



TM

Updated Logo

Bean Soup

Entertainment & Stuff

#72

"To Bean or not to Bean...?"

Issue 18 Number 4

October - December 2014

Free*

New Website, Updated Logo, etc.

It was time. The old website had been up since 2002 and added to the point it was cumbersome and outdated. The same team that created the new websites for Dog Lane Cafe and 85 Main were retained to design our new site (Bottle Rocket Design - www.bottlerocketdesign.com). The same photographer was employed as well (Chip Riegel - www.chipriegel.com).

Some of the main design features implemented include easy access to the daily specials, a fully functional calendar that allows us to post upcoming concerts with information and links to artists pages, easy to access directions as well easy to find contact information. There are also links to our newsletter (the one you are reading), our mailing list and our store where you can purchase gift cards. You will also find that the menus are easy to access and read, including our

catering menu.

During the process of the website design, the logo was also updated and simplified. This new logo will slowly make its way onto every printed item we have, as well as on the many online resources that exist today (i.e. Yelp, Trip Advisor, etc.).



This year, our 25th in business, also saw more capital improvements throughout the restaurant; these include new tables in the dining room, new dining room chairs, refinished floors, refinished ceilings and new kitchen equipment. We also upgraded our electrical system so that we can easily

switch to a generator in the event of a power outage.

Throughout the years, we have always reinvested in our establishment to keep it new and fresh, we hope you like the changes and enjoy your time you spend in our restaurant(s).



The Wine Cellar @ 85 Main

This year, during the month of November, we will be renovating our downstairs function room at 85 Main. For the past 9 years we have been able to accommodate parties from 2 to 30 in this space that is under the main dining area of the restaurant. While we have done our best to make the room comfortable and festive we have always wanted it to be more of an overall experience. The idea to turn it into a wine cellar function room has been there since we started the restaurant in 2005. It is finally time to bring that idea to life. The design is finalized, the funding is in place and we will begin the process on November 2nd. We plan to finish the work by November 24th. If you would like to see what we will be creating, the plans are on display in the function room at 85 Main. This room will be available for private parties after Thanksgiving, call 85 Main for details - 860-928-1660.



Dog Lane Cafe - 2 Years Old

This December will mark the 2nd anniversary of our newest restaurant that is located in Storrs Connecticut, right next to UCONN. It has been a great 2 years, with a great reception from the people in the area, as well as from people who visit the area for work, education and business. Our managing partner, Steve Smith, has done a fantastic job of hiring, training and educating our staff so that we are able to fulfill on our offer in a timely and consistent manner. He is also a great ambassador for the restaurant and the surrounding area. If you haven't taken the time to visit the area recently, you will find that it has changed a lot. The town square across from our location at One Dog Lane was completed this year as well as all of the buildings surrounding it. All of the buildings will be fully occupied by year end. As the saying goes at Dog Lane; Come. Sit. Stay.



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but to add
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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



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..."

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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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October Entertainment

Friday - 3 - Open Mic



Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham - Feature - Heather Fay - is an Alt-country singer, songwriter and guitarist who chronicles her philosophies and adventures through honest songs with bright, delicate melodies and inventive lyrics. Each of her original tunes is rooted in raw emotion and unfolds a fresh plot that explores her personal perspectives on love, heartbreak, hope, endings, new beginnings and the complex human journey.

Saturday - 4 - SloGrass

The seeds of **SloGrass** were sewn in the summer of 1989 when Dave Dick, Mark Davis and Fran McConville started getting together once a week to play fiddle tunes for fun and a musical challenge. In the summer of 1993, Bob DiBiasio officially joined the band as its heartbeat on the standup bass. SloGrass plays a mix of vocal and instrumental songs, drawing on various traditions including Bluegrass, Blues, Jazz, Folk, American Songbook, Americana, World Music and a few originals. While our name implies a connection to Bluegrass music, we love all kinds. Roughly three quarters of their repertoire is other-than Bluegrass.



Friday - 10 - Hootenanny/Sessions

2014 marks the 5th anniversary of our monthly series, **Hootenanny/Sessions**. Hosted by Lisa Martin, the sessions bring audiences the chance to see some of the best local, regional and touring singer-songwriters. Intimate, in-the-round performances full of fun and spontaneity, are a hallmark of the series as well as the audience chosen "theme" that each songwriter has to incorporate into a newly crafted song for each show. Starting with the April 11th show, a Hootenanny will be added to each show and will be open to songwriters of all experience levels. Sign ups for the hoot will start at 6:30 pm and the show will begin promptly at 7:00 pm, with the hootenanny preceding the featured songwriters. The show will run until 9:00 pm.

"Great works are performed not by strength but by perseverance." - Samuel Johnson

VBC Review Quotables...


"Extremely Tasty" Food - New York Times


"Relaxed" Atmosphere - Boston Globe

"Truly Bizarre" Service - New London Day


October Entertainment

Saturday - 12 - Chelsea Berry & Matt Cusson


 "A voice of remarkable power and control with a joyous soul. Brave and bright, **Chelsea Berry** is the real thing." -Livingston Taylor 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." Born and raised in Alaska, she now makes her home on Boston's North Shore.

 **Matt Cusson**, an award-winning singer/songwriter and pianist, continues to wow audiences and prove that he is the real deal. He is a gifted self-taught musician who excels in jazz, pop, singer/songwriter and soul, as demonstrated by his expert writing and arranging skills on his critically acclaimed self-titled debut album of 2009. That same year, Matt won (by unanimous vote) the John Lennon Songwriting Contest's top annual prize – the Maxell Song of the Year – for his jazz ballad "One of Those Nights".

Saturday - 18 - Gail Wade Trio

 A strong guitarist and clawhammer banjo player with a rich and soulful voice, **Gail Wade** brings forth fresh renditions of folk, blues, old-time, bluegrass and swing favorites. Though steeped in the roots of American music, her diverse array of influences enable Gail to handle the transition from one musical genre to the next, with a fluidity that will foster a true appreciation of her talent. Her beautifully crafted original songs are certain to touch your heart. Whether she performs solo, or with her band, Gail's guitar work and wondrous voice combine to create an enchanting performance you'll not soon forget.

Saturday - 25 - Kate Callahan

 Nominated for a 2014 New England Music Award, **Kate Callahan**, Connecticut's "Best Singer-Songwriter 2013" has three albums including her recent release *Two Doors*, which was featured on WNPR's *Where We Live*. Callahan's music feels soulful and she's unapologetically optimistic in concert."Kate Callahan is the only performer I've ever seen who occasionally seems to be channeling something vaster and far more ancient than herself, something more easily understood by Emerson than by any modern person." -WNPR host Colin McEnroe

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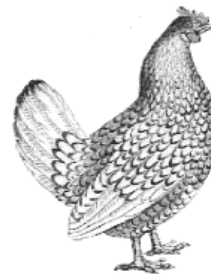
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November Entertainment

Saturday - 1 - The Fixins

The Fixins is a old timey trio performing Carter Family-Stephen Foster classics and the like (The Carter Family was a traditional American folk music group that recorded between 1927 and 1956. Their music had a profound impact on bluegrass, country, Southern Gospel, pop and rock musicians as well as on the U.S. folk revival of the 1960s). Mansfield residents Jen Beck and Ben Pauley craft vocal harmony over Ben's skilled guitar playing. David Hagan of Woodstock plays various mandolin family instruments and guitar.

Friday - 7 - Open Mic



Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham - Feature - Gianna Botticelli - is a singer - songwriter based in the Boston, Massachusetts area. A self taught guitarist, she began writing songs on various topics at the age of 14. Her music can be described as a unique blend of soft and expressive styles.

Saturday - 9 - Cindy Kallet & Grey Larsen

Cindy Kallet and Grey Larsen, each well-known and loved for their decades of music making, have spent much of the last decade in a joyful musical collaboration. Cindy is a superb singer, guitarist, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist. Grey is one of America's finest players of the Irish flute and tin whistle, as well as an accomplished singer and concertina, fiddle, piano and harmonium player. As composers each has contributed to the unique tapestry of contemporary folk and world music as it exists and flourishes in America today. Together, they weave songs and tunes of vibrant color and rich texture. Scott Alarik of *The Boston Globe* calls Cindy "...one of folk music's most respected songwriters... provocative, heart-wise, and original ...a brilliant guitarist...". Mike Joyce of the *Washington Post* calls Grey "... a gifted multi-instrumentalist who consistently demonstrates his melodic finesse," while *The New Mexico Daily* describes his playing as "positively spellbinding". Cindy and Grey have also appeared with host Andrea Seabrook on National Public Radio's "Weekend All Things Considered."

Friday - 14 - Hootenanny/Sessions

"It takes considerable knowledge just to realize the extent of your own ignorance."
- Thomas Sowell

November Entertainment

Saturday - 15 - Rebecca Loebe & Jenn Grinels

Rebecca Loebe is a young singer-songwriter who grew up in Atlanta and has done time in DC, Boston and New York, now making her home in Austin, TX. She is known for her distinct voice, well-crafted songs and ability to bring an audience to her journeys, introducing them to the characters she meets and observations she makes as she travels.



Jenn Grinels is the real, talented epitome of today's best indie music." - *The San Diego Reader*. From the beginning, Grinels has wowed critics, who praise her voice as "truly phenomenal" (*S.D. City-Beat*) and "jazzy in its pacing, soulful in its delivery, and heartfelt in its sensuous tone" (*Full Value Reviews*).



Saturday - 22 - Mark Mandeville & Raianne Richards

Mark Mandeville & Raianne Richards are a folk duo from Massachusetts whose songs resonate with the lover of Americana and old country music, commanding familiar traditional melodies and poignant, introspective lyrics, and backing them with delicate arrangements on ukulele, clarinet, guitar and banjo. They began in the basements, coffee shops and art spaces of New England, and have since tested the stages of more traditional folk music venues, colleges, living rooms and bar rooms from Boston to Austin, Denver to Nashville, Asheville to Portland, and back 'round again.



Sunday - 23 - Peter Mulvey

To **Peter Mulvey**, there is no such thing as a straight and narrow path. At least, not one that he has any interest in taking. A live-wire on any stage, Peter Mulvey is an acoustic singer/songwriter/guitarist who, in fact, defies this categorization. His ferocious guitar playing whisks him through more tunings than he has fingers in the course of an evening, as he winds his way from full-throated rockers to deceptively plain-spoken musings. Whether solo or with longtime musical collaborator David "Goody" Goodrich at his side (coaxing unearthly sounds out of electric guitars and mandolins), Mulvey is someone who just naturally commands a stage.



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Saturday - 29 - Donna Dufresne & Gypsy Romantique'

Donna Dufresne has been performing on stage as a singer since she made her debut at the age of three at the local Grange Hall. As a singer/songwriter, Donna has made a steady progression through music history, starting out with traditional folk songs and Celtic music and moving toward writing her own political satire and environmental songs. Her band **Gypsy Romantique'** features musicians who played on the album, who have studied and performed gypsy jazz, western swing, Latin, and the American Songbook in a multitude of bands. Get ready to take flight with Donna Dufresne as she livens up the stage with vintage costumes and a little theater while the musicians in Gypsy Romantique' provide the serious and complex arrangements that support the music.



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December Entertainment

Friday - 5 - Open Mic



Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham - Feature - That Dollars Gone - Peter Blair & Jo-Ann Cope are the the duo that will be the feature this month, playing acoustic covers from the 1960's and 1970's, with a mix of other newer material. This du can often be heard in Putnam near 85 Main & Bellas.

Saturday - 6 - Allendale Rose

Allendale Rose is a trio that formed in November of 2013 to focus on balladry and world folk music. The soaring harmonies of 16-year veteran folk duo Cece Borjeson and Ruth George are beautifully enhanced by Kevin "Anything With Strings" Gallagher. All multi-instrumentalists, their arrangements are textured and colored for a smorgasbord of sound... expect Americana, Balladry and Celtic songs. A typical show will include guitars, mandolin, dobro, bass, banjo, bodhran, pennywhistle, harmonica, maracas, castanets, bird calls and any silly thing they can squeeze music out of. Every performance is peppered with some history and lots of humor. Sing-alongs and shout-alongs are all part of the fun.



Friday - 12 - Hootenanny/Sessions

Saturday - 13 - Karen Savõca with Pete Heitzman

Grit and sensitivity. Percussion and groove. **Karen Savoca and Pete Heitzman** are sinuous as two skaters gliding on ice as they play across soul, r&b, roots and world rhythms, conjuring a communion between audience and stage. Karen Savõca pours her heart into a song the way a great actor throws herself into a role. Her songs draw you into a world of humor and compassion, shared with grace and ease, as though you've been invited to her table for supper. Pete Heitzman, a Syracuse native, was playing in clubs at the age of fifteen. He carved out a reputation as an ace guitarist capable of playing many styles, touring across the country with a variety of bands. *Acoustic Guitar* magazine calls Heitzman "A true virtuoso of groove, with a sly touch that, combined with Savoca's in-the-pocket drumming and spectacularly soulful vocals, gives the duo the impact of a four-piece band." Karen and Pete toured extensively with Greg Brown, who said of her, "If she were a Native American, her name would be Sings Like Two Birds."



December Entertainment

Saturday - 20 - Atwater Donnelly

Aubrey Atwater and Elwood Donnelly, the highly acclaimed husband-wife duo 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 includes humor, audience participation, and a relaxed stage presence and is appealing to all ages.



Holiday Hours

Thanksgiving

Wednesday, November 26th - 7:00 am- 3:00 pm

Thursday, November 27th - Closed

Christmas

Wednesday, December 24th - 8:00 am- 3:00 pm

Thursday, December 25th - Closed

Wednesday, December 31st - 8:00 am- 3:00 pm

New Year's Day

Thursday, January 1st, 2015 - 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

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- Audrey Hepburn

"If music be the food of love, play on."
- William Shakespeare



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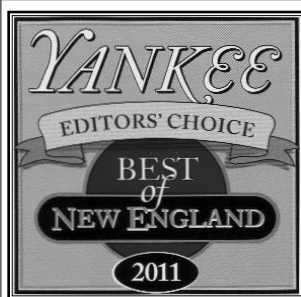
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- John Steinbeck



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*"Where words fail, music speaks."
- Hans Christian Andersen*

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www.redtwigarden.com • email: Redtwig@sbcglobal.net

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 recent items like Fishcake Benedict, Basil Feta Omelet, and Artichoke 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 Ravioli, Garden Vegetable Risotto, Steak Medallions and Shitake & Arugula 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.

October - Laureen Hylka

November - Nancy McGrath

December - Quilts ☺

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

Classes for
adults & kids
in
painting, drawing,
mixed media



1 mile from the Vanilla Bean

Gilly Gordon 974-1140

Our Pricing Practices

1. Sales Tax Included - Our prices include the 6.35% Connecticut Sales Tax. The prices listed on the menu are exactly what you pay. Our prices november seem to be inflated; however, a \$10.00 menu item is actually \$9.40 + \$.60 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?

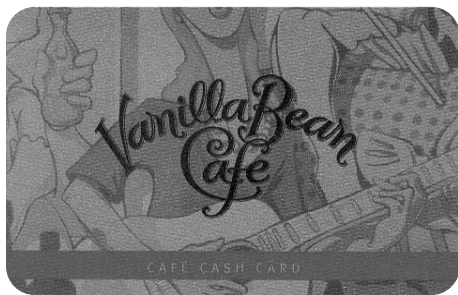
2. Not Market Standard Pricing - We are not trying to fool the customer into thinking that \$9.95 is less expensive than \$10.00. We find this type of pricing insulting to our customers. However, the reason it is used so extensively around the nation is that it works effectively. We don't like that practice, and we also like to believe that our clientele is not so easily fooled.

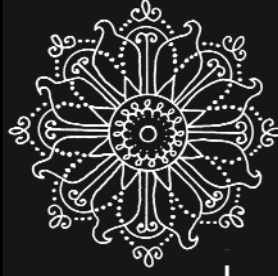
3. No Pennies, Dimes or Nickels - Because our prices include tax and we do not price in the standard way, we do not have to use pennies, dimes or nickels. This is a service to both the customer and to us. We don't give you lots of change, and we only have to use quarters and fifty-cent pieces. This also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

"You can search throughout the entire universe for someone who is more deserving of your love and affection than you are yourself, and that person is not to be found anywhere. You yourself, as much as anybody in the entire universe deserve your love and affection." - Buddha

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 november be purchased in any amount at the restaurant or online and are reloadable - add to the card balance at any time! Cards november be used to purchase any menu item at Vanilla Bean Cafe. 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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860-974-2392

"What lies behind you and what lies in front of you, pales in comparison to what lies inside of you."

- Ralph Waldo Emerson



Live at the Bean

CD Compilation

\$10.00

Get One Today!

"Music is the shorthand of emotion." - Leo Tolstoy

"The meaning of life is contained in every single expression of life. It is present in the infinity of forms and phenomena that exist in all of creation" . - Michael Jackson

DR. MURRAY BUTTNER

Quiet Corner Family Practice



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697 Pomfret Street (Rt. 169) • Pomfret, CT

Just around the corner from the Vanilla Bean

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



All shows start at 8:00 pm unless otherwise noted

- | | | | |
|--|-------------------|--|-------------------|
| ● Friday October 3rd
Open Mic - Heather Fay | 7:30 pm - \$5.00 | ● Saturday November 15th
Rebecca Loebe & Jenn Grinels | - \$10.00 |
| ● Saturday October 4th
SloGrass | - \$12.00 | ● Saturday November 22nd
Mark Mandeville & Raianne Richards | - \$10.00 |
| ● Saturday October 11th
Chelsea Berry & Matt Cusson | - \$12.00 | ● Sunday November 23rd
Peter Mulvey | 7:00 pm - \$15.00 |
| ● Friday October 17th
Hootenanny/Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts | 7:00 pm - \$5.00 | ● Saturday November 29th
Donna Dufresne & Gypsy Romantique' | - \$10.00 |
| ● Saturday October 18th
Gail Wade Trio | - \$15.00 | ● Friday December 5th
Open Mic - That Dollars Gone | 7:30 pm - \$5.00 |
| ● Saturday October 25th
Kate Callahan | - \$12.00 | ● Saturday December 6th
Allendale Rose | - \$12.00 |
| ● Saturday November 1st
The Fixins | 7:30 pm - \$10.00 | ● Friday December 12th
Hootenanny/Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts | 7:00 pm - \$5.00 |
| ● Friday November 7th
Open Mic - Gianna Botticelli | - \$5.00 | ● Saturday December 13th
Karen Savōca & Pete Heitzman | - \$15.00 |
| ● Saturday November 8th
Cindy Kallet & Grey Larsen | - \$15.00 | ● Saturday December 20th
Atwater Donnelly | - \$15.00 |
| ● Friday November 14th
Hootenanny/Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts | 7:00 pm - \$5.00 | | |

Call ahead, shows are subject to change

Credit Cards not accepted for Admission

WiFi available in Dining Room



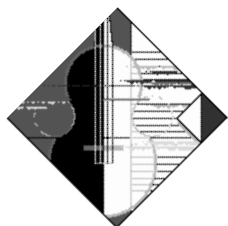
P O Box 206
Pomfret CT 06258



2014 ... What's Happening at The Bean ... 2014
~ October, November & December ~



** Saturday - November 8th - Cindy Kallet & Grey Larsen **
** Sunday - November 23rd - Peter Mulvey **



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



The Vanilla Bean Café

Connecticut's Best Country Café

~ Yankee Magazine - Editors' Choice ~



Daily Specials
on your
smart phone



Calendar Listings
on your
smart phone