

## Dog Lane Café: European American Arrives In Storrs

By LEEANNE GRIFFIN, Special to the Courant, The Hartford Courant, February 7, 2013

Despite its location literally steps from the University of Connecticut, the owners of new Storrs restaurant Dog Lane Café say they're not necessarily trying to attract students. The rest of the town has that covered.

"[We] did a study...and at the time, Mansfield had 25 restaurants. Twenty-three of them catered to college students," said managing partner Steve Smith. "If you live in Mansfield, you either eat at a sub place, pizza place or Chinese restaurant. There really isn't any other place to eat."

In 2005, restaurateur Barry Jessurun – who, with his brother, Brian, is a business partner in Pomfret's Vanilla Bean Café and Putnam's 85 Main – heard about the fledgling Storrs Center development project. Seeing the potential for the mixed-use space at the edge of campus, Barry joined the Mansfield Downtown Partnership and paid close attention to the plans.

It paid off. In 2008, Jessurun was one of the first to sign a letter of intent to become part of Storrs Center, negotiating for the anchor location at One Dog Lane. "When I put the business plan together, I found that no [local restaurant] was catering to the adult population," Jessurun said.

The organization "wanted a Vanilla Bean downtown," he said. So, the brothers borrowed from the Pomfret restaurant's casual yet beloved menu of breakfast items, sandwiches, salads, burgers and soups; added some unique offerings like artisan grilled cheese and smoothies; and presented Dog Lane Café to the public on Dec. 28. The airy, sunlit space attracted area residents immediately.

"They saw a need and tried to fill it," Smith says of the Jessuruns. "People come in and they're overwhelmingly thanking us for being here."

"We're after parents, people going to Jorgensen [Center for the Performing Arts,] going to plays, sporting events," Barry said. "We're after faculty, and all the people who live and work in the area, all those who didn't really have a choice [before.]"

Dog Lane, described as a "European/American café," is open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The morning hours start with omelets, egg sandwiches, pancakes and breakfast burritos. Lunch, the busiest service, features a vast selection of sandwiches, paninis, wraps and grilled burgers and hot dogs.

The café offers nine housemade soups (\$4 to \$6.50) daily, including three chilis, a variety of gumbo, New England clam chowder and chicken with rice. Dog Lane inherited the Vanilla Bean's "award-winning" chili recipe, made with beef, beans and a little Andouille sausage. (The recipe is included in a cookbook, "Killer Chili: Savory Recipes from North America's Favorite Chili Restaurants.")

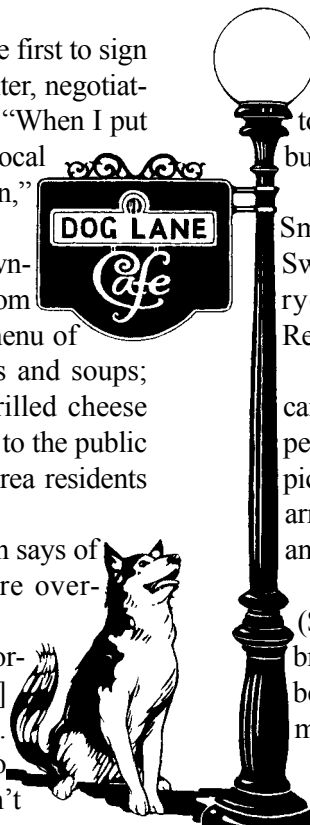
Among the sandwich favorites and best-sellers (\$10 to \$12.50) are the Italian panino (ham, salami, provolone, roasted red peppers, lettuce, tomato and garlic olive oil on ciabatta); the smoked salmon BLT with apple-wood-smoked bacon and herbed cream cheese on toasted wheat; organic turkey with sundried-tomato mustard and the pan-seared crab cake on a bulkie roll with house remoulade and lemon.

The creative "vegetable Reuben" is one of Smith's favorites, he said, with assorted veggies, Swiss cheese, sauerkraut and Russian dressing on rye. For traditionalists, there's a more classic Reuben, with lean pastrami.

Artisan grilled cheeses – with fillings like apple, caramelized onions, bleu cheese, andouille sausage, pepper jack and chipotle fried cheddar with chopped pickles – are meant to complement Dog Lane's large array of soups, Smith said. They're priced at \$7.50 and \$8.

Grilled sandwiches and quarter-pound hot dogs (\$8 to \$12.50) are popular, with marinated chicken breast, an organic turkey burger, a housemade black bean burger and a grass-fed local beef burger, with meat from Devon Point Farm in Woodstock.

Reprinted excerpt from the Hartford Courant - see the article in its entirety at [www.courant.com](http://www.courant.com).



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\*We may close early during colder months.

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



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**Bean Soup** is an information and entertainment newsletter.

Compiled and written by:

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Layout & Design - Barry Jessurun



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The Vanilla Bean Café Pomfret Connecticut 06258

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

### The Boston Globe

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"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..."

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### www.VisitingNewEngland.com

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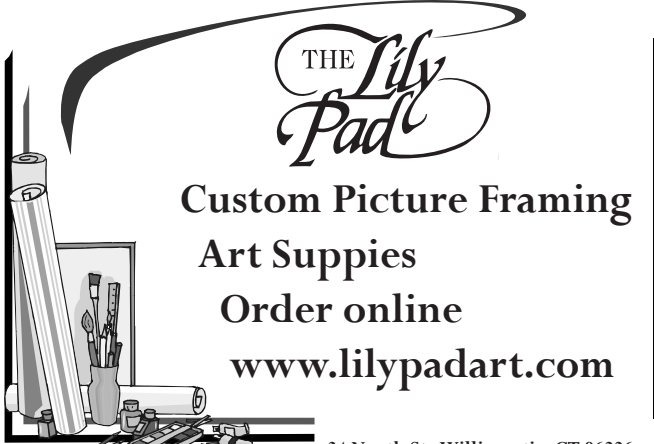
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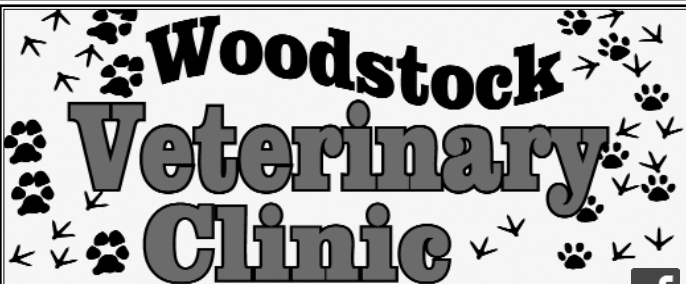


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## April Entertainment

### Friday - 5 - Open Mic



**Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham.**  
**Feature - Folk duo Mark Mandeville & Raienne Richards** sing poignant songs with introspective lyrics in familiar traditional melodies. And they back them with delicate arrangements on ukulele, clarinet, guitar and banjo.

### Saturday - 6 - Kris Delmhorst

**Kris Delmhorst** is a singer songwriter who has built a thriving career and devoted following from the ground up - without major label hype. The same independence of spirit that led Delmhorst to spend early years working on subsistence farms, cooking on a schooner off the coast of ME, or hitch-hiking around Ireland with a fiddle on her back, is evident in the arc of her musical evolution: a willingness to work on her own terms and her own time. Along the way, she's parlayed a decade of successful touring into one of the most distinct voices in American music. Her Signature Sounds releases include 2008's largely self-recorded Shotgun Singer. Adventurous, elegant, lucid, and haunting, the record is the work of a musician at full stride who has found a musical language equal to her vision. Kris Delmhorst lives in western MA with husband Jeffrey Foucault and daughter Hazel.



### Friday - 12 - 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 the evening's series which features local and regional songwriters.

### Saturday - 13 - Chelsea Berry

**Chelsea Berry** is a singer/songwriter with incredible edge, power, and finesse. Her presence has been described by listeners as "compelling... she draws the entire house into her world like moths to a flame." Her vocals are controlled, smooth, and intensely powerful. Her original lyrics are reminiscent of the folk music of the sixties. Chelsea has performed at many of New England's most renowned listening rooms, including Boston's House of Blues, Club Passim in Cambridge, and Carnegie Hall in NY.



## April Entertainment

### Sunday - 14 - Ellis Paul

**Ellis Paul** is one of the leading voices in American songwriting and one of the top songwriters to emerge out of the fertile Boston folk scene. He helped create a movement that revitalized the national acoustic circuit with an urban, literate, folk rock style that helped renew interest in the genre in the 90's. His charismatic, personally authentic performance style has influenced a generation of artists away from the artifice of pop, and closer towards the realness of folk. Though he remains among the most pop-friendly of today's singer-songwriters, his songs regularly appear in hit movie and TV sound tracks, he has successfully bridged the gulf between the modern folk sound and the populist traditions of Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger.



### Saturday - 20 - Dan Stevens

At the young age of sixteen, **Dan Stevens'** romantic streak was ignited by his first guitar teacher in small town central Pennsylvania who told him stories about the lives of traveling blues musicians like Mississippi John Hurt and Fred McDowell. Termed "Connecticut's hardest working bluesman" by the *New York Times*, he plays over two hundred engagements a year, including concerts, clubs, festivals, coffeehouses and more. Dan has appeared at Long Island's Riverhead Blues Festival, the Berlin Blues Festival in CT and was the closer in the acoustic section of the Fleet Blues Festival in Albany, NY.



### Saturday - 27- Andrew McKnight

Over his fifteen year career, **Andrew McKnight** has enjoyed many accolades within the folk music world. His five solo CDs have earned much critical acclaim and airplay around the world as well as a wealth of NPR stations and several XM/Sirius satellite shows. Andrew's solo performances are like one man theatre; the songs are woven together with humorous stories and poetic drama, and the musical soundscape traverses influences from Appalachia, tasteful slide and jazzy blues, feisty anthems, rustic folk, and even a little fancy flatpicking on a Carter Family tune. Andrew considers many prestigious and eclectic performances along his career to be among the biggest blessings. Each one is a unique intersection of the time and place, the songs and stories, and above all, each person in the audience.



*"The hardest years are between 10 and 70."* - Helen Hayes

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## May Entertainment

### Friday - 3 - Open Mic



**Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham.**  
**Feature -** Listening to **Tracy Walton** sing, one can't help but hear the years of struggle that all musicians go through. At once rough and vulnerable, Tracy's voice cuts to the heart of any story, taking you down back roads, through broken lonely hearts, and into hopeful, open skies.

### Saturday - 4 - 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, coffee-houses, 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.



### Friday - 10 - Songwriter Sessions

### Saturday - 11 - Joel Cage

**Joel Cage** is an award winning veteran singer and songwriter from Boston. A one-time member of the internationally acclaimed rock & roll group Southside Johnny & the Asbury Jukes, Joel has been performing regionally and nationally as a soloist for the past fifteen years. He has performed at some of the most prestigious folk and acoustic venues and festivals in the country, including the Kerrville Folk Festival in TX where he was awarded top prize in the Kerrville New Folk Competition, and at the renown Club Passim in Cambridge, where he was invited to perform at their special 40th Anniversary Concert. Joel is a top prize winner in the John Lennon Songwriting Contest and is a three time winner of the USA Folk Songwriter's Competition. A virtuoso guitarist and an impassioned vocalist, Joel Cage's music is both evocative and raucous. He spans the gamut from sounding like a full rock band to hear-your-own-heartbeat intimacy.

*"Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all."* - Dale Carnegie




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## May Entertainment

### Saturday - 18 - Sally Rogers

**Sally Rogers** is a musician who lives outside of Hartford, CT with husband Howie Bursen and daughters Maya and Malana. She plays guitar, banjo, and dulcimer and specializes in traditional folk, old-timey and (most recently) children's music. She plays both traditional and original pieces and has been recognized by numerous awards including Best Folk Album of 1982 (Circle of the Sun), Best Children's Recording of 1992 (What Can one Little Person Do?) and again in 1993 (At Quiet O'Clock). She has made frequent radio appearances on "A Prairie Home Companion" and the nationally syndicated "Mountain Stage."



### Saturday - 25 - Gail Finnie Rundlett

**Gail Finnie** is a one of New England's finest folk musicians, performing as a solo artist for over twenty five years in New England's coffeehouses, clubs, festivals, concert halls, museums, and schools. She plays Appalachian dulcimer and guitar. Gail teaches dulcimer, both privately and in workshops at various festivals in the Northeast. Gail has released four solo recordings - "Just in Time", "Farther Along", "Full Circle", and "Heart of a Believer" (her latest recording, released early in 2012) featuring musicians such as Johnny Cunningham, Tim and Mollie O'Brien, Brooks Williams, Robin Batteau, Aoife O'Donovan, Jake Armerding, and Heidi Muller. Her a cappella group Taproot released two CD's, "If You Build It" and "Grand Design".



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- William Arthur Ward

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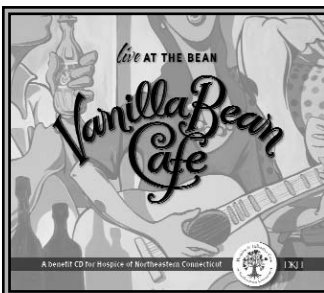


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- Nido Qubein



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## June Entertainment

### Saturday - 1 - Atwater-Donnelly Trio

The highly acclaimed husband and 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. The trio is formed when Aubrey and Elwood are joined by **Cathy Clasper-Torch**. Cathy adds a deeply rich third dimension with fiddle, cello and vocals. The Atwater-Donnelly Trio has become extremely popular in Southern New England.

### Friday - 7 - Open Mic



**Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham.**

**Feature -** Faculty member of the Performing Arts Department at UMASS Boston, **Peter Janson** has been hailed as "the perfect combination of instrumentalist and composer, entertainer and educator" (WUMB Music Festival). Peter's performances as a soloist playing fingerstyle guitar reflect his passion for folk, world, Celtic and traditional music.

### Saturday - 8 - Les Sampou

**Les Sampou** is a blues/rock musician, who got her start on 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 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 top syndicated radio programs including Acoustic Cafe, World Cafe, and NPR.

### Friday - 14 - Songwriter Sessions



## June Entertainment

### Saturday - 15 - DiQuattro and Day

With a combined onstage experience of over 60 years, **DiQuattro and Day** are a talented new duo in



the bluegrass and folk genre. Bob DiQuattro grew up under the influence of Southern Style Gospel Quartet music and was leader of the acclaimed "Keystone Quartet", touring the US and Canada with bass singer, Richard Sturban of Oak Ridge Boys fame. He was also lead singer and rhythm guitarist for the Manhattan Project. He returns with Cathy Day, no stranger to the Bean. Cathy is a fourth generation fiddler with a rich family heritage from the Smokey Mountains of rural NC. Day's resume includes session work with "Rose City Bluegrass," "Cashel Rock," and more recently with "Glenn Stewart."

### Saturday - 22 - Kate Callahan

Since the early millennium **Kate Callahan** has been awarded the Hartford Advocate's "Best Solo Performer" award three times. Her creative performances in CT earned her the non-profit based Serenity Award and the distinction "Woman of Character" in 2005



from the Hartford Courant, where she met Jane Fonda and accepted her award in the historic Bushnell Theater. Kate has opened shows for folk legends Judy Collins and Noel Paul Stookey and troubadours Aztec-Two Step, Mustard's Retreat, Bill Morrissey, and Rachael Sage. She's shared stages with Regina Spektor, Jonny Rodgers, and her musical partner André Balazs. She performed at the Falcon Ridge Folk Festival 2004 as an emerging artist. Kate's music, recordings, and live performances are inspiring. Studio 59 venue owner Tim Wallace says, "When Kate Callahan sings, she pulls on your heart strings, and then your whole soul vibrates."

### Saturday - 29 - Ninesixteen

**Ninesixteen** is a Pomfret-based band that features music ranging from bluegrass to Badfinger, from



Van Morrison to James Taylor, plus original works. Led by keyboardist/vocalist Donna Bessette and drummer/vocalist Andre Bessette, the band also features David Carter on lead guitar, flute and vocals, Putnam native Greg Nichols on rhythm guitar and vocals, Brian Bastow on bass, and Patrick McCarthy on lead and backing vocals. The band blends solid musicianship with tight vocal harmonies.



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Tel. 860-774-2075 • Fax. 860-774-3554  
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# Real Good Whole Food

"Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect. - Mark Twain

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animals, lettered signs,  
etc. on canvas, wood,  
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almost anything.

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"Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom.

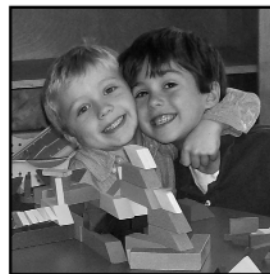
- Thomas Jefferson

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*“A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend. A successful woman is one who can find such a man.”*  
- Lana Turner

### Did you know...

We are open 361 days a year.  
We serve breakfast all week long.  
**85 Main** in Putnam is our sister restaurant.  
We have many Gluten free items available.  
The Café offers a variety of vegetarian specials.  
You can view our Daily Specials on our website.  
We are celebrating 24 years in business - 1989-2013.  
All of our menu prices *include* 6.35% CT Sales Tax.

## Weekend Breakfast with Real Maple Syrup

*“If you’re trying to achieve, there will be roadblocks. I’ve had them; everybody has had them. But obstacles don’t have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don’t turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it.”*  
- Michael Jordan

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## Weekend Breakfast

A full breakfast menu is served Saturday and Sunday from 8:00 am - 12:00 noon. We offer a variety of specials including Turkey Sausage Benedict, Basil Feta Omelet, and Turkey Spinach Scramble. We use only 100% maple syrup and top-quality Hormel bacon. ☺

## Dinner at The Bean

We are open for dinner Wednesday - Sunday. Each night we run four or five dinner specials. Recent items include: Wild Mushroom Risotto, Guinness Beef Stew, Steak Medallions and Roasted Chicken Mac & Cheese. 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.

**April - Northeast Art Guild**

**May - Peggy & Dick Traskos**

**June - Dennise Meluchi** ☺

## 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. ☺

## On-Site WiFi

We provide complimentary wireless internet service. Bring your lap top to the Café, search for available networks and log on to the VBC. Get some work done or check your email while you eat lunch! ☺

Gilly's Art

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adults & kids  
in  
painting, drawing,  
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1 mile from the Vanilla Bean

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.

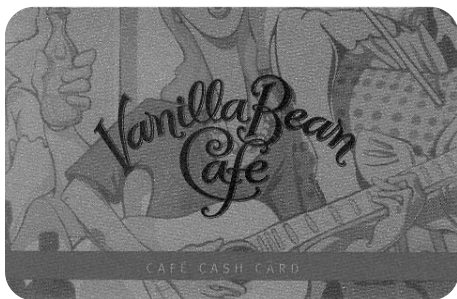
**3. No Pennies, Dimes or Nickels** - Because our prices include tax and we do not price in the standard way, we do not have to use pennies, dimes or nickels. This is a service to both the customer and to us. We don't give you lots of change, and we only have to use quarters and fifty-cent pieces. This 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.

*"There is only one boss. The customer. And he can fire everybody in the company from the chairman on down, simply by spending his money somewhere else."*

- Sam Walton

## 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.

## FAGAN'S FORGE LLC

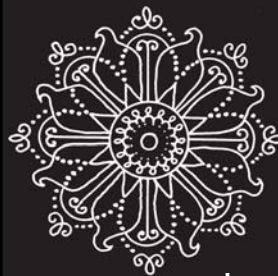
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*"A wise man is superior to any insults which can be put upon him, and the best reply to unseemly behavior is patience and moderation."*

- Moliere



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- Plato

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



All shows start at 8:00 pm unless otherwise noted

- **Friday April 5th** 7:30 pm - \$7.00  
Open Mic -  
Mark Mandeville & Raianne Richards
- **Saturday April 6th** - \$15.00  
Kris Delmhorst
- **Friday April 12th** 7:00 pm - \$5.00  
Songwriter Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts
- **Saturday April 13th** - \$10.00  
Chelsea Berry
- **Sunday April 14th** 7:00 pm - \$15.00  
Ellis Paul
- **Saturday April 20th** - \$12.00  
Dan Stevens
- **Saturday April 27th** - \$15.00  
Andrew McKnight
- **Friday May 3rd** 7:30 pm - \$7.00  
Open Mic - Tracy Walton
- **Saturday May 4th** - \$12.00  
Grass Routes
- **Friday May 10th** 7:00 pm - \$5.00  
Songwriter Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts

Cash or Check Only for show Admissions

- **Saturday May 11th** - \$12.00  
Joel Cage
- **Saturday May 18th** - \$15.00  
Sally Rogers
- **Saturday May 25th** - \$10.00  
Gail Finnie Rundlett
- **Saturday June 1st** - \$15.00  
Atwater-Donnelly Trio
- **Friday June 7th** 7:30 pm - \$7.00  
Open Mic - Peter Janson
- **Saturday June 8th** - \$15.00  
Les Sampou
- **Friday May 14th** 7:00 pm - \$5.00  
Songwriter Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts
- **Saturday June 15th** - \$10.00  
DiQuattro & Day
- **Saturday June 22nd** - \$10.00  
Kate Callahan
- **Saturday June 29th** - \$12.00  
Ninesixteen

Call ahead, shows are subject to change

WiFi available in Dining Room

## 2013 ... What's Happening at The Bean ... 2013

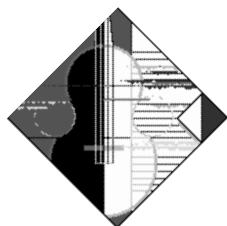
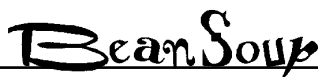
~ April, May & June ~

\*\* Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> - Kris Delmhorst \*\*

\*\* Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> Ellis Paul \*\*



P O Box 206  
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"To Bean or  
not to Bean...?"  
...is it really a question?



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"The mind is not a vessel to be filled  
but a fire to be kindled." - Plutarch