One Dog Lane, is on the corner of Route 195 and Dog Lane. The Storrs Center project, a collaboration among the town, the university, and state and private developers, will produce a pedestrian-friendly mix of shops, restaurants, housing and entertainment in a village setting. With access to public transportation, Storrs Center represents the essence of smart growth. The long-range plan for Storrs Center is based on developing a destination area where it is busier in summer than it is in the wintertime.

The Vanilla Bean Café draws customers from areas close and far mainly because we serve healthy and often locally grown food. The Café has been described as so homey it is difficult to leave. Dog Lane Café will not be a clone of "The Bean," but will have some of the same appeal. The breakfast menu will consist of made to order omelets and breakfast sandwiches as well as healthy grab and go items such as fresh fruit, muffins, bagels, croissants and yogurt. Items on the regular daily menu will be served throughout the day, made to order and include sandwiches, salads, and soups. Menu choices will include grilled chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs and vegetarian options along with a variety of soups, chilis and chowders. Also customers will find bakery items, daily specials and beverages - coffee, teas, Hosmer Mountain Soda and a limited beer and wine selection. Customers will enjoy a comfortable seating indoors or outside on the

patios. And of course, there will be WiFi.

When it comes to operation on a daily basis, we plan to focus on three key concepts: quality, being "green" and efficient service. Whenever possible, we purchase minimally processed and organic ingredients and we buy from local growers when seasonally available. Recyclable and compostable containers will be used for packaging take out items. Menu items will be served on deli paper in baskets to reduce water usage. Customers will notice our speedy and efficient service when we open for operation with four cash registers and self service stations for coffee, tea and beverages. For on going information find us on-line at www.DogLaneCafe.com, Facebook and Twitter. ☺



Planning...Improvements @ VBC

Looking ahead to spring, we are planning several improvements for the Vanilla Bean Café. All of our outdoor signs, including our roadside sign will be replaced using our new logo design. Last year, we removed the old black top from our parking lot. This year we will cover the entire parking area surface with a new layer of stone. The outside bar at the far end of our outdoor dining area will be redesigned and replaced. Inside, our customers will notice new chairs as we begin to the process of replacing our older (most sat upon) chairs in the dining room areas. ☺



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Katherine A. Pezzano

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space planning, blue-print review, color, material & product selection, sketches & drawings, custom drapery and bedding, accessorizing, room arrangements, etc...

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- Leonardo da Vinci

The Vanilla Bean Café

wants you to know...

The Vanilla Bean Café opened in 1989 with 16 seats

The Vanilla Bean Café is owned by the Jessurun Family

We **open** 361 days a year. We **close** on:
Easter Sunday, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving,
Christmas Day

Business Hours:

Monday, Tuesday	7 am - 3 pm
Wednesday, Thursday	7 am - 8 pm
Friday	7 am - 9 pm*
Saturday	8 am - 9 pm*†
Sunday	8 am - 8 pm

*We may close early during colder months.

†Entertainment night -
we serve dessert, beer & wine until 10 PM

Stella, the English Mastiff you may have seen around the Café, passed away in Nov. 2009.



Web site: www.TheVanillaBeanCafe.com

E-mail: ask@thevanillabeancafe.com

Address: **Corner of Routes 44, 169 & 97
Pomfret, Connecticut**

Phone: **860-928-1562**

Music booking: **Maria Sangiolo**
maria@thevanillabeancafe.com

Art booking: **Kayla Murphy**
kayla@thevanillabeancafe.com

Bean Soup ads: **Barry Jessurun**
barry@thevanillabeancafe.com

Bean Soup is an information and entertainment newsletter.

Compiled and written by:

Barry Jessurun

Mary Murtha Dudley

Layout & Design - Barry Jessurun

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The Vanilla Bean Café Pomfret Connecticut 06258

Accolades and Awards

The New York Times

"The food...is freshly made, well seasoned and extremely tasty."

The Boston Globe

"...great food - homemade soups, sandwiches, burgers, and the best fish cakes around - in a relaxed atmosphere."

Yankee Magazine's Travel Guide to New England

"Editors' Pick" 1997, 2003 & 2004

"One of the outstanding reasons to visit New England."

Connecticut Magazine Readers' Poll

Windham County - Various years

Best Family Dining - Best Sandwiches

Best Desserts - Best Business Lunch

Best Vegetarian - Best Outdoor Dining

Yankee Magazine

Editors' Choice - Best of New England

Connecticut's Best Country Café - 2011

The Hartford Courant

"This is a place that serves excellent food and brings in some of the better performers on the New England coffee house circuit..."

"The Vanilla Bean Café in Pomfret is one of those rare places that truly has something for everyone... Oh, yes - the food is truly delicious, too."

The New London Day

★★★

"The soups are homemade and delicious, the sandwiches unusual and served on breads that are positively delicious..."

www.VisitingNewEngland.com

"the Vanilla Bean Café is one of those places you simply don't want to leave."

www.HiddenBoston.com

"This impossibly funky Connecticut restaurant is full of character (and characters), and is truly in a class by itself."

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- Ella Wheeler Wilcox

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- Edgar Cayce

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- J. K. Rowling

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January Entertainment

Friday - 6 - Chris Smither

Chris Smither is an acclaimed acoustic roots singer-songwriter whose career spans 40 years, 12 albums, and 3 DVDs. His most recent CD is *TIME STANDS STILL*. He tours world-wide, performing at clubs, concert halls, and festivals in the US, Canada, Europe and Australia. His songs have appeared in various films and on TV shows and have been covered by Bonnie Raitt, Emmylou Harris and Diana Krall, among others. In 2009, Chris contributed a short story to *Amplified*, a collection of fiction by today's best performing songwriters, including Mary Gauthier, Robbie Fulks, Jon Langford, Maria McKee, Rhett Miller, and others. June brought the release of a new live Smither album, *LOST AND FOUND*. This new collection of 14 songs only available online at www.smither.com and at live shows.




Saturday - 7 - No Show

Friday - 13 - Songwriter Sessions

One Friday each month (unless otherwise noted), The Vanilla Bean Café offers a warm and intimate listening room for artists in a monthly music series called **Songwriter Sessions**. Hosted by Lisa Martin, the series is dedicated to the craft of songwriting. Each performer is required to write a song based on a theme chosen by the previous month's audience. Newly crafted songs are presented in round three of the evening's series which features three local or regional songwriters.

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**The
Vanilla Bean
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January Entertainment

Saturday - 14 - Yankee Dogs

The Yankee Dogs (Bill Reid, Louise Muller and Mike Barrette) came together during jam sessions at open mics and discovered a shared love of American roots music. Reid's interest in traditional American music along with Muller's and Barrette's renown solo work makes for a fun and rollicking time through a catalog of western swing, folk rock, blues, rockabilly, rock & roll, and bluegrass.



Saturday - 21 - Michael Hakanson-Stacy

Michael Hakanson-Stacy has released his fourth album in three years. He doesn't divert from his passion and proven formula for acoustic folk, blues and gospel music. Unlike his previous albums where he invited outside musicians (like Brooks Williams) to join him, Hakanson-Stacy plays all of the instruments on Pearls & Stones, preferring the wooden body resonator guitar and metal body dobro. In addition he plays harmonica and mandolin, and sings lead as well as writing a bulk of the 19 selections contained on this album. Among the outstanding pieces on this recording are Rev. Gary Davis' gospel testimonials, "I am the Light of the World" and "I Saw the Light," as well as Hakanson-Stacy's wildly antipodal "Stagolee." Amid the traditional and original gospel, folk and blues vocal numbers are several instrumentals that add a different tenor to this album. "Hakanson-Stacy's blues vocals are tinged with, sarcasm and humor, rather than depression and his guitar playing is crisp, precise and solid." -Valley Advocate



Saturday - 28 - Howie Bursen & Friends Benefit for NE CT Food Bank

Howie Bursen is be joined by fiddler **Jeff Davis**, singer and guitarist **John Bailey**, and **Martin Grosswendt**, who plays anything with strings. Bursen is a virtuoso instrumentalist, respected songwriter and an acclaimed true master of the failed banjo. On top of that, he can sing! Don't miss this great night of entertainment for a great cause!! All proceeds will benefit the Northeast Connecticut Food Bank.



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- Henry Van Dyke

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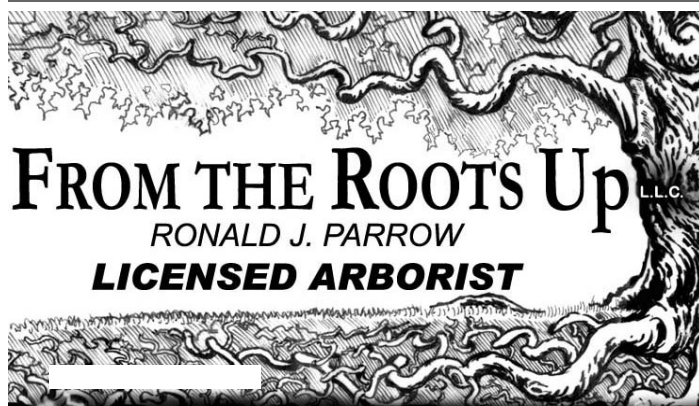
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- Booker T. Washington

"Life's uncertain, eat dessert first."



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~ John Muir ~

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February Entertainment

Friday - 3 - Open Mic



Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham - Feature
- **Jake Klar** is a singer/songwriter from Amherst, MA - performing Folk / Americana, Jake has shared the stage with Iris Dement and Brad Yoder among others.

Saturday - 4 - Les Sampou

Les Sampou is a blues/rock musician, who got her start in the Boston folk scene and now has moved on to national prominence and acclaim. She has just released her new record "Lonesomeville" and it expands the range of her critically-acclaimed four previous efforts. Les has performed at Montreal Jazz Festival, Kerrville Folk Festival, where she won the New Folk Songwriting Award, made numerous appearances at Philadelphia Folk Festival, Toronto Blues Festival and Falcon Ridge to name a few. She has appeared on the top syndicated radio programs such as Acoustic Cafe, World Cafe and NPR.



Sunday - 5 - Bill Staines

Bill Staines travels across North America, singing his songs and delighting audiences at festivals, folksong societies, colleges, concerts, clubs and coffeehouses. A New England native, Bill became involved with the Boston- Cambridge folk scene in the early '60s. He quickly became a popular performer in the Boston area. In 1971, after one of his performances, a reviewer for The Phoenix stated that Bill was "simply Boston's best performer." A decade later, the annual Reader's Poll of *The Boston Globe* selected him as a favorite performer. In 1991, Bill entered his forth decade as a folk performer with an international reputation as an artist. Singing mostly his own songs, he has become one of the most popular singers on the folk music circuit today and averages around 200 concert dates a year. Bill weaves a magical blend of wit and gentle humor into his performances, and as one reviewer wrote, "he has a sense of timing to match the best stand-up comic."



Friday - 10 - Songwriter Sessions



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February Entertainment

Saturday - 11 - Vance Gilbert

Vance Gilbert burst onto the singer/songwriter Boston folk scene in the 90's when buzz started about a former arts teacher knocking 'em dead at open mics. Shawn Colvin invited him on her Fat City tour; the Fort Worth Star-Telegram wrote, "With the voice of an angel, the wit of a devil, and the guitar playing of a God, it was enough to earn him that rarity: an encore for an opener." Gilbert's first 3 albums include guests Tuck and Patti, Jonathan Brooke, Patty Larkin, Vinx, and Jane Siberry. SOMERVILLE LIVE was lionized by the Boston Globe as the disc "young songwriters should study the way law students cram for bar exams." ONE THRU FOURTEEN, SIDE OF THE ROAD, with Ellis Paul, lauded as "haunting, artful, lovely" by Boston Magazine, UNFAMILIAR MOON successfully follow. On ANGELS, CASTLES, COVERS writes Roberta Schwartz of FAME, "he displays his vocal virtuosity...from the sounds of Motown, through the R&B of Al Green to classic Joni Mitchell and Shawn Colvin, he makes each and every tune sound fresh and new."



Saturday - 18 - Original Jelly Roll Soul

"Everyone loves jazz music, they just don't know it!"



This is the fundamental thought behind **Original Jelly Roll Soul**, based out of RI, a place far off the jazz map. OJRS, a 5 piece band started in 2010. They pride themselves on continuous musical and technical evolution. Collectively the band has over 170 years of professional experience in the music world. Their performances are diverse, humorous, high energy, and fun. They present their sound within the many sub-genres of jazz music, including New Orleans, swing, jump, hard bop, Afro-Cuban, as well as Ethiopian, and others. They also draw from genres such as blues, gospel, ragtime, calypsos and other Caribbean styles of music. So if you want an exciting, uplifting and educational musical experience, then this is the group to see.

Saturday - 25 - Grass Routes

Grass Routes has been performing on the New England bluegrass scene for 27 years and has appeared on radio and television pleasing audiences at concerts, coffeehouses, festivals and other venues. The band features the traditional bluegrass instruments of banjo, mandolin, fiddle, guitar and upright bass. Grass Routes performs a broad repertoire of songs ranging from straight-ahead traditional bluegrass to more contemporary folk and country material. Skillful instrumental work and strong vocals gives them their own distinctive sound.



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- Thomas Jefferson

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- Friedrich Nietzsche

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March Entertainment

Friday - 2 - Open Mic



Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham. Feature - Pamela Means is an internationally touring jazz musician, a fierce guitar player and politically-rooted song writer.

Saturday - 3 - Atwater-Donnelly

The highly acclaimed husband-wife duo, **Aubrey Atwater and Elwood Donnelly**, present delightful programs of traditional American and Celtic folk songs, a capella pieces, old-time gospel songs, dance tunes, and original works. Elwood and Aubrey blend gorgeous and unusual harmonies and play guitar, Appalachian mountain dulcimer, mandolin, tin whistle, harmonica, banjo, bones, spoons, limberjacks, and other surprises including Appalachian clog dancing, French Canadian footwork, and Tap. Their performance is appealing to all ages, and with humor, audience participation, and a relaxed stage presence, Aubrey and Elwood explain song origins to create a deeper understanding of the music and its cultural history.



Friday - 9 - Songwriter Sessions

Saturday - 10 - Delta Generators

As their name implies, **The Delta Generators** combine the urgency and soulfulness of delta blues with the power and energy of early rock 'n' roll. While, in the broader sense, they could be classified as a blues band, there is room on that big blue canvas for brush strokes of Memphis soul, LA funk, and classic rock 'n' roll. The combination of clever songwriting and inspired performances on their new CD "Devil in the Rhythm" shows why critics and audiences are calling them the best new blues band in New England. Taking top honors at the Blues Challenge last summer was no small achievement: The Delta Generators bested seven of the most popular bands in the region to earn the right to represent the Hub in the Blues Foundation's prestigious 2009 International Blues Challenge in Memphis.



VBC Review Quotables...

"Extremely Tasty" Food - *New York Times*

"Relaxed" Atmosphere - *Boston Globe*

"Truly Bizarre" Service - *New London Day*

March Entertainment

Saturday - 17 - Cashel Rock

Cashel Rock is a fluid configuration of friends and musicians from CT's northeast corner who lead a great evening of sing-alongs and Irish tunes. According to Victor Infante of the Worcester



Telegram + Gazette, "If you want straight-ahead traditional music with a vibrant feel, then it's hard to do better than Cashel Rock. There's a great spirit about this band, a joyous energy that makes listening to them a great occasion."

Saturday - 24 - Poor Old Shine

Foot stomping, mind racing, fast flinching music - day in and day out, **Poor Old Shine** is the Roots-Americana collaboration of Chris Freeman and Will Leet. Traveling with an assortment of instruments including guitars, banjos, pump organ, string bass, cello, a swarm of harmonicas, and a yard-sale-scrap-metal drum set, it's old songs with a new feel, banjos with paint peeled, shoes with holes and treadless soles, and music that is real. Poor Old Shine's music is rooted in the folk and Appalachian mountain music tradition and fits in well at bluegrass festivals and sticky rock clubs alike. They have been compared to The Avett Brothers, Mumford and Sons, Langhorne Slim, and The Low Anthem because of the changing instrumentation and harmonies. Poor Old Shine also features six UCONN graduate musicians Antonio Alcorn (mandolin, guitar), Scott Thomas McColl (upright bass), Malachai Madden (cello, guitar), and David Norman (organ).



Saturday - 31 - Big Jump

Big Jump is a local R&B neo-soul band who has been tearing up the crowds at Fred's Brick Oven in Willimantic. Led by the charismatic vocalist Perry Mandanis, the group also features the swampy lead guitar of Mark Davis, the soulful bass of Lou Chatey and the rock-steady drumming of Frank Busse. From the classic hits of Aretha Franklin and Wilson Pickett to the modern soul sounds of Duffy and Seal, this band will have you on your feet and dancing your blues away! Especially for The Vanilla Bean, the band will present an unplugged performance of their music for a fresh take on the R&B classics you know and love.



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Weekend Breakfast

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Dinner at The Bean

We are open for dinner Wednesday - Sunday. Each night we run four or five dinner specials. Recent items include: Beer Batter Cod, Mushroom Ravioli, Sesame Seared Tuna, Steak Medallions and Maple Glazed Scallops. We offer a truly quality dinner at a great price, in a warm and friendly atmosphere. If you haven't tried us for dinner yet, it's time you did. ☕

The Artwork Gallery

The Café displays artwork by local artists year round. Some shows have openings and some do not. Most of the artwork displayed is for sale and often prices are listed with the piece or on a list located in the room. One hundred percent of the sale price goes to the artist.

January - Lesley Tonna

February - Francine Munson

March - Pam Lussier & Mona Stratos ☕

Entertainment

The Café is on the National Folk Music Circuit and attracts talent from all over the United States while featuring mainly New England performers. The majority of the shows are on Saturday night and start at 8:00 PM. Our Open Mic night is on the first Friday of each month. During shows, a theatre curtain separates the listening room from the tiled dining room and kitchen in an effort to keep the music in and the kitchen noise out. ☕

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Gilly Gordon 974-1140

Our Pricing Practices

1. Sales Tax Included - Our prices include the 6% Connecticut Sales Tax. The prices listed on the menu are exactly what you pay. Our prices may seem to be inflated; however, a \$8.50 menu item is actually \$8.02 + \$.48 sales tax. Furthermore, this practice makes it easier for the customer, especially if that customer is a child who has exact change for a cookie. What you see is exactly what you pay - what could be simpler?

2. Not Market Standard Pricing - We are not trying to fool the customer into thinking that \$8.95 is less expensive than \$9.00. We find this type of pricing insulting to our customers. However, the reason it is used so extensively around the nation is that it works effectively. We don't like that practice, and we also like to believe that our clientele is not so easily fooled.

3. No Pennies, Dimes or Nickels - Because our prices include tax and we do not price in the standard way, we do not have to use pennies, dimes or nickels. This is a service to both the customer and to us. We don't give you lots of change, and we only have to use quarters and fifty-cent pieces. This also helps our staff to be more efficient performing transactions, which saves time and money. An added bonus is that we don't have to count change at the end of the business day.

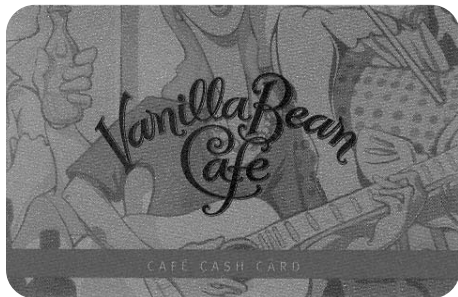


"The range of what we think and do is limited by what we fail to notice. And because we fail to notice that we fail to notice, there is little we can do to change; until we notice how failing to notice shapes our thoughts and deeds."

- R. D. Laing

The Café Cash Card

The first Café Cash Card was introduced in 1997. The appearance of the card has changed since then, but our card still works like the gift cards available in most stores today. Café Cash Cards may be purchased in any amount at the restaurant or online and



are reloadable - add to the card balance at any time! Cards may be used to purchase any menu item at Vanilla Bean Café. A bonus of 10% is

added to the card balance when you purchase a card for \$100 or more. The card must be presented to redeem it at the time of purchase. The Café Cash Card makes a great gift for friends and family members and is ideal for students at the local schools. Café Cash Cards have no expiration date.



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- Jeanne Moreau

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What's Happening at *The Bean*...



All shows start at 8:00 pm unless otherwise noted

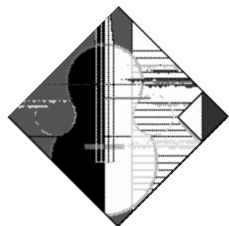
- **Friday January 6th** - \$30.00
Chris Smither
Chelsea Berry Opens
- **Saturday January 7th** - no show
- **Friday January 13th** 7:30 pm - \$5.00
Songwriter Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts
Chuck Williams, Bernice Lewis, Tom Smith
- **Saturday January 14th** - \$10.00
Yankee Dogs
- **Saturday January 21st** - \$10.00
Michael Hakanson-Stacy
- **Saturday January 28th** - \$20.00
Howie Bursen & Friends
Benefit for NE CT Food Bank
- **Friday February 3rd** 7:30 pm - \$7.00
Open Mic - Jake Klar
- **Saturday February 4th** - \$15.00
Les Sampou
- **Sunday February 5th** 7:00 pm - \$15.00
Bill Staines
- **Friday February 10th** 7:30 pm - \$5.00
Songwriter Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts
John Fuzek, Mardi Garcia

Call ahead, shows are subject to change

- **Saturday February 11th** - \$15.00
Vance Gilbert
- **Saturday February 18th** - \$10.00
Original Jelly Roll Soul
- **Saturday February 25th** - \$12.00
Grass Routes
- **Friday March 2nd** 7:30 pm - \$7.00
Open Mic - Pamela Means
- **Saturday March 3rd** - \$15.00
Atwater-Donnelly
- **Friday March 9th** 7:30 pm - \$5.00
Songwriter Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts
Jan Luby, Nancy Broussard Parent, Ben Parent
- **Saturday March 10th** - \$15.00
Delta Generators
- **Saturday March 17th** - \$10.00
Cashel Rock
- **Saturday March 24th** - \$10.00
Poor Old Shine
- **Saturday March 31st** - \$10.00
Big Jump

All Admissions - Cash or Check Only

WiFi available in Dining Room



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2012 ... What's Happening at The Bean ... 2012

~ January, February & March ~

\*\*Friday, January 6th - Chris Smither\*\*

\*\*Sunday, February 5th - Bill Staines\*\*



*Bean Soup* 

*Vanilla Bean  
Café*

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"To Bean or  
not to Bean...?"  
...is it really a question?



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**Did you know...**

We serve breakfast Saturday & Sunday  
We are celebrating 23 years in business - 1989-2012.  
The Café offers a variety of vegetarian specials.  
You can view our Daily Specials on our website.  
All of our menu prices **include** 6.35% CT Sales Tax.  
**85 Main** in Putnam is our sister restaurant.  
We have Gluten free items available.  
We are open 361 days a year.

The Vanilla Bean Café ♦ Corners of Routes 44, 169 & 97 ♦ Pomfret, Connecticut 06258 ♦ 860-928-1562