



TM

New  
Logo

# Bean Soup

## Entertainment & Stuff

#73

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

Issue 19 Number 1

January - March 2015

Free\*

### The Wine Cellar at 85 Main

The Wine Cellar at 85 Main is now open. The downstairs function room at 85 Main was completely renovated last November and is now available for private parties, business meetings, special events and regular dining when not booked for a private party.

If you had ever been in the basement function room before, you knew it was just that, but the staff were always very good at making it a comfortable room for every party. We have always wanted to enhance the ambiance of that space and to be able to use the room at any time of the day or night. As it was, that wasn't always the case.

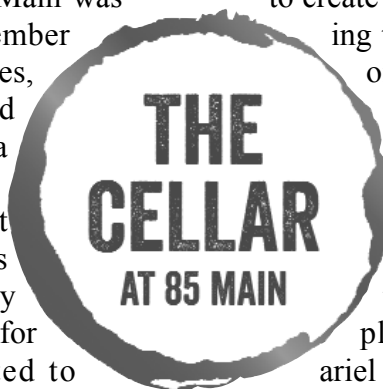
The idea for this transformation came about 10 years ago when 85 Main opened, but the resources were just not there to make that a possibility. At that time the mindset was 'just get it opened.' Back then, it was new carpeting, new lights and paint along with some other small changes and it was great for what it was at the time.

The overall idea with the recent remodeling was to create a space that was unique, warm and inviting that could be used at any time of the day or night, and at the same time create a special environment with an old wine cellar theme.

Now the room has had a complete transformation. Everything is new, from the floor to the ceiling, from the furniture to the artwork, and the result is simply beautiful. The room also features 3 ariel photographs of Connecticut wineries by Leslie Sweetnam. Someone has already told us that the space reminds them of a place they were in Rome. Mission accomplished.

The room will also be used for special Chef Table nights, Wine Parings, and look for a Chocolate and Wine paring night in February.

There is also a 'special' wine list that has been curated just for the Cellar! It will be an ever changing wine list as we seek out interesting and limited edition wines that will pair well with our food.



### Ellis Paul - Family Concert - Sunday January 11<sup>th</sup> - 4:00 pm

Parents' Choice selected Ellis Paul's acclaimed new family music CD, *The Hero in You*, for a Gold Award, its top honors. Calling it "an inspired family album with execution to match," Parents' Choice reviewer Lynne Heffley lauds Ellis' "vivid musical profiles of men and women whose words, actions, inventions and art made a profound difference to countless lives." Known for his deeply felt and socially conscious songwriting, often about heroes, Ellis Paul was inspired by his own two growing daughters and four years of performing for families to write about people who contributed something to the world through their work and art. "Ellis is one of our best human compasses, marking in melodies and poems where we've been and where we might go if we so choose to." ~ Nora Guthrie. Join us for an afternoon of fun and good music for the whole family. *Please Note* - there will be an adult show at 7:00 pm that same day.



### Open New Year's Day - 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

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wits to grow  
sharper."*

- Bertrand  
Russell

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\*We may close early during colder months.

†Entertainment night -  
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**Web site:** [www.TheVanillaBeanCafe.com](http://www.TheVanillaBeanCafe.com)

**E-mail:** [ask@thevanillabeancafe.com](mailto:ask@thevanillabeancafe.com)

**Address:** **450 Deerfield Road**  
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**Phone:** **860-928-1562**

**Music Booking:** **Maria Sangiolo**  
[maria@thevanillabeancafe.com](mailto:maria@thevanillabeancafe.com)

**Art Booking:** **Kayla Murphy**  
[kayla@thevanillabeancafe.com](mailto:kayla@thevanillabeancafe.com)

**Bean Soup Ads:** **Barry Jessurun**  
[barry@thevanillabeancafe.com](mailto:barry@thevanillabeancafe.com)

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



Compiled by Hilary Kasek  
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..."

"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."

### Recipient University of Connecticut's Nozko Family Business Leadership Award

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- Margaret Mead



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## January Entertainment

### Friday - 9 - Hootenanny/Sessions

2015 marks the 6th anniversary of our monthly series, **Hootenanny/Songwriter 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. A Hootenanny will begin each show and will be open to songwriters of all experience levels. Signups 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.

### Saturday - 10 - Wade Elliot Band

The Vanilla Bean Cafe is happy to present the return of hometown Pomfret based musicians **The Wade Elliott Band**. With their diverse mix of original music ranging from folk, rock, blues and a little country along with a few familiar covers, they are always a crowd pleaser. Their song's lyrics are substantive and homespun, reflecting years of life's experiences. The band brings together creative melodies and chorus hooks and has a great live sound with searing guitar licks, rock-solid drum techniques and tasteful keyboard. Their first album entitled, "Ride This Town", was a part time project and a labor of love for the entire band. The Band has just completed their second album of entirely original songs entitled "New Tricks." CDs are available for purchase at the show.



### Sunday - 11 - 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.



## January Entertainment

### Saturday - 17 - Ron Anthony & Denny Collin

**Ron Anthony** and **Denny Collin** are among the finest roots performers on the CT acoustic scene today. They're known as "musicians' musicians" with great songs played with superb craft. Ron Anthony is a Connecticut acoustic treasure with his wonderful original songs, steeped in blues, folk and country, coupled with a driving guitar. Ron represented CT at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, TN, after winning the Connecticut Blues Society competition for Best Solo Blues Artist. Denny Collin is a wonder in his own right, backing Ron for a sound that's much more than the sum of its parts, and breaking out with solo work that's beautifully accomplished on its own.



### Saturday - 24 - Griff Tones

The **Griff Tones** are Pomfret School's premiere performing ensemble and serve as the ambassador to the outside community and alumni. The Griff Tones are an ensemble of soloists, expressing their individual creativity while respecting the creativity of others, compromising when necessary and listening as well as being heard.



### Saturday - 31 -

### Maria Sangiolo & Anne Belliveau

**Maria Sangiolo** has been writing and performing music for over 25 years. Maria was the artist selected (two times!) to receive the Parents' Choice award. She has been the recipient of two grants - one from the CT CT Commission on Culture and Tourism and another from the Club Passim's (Cambridge) Iguana Fund. Her musical career has spanned more than two decades, enriching her fans' lives with both her original and her interpreted music. Maria's songs are honest, joyful and earth-centered and all sung from her young-at-heart muse.

An innovator in the field of inspirational music, **Akasha Anne Belliveau** is a singer, songwriter,



harpist and sacred sound artist who stands at the meeting place of music and transformation. In song or in chant, Anne's voice seems to find your heart and then sing the beauty of it back to you in celebration.

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## February Entertainment

### Friday - 6 - Open Mic



**Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham Feature - Meredith Rose** - is a Lush and melodic indie-acoustic singer/songwriter based out of Connecticut. She is an avid songwriter whose passion is music and she performs as much as possible.

### Saturday - 7 -

### Howie Bursen & Friends

### Benefit for NE CT Food Bank

An annual event since the early 1990's. **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 frailed 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.



### Friday - 13 - Hootenanny/Sessions

### Saturday - 14 - Jon Searles Rebel in the Morning

**Jon Searles** is a Brooklyn, CT native. He's currently studying at Berklee School of Music in Boston and is making music under two different projects; Rebel In The Morning, and Radd Pitt. A graduate of Woodstock Academy Class of 2013, Jon Searles played major roles in theatrical productions, including Gaston, in Beauty and the Beast. He was also a member of the Hillsingers and is pursuing a career in music. Welcome back to Northeast CT Jon!



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## February Entertainment

### Saturday - 21 - 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.



### Saturday - 28 - Martin Grosswendt & Susanne Salem-Schatz

**Martin Grosswendt** is an extraordinary instrumentalist and powerful singer who covers a wide range of American roots music and is particularly well known as an interpreter of the country blues of the 20's and 30's. His performances encompass the breadth and depth of American roots music, from classic Delta and East Coast blues, to early country music of the 20's and 30s from the upland South, to Creole and Cajun music from Southwest Louisiana.

**Susanne Salem-Schatz** has taken her strong sense of harmony to a number of Roots and Americana bands in the Boston area, beginning in the 80's with the country swing/bluegrass outfit, Western Union. She currently shares the vocal duties with singing partner Martin Grosswendt in the roots country and western swing band Honky Tonk Masquerade, where their duet singing has received rave reviews. With vocal training across several genres, Susanne brings a remarkable range to her vocals, moving easily from singing sweet traditional harmonies to belting out jazz standards. As a duo, Susanne and Martin lend their considerable musical sensibilities to create dynamic and moving arrangements of songs old and new. More than ever, Susanne is convinced that there really is nothing better than making music with your friends.



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## March Entertainment

### Friday - 6 - Open Mic



**Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham** -  
**Feature - Shawn Taylor** - With a thumping thumb,  
dancing fingers, wailing harp, deep gritty soul stir-  
ring vocals and poetic blue collar lyrics, Taylor's  
songs ooze American roots.

### Saturday - 7 - Cashel Rock

**Cashel Rock** is a fluid configuration of friends and  
musicians from CT's northeast corner who lead a



great evening of singa-  
longs 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 listen-  
ing to them a great occasion."

### Friday - 13 - Hootenanny/Sessions

### Saturday - 14 - Don White

If you laugh and cry within the same ten minutes, you  
either need a vacation or you are sitting in the audi-  
ence at a **Don White** show. This working



class family man from Lynn, MA has  
emerged as the thoughtful songwriter of the  
decade whose relevance to our lives is evi-  
denced by the powerful reaction he evokes  
at every concert. Radio audiences, too, are not safe  
from the Don White experience. Valerie Adams of  
WNCS Radio, VT said, "I've never seen anything  
like it. Every time I play 'I Know What Love Is' the  
phones light up like a Christmas tree. "...there is an  
honesty and self-deprecating wit in his material that  
is an immediate tonic." - *The Boston Herald*

### Saturday - 21 - Atwater Donnelly

**Aubrey Atwater and Elwood Donnelly**, the highly  
acclaimed husband-wife duo present delightful pro-



grams of traditional American and  
Celtic folk songs, a capella pieces, old-  
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original works. Elwood and Aubrey  
blend gorgeous and unusual harmonies  
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spoons, limberjacks, and other surprises including  
Appalachian clog dancing, French Canadian foot-  
work, and Tap. Their performance includes humor,  
audience participation, and a relaxed stage presence  
and is appealing to all ages.



## March Entertainment

### Saturday - 28 - Seth Glier

Despite his relatively young age, Massachusetts based singer/songwriter/pianist/guitarist **Seth Glier** is a seasoned troubadour. Averaging over 250+ live performances annually Seth has gone from opening act to headlining his own shows and playing major folk festivals. He's shared the stage with artists as diverse as James Taylor, Ani DiFranco, Martin Sexton, Emmylou Harris and Ryan Adams and has quickly become known for his passionate live sets. His music has also caught the ears of fans, industry and critics alike with *USA Today* stating that his "exquisite tenor echoes Bruce Springsteen and Billy Joel." The incredible acclaim on his sophomore record, *The Next Right Thing*, led to the single "Lauralee" hitting #1 on Clear Channel's NEW! Discover & Uncover program as well as a Grammy nomination, a first for both himself and his New York based label, MPress Records. His third album on MPress Records, "Things I Should Let You Know" is steeped in all the most gorgeous aspects of Americana, folk, blues, pop and soul, it encompasses telling its own story, weaving tales of love, pain and epic self-realization from a young man coming into his own.



### Sunday - 29 - Garnet Rogers

**Garnet Rogers** has established himself as one of the major talents of our time. Hailed by the Boston Globe as a "charismatic performer and singer," Garnet is a man with a powerful physical presence and a voice to match. His "smooth, dark baritone" - Washington Post, incredible range, and thoughtful, dramatic phrasing make his music literate, passionate, highly sensitive, and deeply purposeful. Cinematic in detail, his songs "give expression to the unspoken vocabulary of the heart" (Kitchener Waterloo Record). He sings extraordinary songs about people who are not obvious heroes and of the small victories of the everyday. Garnet moves his audience from tears to laughter and back again with his songs, humor and lightning-quick wit. "Garnet Rogers is capable of awe-inspiring and unpredictable stuff - and that includes more than just music."



*"Literature adds to reality, it does not simply describe it. It enriches the necessary competencies that daily life requires and provides; and in this respect, it irrigates the deserts that our lives have already become."* - C. S. Lewis

*"Food should be fun."* - Thomas Keller

Lori McDermott



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All of our menu prices **include** 6.35% CT Sales Tax.

*"All major religious traditions carry basically the same message, that is love, compassion and forgiveness the important thing is they should be part of our daily lives."*

- Dalai Lama

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

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*"I think its so cool that you can pick up the guitar and create something that didn't exist 5 minutes ago. You can write something that no ones ever heard before. You have music at your fingertips."*

*- Michelle Branch*



## The Vanilla Bean Café

*Connecticut's*

*Best Country Café*

*"Where words fail, music speaks."*

*- Hans Christian Andersen*

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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 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.

**January - Cindy Smith-Bilbro**

**February - Tom Sayers**

**March - Sarah Brenner** ☕

## 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! Password: *goodfood* ☕

**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.

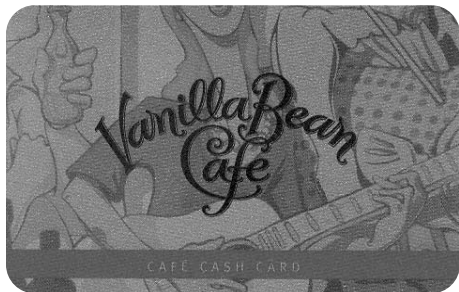


*"To enjoy good health, to bring true happiness to one's family, to bring peace to all, one must first discipline and control one's own mind. If a man can control his mind he can find the way to Enlightenment, and all wisdom and virtue will naturally come to him."*

- 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 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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*"I think it's healthy for a person to be nervous. It means you care - that you work hard and want to give a great performance. You just have to channel that nervous energy into the show".*

- Beyonce Knowles



**Live at the Bean**

**CD Compilation**

**\$10.00**

**Get One Today!**

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

*"Music in the soul can be heard by the universe." - Lao Tzu*

**DR. MURRAY BUTTNER**

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**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 January 2<sup>nd</sup> - No Open Mic**
- **Saturday January 3<sup>rd</sup> - No Show**
- **Friday January 9<sup>th</sup>** 7:00 pm - \$5.00  
Hootenanny/Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts
- **Saturday January 10<sup>th</sup>** - \$10.00  
Wade Elliot Band
- **Sunday January 11<sup>th</sup>** 4:00 pm - \$5.00  
Ellis Paul - Family Concert
- **Sunday January 11<sup>th</sup>** 7:00 pm - \$20.00  
Ellis Paul
- **Saturday January 17<sup>th</sup>** - \$10.00  
Ron Anthony & Denny Collin
- **Saturday January 24<sup>th</sup>** - \$10.00  
Griff Tones
- **Saturday January 31<sup>st</sup>** - \$15.00  
Maria Sangiolo & Anne Belliveau
- **Friday February 6<sup>th</sup>** 7:30 pm - \$5.00  
Open Mic - Meredith Rose
- **Saturday February 7<sup>th</sup>** - \$20.00  
Howie Bursen & Friends Benefit  
Food Bank Benefit Concert
- **Friday February 13<sup>th</sup>** 7:00 pm - \$10.00  
Hootenanny/Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts

- **Saturday February 14<sup>th</sup>** - \$10.00  
Jon Searles - Rebel in the Morning
- **Saturday February 21<sup>st</sup>** - \$15.00  
Delta Generators
- **Saturday February 28<sup>th</sup>** - \$12.00  
Martin Grosswendt  
& Susanne Salem-Schatz
- **Friday March 6<sup>th</sup>** 7:30 pm - \$5.00  
Open Mic - Shawn Taylor
- **Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup>** - \$12.00  
Cashel Rock
- **Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>** 7:00 pm - \$5.00  
Hootenanny/Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts
- **Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup>** - \$15.00  
Don White
- **Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup>** - \$15.00  
Atwater Donnelly
- **Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup>** - \$15.00  
Seth Glier
- **Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup>** 7:00 pm - \$20.00  
Garnet Rogers

Cash or Check Only for show Admissions

Call ahead, shows are subject to change

WiFi available in Dining Room



P O Box 206  
Pomfret CT 06258

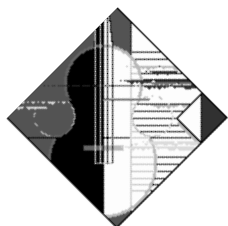


2015 ... What's Happening at The Bean ... 2015  
~ January, February & March ~



\*\* Sunday - January 11<sup>th</sup> - Ellis Paul \*\*

\*\* Saturday - March 29<sup>th</sup> - Garnet Rogers \*\*



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



**The Vanilla Bean Café**  
*Connecticut's Best Country Café*  
~ Yankee Magazine - Editors' Choice ~



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Calendar Listings  
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Good  
Whole FOOD**

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