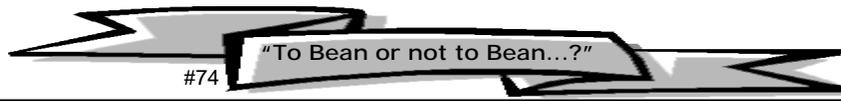




# Bean Soup

## Entertainment & Stuff



Issue 19 Number 2

April - June 2015

Free\*

### Our Sister Restaurant - 85 Main - Celebrating 10 Years in June

June 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the 10 year anniversary of our sister restaurant in Putnam. Opening with style ten years ago, **85 Main** featured a Raw Bar and was described as a New American Fusion restaurant.

In 2009, the bar area was expanded, creating a space two times the size of the original bar and large enough to accommodate a growing number of customers choosing to drink and dine in the bar.

The new area featured a sushi bar designed in consultation with Chef Osaki who was our sushi chef for a number of years. The **85 Main** sushi menu added a new dimension, flavors and beautiful creations to our existing menu offerings.

**85 Main** was the producer of the Shuck-Off Oyster and Shellfish event. Celebrated at **85 Main** for the first two years, the event grew in popularity and was moved to Rotary Park the third and fourth year. With attendance at more than 3,000 people during the 4th annual celebra-

tion, the event highlighted our restaurant and the Putnam area to local and out of town customers.

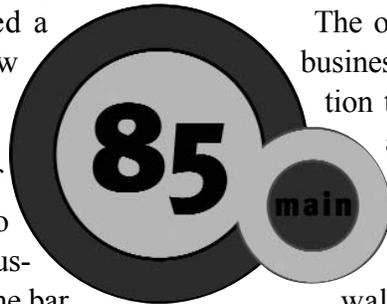
The outside patio area, added in front of several businesses including **85 Main**, has brought attention to the restaurant and to the downtown area and helped make Putnam a destination!

Last year, **85 Main** renovated the downstairs function room. This new room is now a wine cellar function room with stone walls and exposed wine storage and will be used for functions as well as for additional seating.

Some of the events that have been held in the new space include, a chocolate and wine pairing evening, Tapas nights, wine dinners and chef's tables.

A lot has changed since 2005 in the town of Putnam and **85 Main** is proud to be a part of the revitalization of this old mill town. Visit **85 Main** in Putnam and see what they have been up to to create a truly

exceptional dining experience in Putnam. Good things are happening in Putnam!



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### Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> - Eric Taylor Live at Pomfret Audubon Center

Songs interwoven with spoken word to mesmerizing effect. "Eric Taylor writes from a place deep inside, and the images he creates get under your skin. They can take you places. What you do with what you might learn there is up to you . . . but I have no doubt you'll be richer for the experience." - Larry Looney



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- William J.H. Boetcker

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\*We may close early during colder months.

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

*"The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity."*  
- Amelia Earhart

**Bean Soup**

is an information and entertainment newsletter.

Compiled by Barry Jessurun  
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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## Our Sister Restaurant



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- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

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- Socrates

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- shing xiong

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## April Entertainment

### Friday - 3 - Open Mic



**Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham - Feature - Reed Foehl** - Reed Foehl began discovering the seeds of his own talent as a young teenager, playing on the streets of Boston, beneath the grasshopper weather vane at Faneuil Hall.

### Saturday - 4 - Stacy Phillips & Paul Howard Duet

Stacy Phillips is an internationally acclaimed resonator guitarist and violin player. He has performed with the top acoustic musicians over the world. He has three solo albums and is featured artist on the Grammy award-winning album *The Great Dobro Sessions*. Stacy is the author of over 25 books and DVD's on various aspects of his chosen instruments. **Stacy Phillips and Paul Howard Duet** is an acoustic duet playing Americana and original music (from jazz and originals to Caribbean and Hawaiian).



### Friday - 10 - 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 - 11 - Tony Memmel

**Tony Memmel** is a songwriter and performer with unique charisma and creativity. Though he was born missing his left forearm, he taught himself to play the guitar by constructing a self-made cast out of Gorilla Tape that secures a guitar pick to his arm. With powerful, personal lyrics and well-crafted melodies, his music stands alone. Memmel often says, "I don't want to be a good guitarist with one hand, I want to be a great guitarist and songwriter, period." Applying this attitude to his craft earned him the 2013 WAMI Award for Singer-Songwriter of the year.



## April Entertainment

### Saturday - 18 - Kala Farnham

**Kala Farnham** began her musical journey at the young age of three, when she learned the theme to Close Encounters of the Third Kind on a toy piano. By age seven, she was gracing the stage playing Mozart concertos and Chopin nocturnes. In high school she established herself as a working musician,



regularly accompanying schools' theatrical productions; in college, she furthered her studies in music technology, composition, and jazz. Since then, daily musical creativity has been the defining factor of Kala's life. "Kala is a performer not to be missed. The delicate beauty of her vocals and piano playing will leave a lasting impression." - Borders Books & Music

### Saturday - 25 - Andrew McKnight

Since permanently leaving his corporate environmental engineering career, award-winning folk and Americana artist **Andrew McKnight's** musical journey has traced over half a million miles of blue highways, and earned him a wealth of critical acclaim and enthusiastic fans for his captivating performances and seven recordings. While no stranger to elite stages like the Kennedy Center, the Rocky Mountain Folks Festival or the Katharine Hepburn Theater, McKnight's music seems to spread most rapidly through many of the diverse causes that have embraced his music over the years. "Stretching across the landscape of American folk music is a highway paved by Guthrie and Dylan... now Virginia native Andrew McKnight takes his turn smoothing down the blacktop" - *Performing Songwriter*



### Sunday - 26 - Eric Taylor at Pomfret Audubon Center

People have been talking about Eric Taylor and his songs since the early 1970s, when he was an integral part of a Houston songwriting scene that included Townes Van Zandt, Steve Earle, and Guy Clark. Taylor is one of the most influential songwriters to ever come out of Texas. Over the years, as his reputation and song catalogue have grown, he has had a profound effect on the evolution and development of such well-known Texas artists as Nanci Griffith, Lyle Lovett, Robert Earl Keen, and others. This is a 7:00 pm show at the Pomfret Audubon Center at 218 Day Road in Pomfret Center. Call 860-928-4948 for info.



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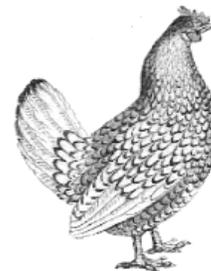
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- Brian Tracy

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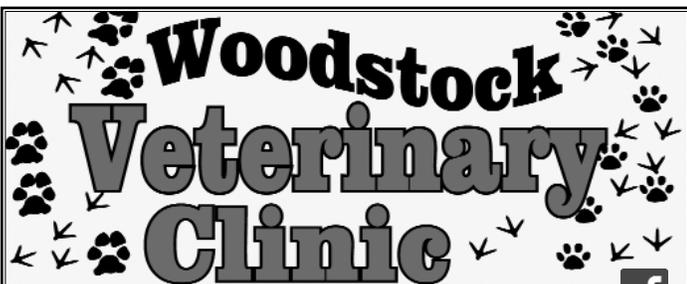
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## May Entertainment

### Friday - 1 - Open Mic



**Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham - Feature - Andy & Judy** - Andy and Judy Daigle have been singing together since 2009. Their musical interests range from "old-timey" traditional songs right through the folk music stalwarts such as, John Prine, Bob Dylan, and Townes Van Zandt.

### Saturday - 2 - Low Lilly

**Low Lilly** (formally Annalivia) is an American 'roots and branches' string-band which draws from tradition and today to create their own brand of new acoustic folk music. The members of Annalivia - Liz Simmons, Flynn Cohen, and Lissa Schneckenburger - are all masterful players and have long histories with traditional music, ranging from bluegrass to Irish, Scottish, New England and Old Time Appalachian music. This background, combined with each member's stellar compositional skills and cutting edge arranging chops, makes for music which sounds rooted yet contemporary. Folk and string-band enthusiasts alike will be drawn in by the expert vocals and songwriting, excellent musicianship, and innovative approach. The members of Low Lilly are seasoned musicians and have individually toured and performed with the likes of Ruth Moody, Cathie Ryan, John Whelan, Aoife Clancy, among others.



### Friday - 8 - Hootenanny/Sessions

### Saturday - 9 -

### Atwater Donnelly Trio

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. A truly exciting development in the Atwater-Donnelly history is the Atwater-Donnelly Trio. Joining Aubrey and Elwood is **Cathy Clasper-Torch**, a remarkable fiddler, cellist and vocalist who, in a word, blends.



## May Entertainment

### Saturday - 16 - Britt Connors & Bourbon Renewal

Singer/Songwriter **Britt Connors** (formerly Britt Sawdon) blends blues, folk, and country with jazz voicings and pop sensibilities. For the past decade, Britt has been honing her craft as a songwriter while building a loyal following and performing at some of the top venues in the Boston area, including the Beehive, Regattabar, and to sold-out audiences at the legendary Sculler's and Johnny D's. **Bourbon Renewal** is Britt's working band, a tight ensemble well-steeped in a wide range of American music. Members are some of Boston's most in-demand musicians.



### Saturday - 23 - The Meadows Brothers

Ian and Dustin Meadows, 21 and 19, visualized **The Meadows Brothers** as a manifestation of their lifelong love of folk music, songwriting, old instruments, live performance, and high energy showmanship. The boys paid their dues playing electrified rock all over New England in teen revival band, sayWHAT?, during which their songwriting began developing, their musicianship improved, and they became accustomed to the merciless grind of the music biz. After playing at a few high school coffeehouses accompanied by only an acoustic guitar, they made it official, and started playing shows together; classic "sibling harmonies" blending with well worn acoustic guitars.



### Saturday - 30 - Joel Cage

Joel Cage is an award winning veteran singer/songwriter from Boston. Once a 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 2 decades. He has performed at some of the most prestigious folk & acoustic venues & festivals in the country, including the Kerrville Folk Festival in Texas where he was awarded top prize in the Kerrville New Folk 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.



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*"Love begins with a smile, grows with a kiss, ends with a tear. When you were born, you were crying and everyone around you was smiling. Live your life so that when you die, you're the one smiling and everyone around you is crying."*  
- Unknown

### VBC Review Quotables...

**"Extremely Tasty" Food** - *New York Times*  
**"Relaxed" Atmosphere** - *Boston Globe*  
**"Truly Bizarre" Service** - *New London Day*

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- Calvin Coolidge

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## June Entertainment

### Friday - 5 - Open Mic



**Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham - Feature - Alec Chambers** - Born in a small town in Connecticut, Alec Chambers began displaying his musical prowess at a very young age. When he was just 12 years old, Alec used YouTube to teach himself guitar, and soon discovered his ability to understand chord charts and play his favorite songs by ear. Now, Alec is an immensely talented multi-instrumentalist and vocalist who writes his own music and lyrics.

### Saturday - 6 - Carolyn Waters

**Carolyn Waters** is a performing singing/songwriter who fuses blues/roots/folk and other musical genres into a unique unforgettable blend of songs and sounds. "Carolyn's music is hypnotic, in a deeply soulful groove. You've heard it said that pure music seems to "flow" through a great singer? Go hear Carolyn to experience the real thing" - Pete and Maura Kennedy, The Kennedys. Carolyn can belt out barrelhouse and juke joint blues, or fuse them with a pinch of Gospel and roots. She has been featured in the Boston Blues Society's Ladies Sing the Blues Events where she shared the stage with the late great Shirley Lewis "Regal Queen of the Blues", Lydia Warren, Lisa Marie and the wonderful Diane Blue to name a few.



### Friday - 12 - Hootenanny/Sessions

### Saturday - 13 - Nine6teen Benefit Concert

**Nine6teen** is a Pomfret-based band featuring music that ranges from bluegrass to Badfinger and 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. Benefit Concert for Deary Memorial Cancer Fund. Advance tickets are available at WINY, Longmeadow Automotive and The Vanilla Bean Café. This is always an enjoyable night of fun and entertainment.



## June Entertainment

### Saturday - 20 - Oakes and Smith

**Oakes and Smith** perform gentle, acoustic folk with voices blending in close harmonies. They sing soothing and soulful tunes inspired by nature, love, spirit, art and poetry. The harmonious blend of their voices creates an ethereal sound and unique quality not often heard in today's popular music, and their songs evoke a sense of wonder, expressing themes such as love, beauty, innocence and mystery. Their debut album, *First Flight*, mixed by Grammy-winning engineer Oz Fritz and released in November 2013, has been received warmly by listeners and critics alike. "...a beautiful folk effort with lush, multi-instrumental arrangements and stunning melodies in their vocal duets." - Brian Lion, *Under the Gun Review*



### Saturday - 27 - Alex Smith

**Alex Smith** grew up in Long Lake, in the heart of New York's Adirondack Park, and his music strives first and foremost to echo the people of that area. He builds songs from a blend of traditional folk harmony and strikingly modern lyrics, confronting today's most pressing issues with grace while paying homage to the masters who came before him. Sarah Craig, director of the legendary Caffe Lena in Saratoga Springs, NY, calls Smith "A natural storyteller with a rich voice who is creating poignant songs rooted in the heritage of his Adirondack home," while Country Music News International's Bob Everhart says he is "a wonderful, poetic writer who captures words full of meaning, matching them with creative music that creeps quietly into the past at the same time as dancing with the present and sneaking a peek at the future." "Alex is a wonderful poetic writer who captures words full of meaning, matching them with creative music that creeps quietly into the past at the same time as dancing with the present and sneaking a peek at the future." - Bob Everhart - *Country Music News International*



"It's like *Forrest Gump* said, 'Life is like a box of chocolates.' Your career is like a box of chocolates - you never know what you're going to get. But everything you get is going to teach you something along the way and make you the person you are today. That's the exciting part - it's an adventure in itself." - Nick Carter

"Food should be fun." - Thomas Keller

Lori McDermott



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

"I always knew looking back on the tears would make me laugh, but I never knew looking back on the laughs would make me cry." - Unknown

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



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*"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around."*

*- Leo Buscaglia*



## 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.

**April - NECT Art Guild**

**May - Marney Lawton**

**June - Eli Cidrone** ☺

## 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?

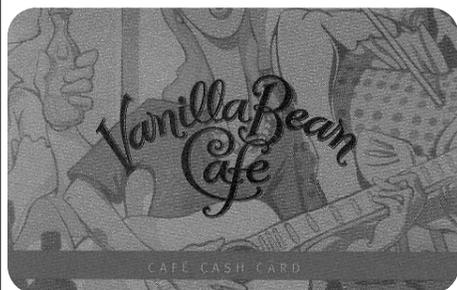
**2. Not Market Standard Pricing** - We are not trying to fool the customer into thinking that \$9.95 is less expensive than \$10.00. We find this type of pricing insulting to our customers. However, the reason it is used so extensively around the nation is that it works effectively. We don't like that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

*"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do, so throw off the bowlines, sail away from safe harbor, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore, Dream, Discover"*  
- Mark Twain

## 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 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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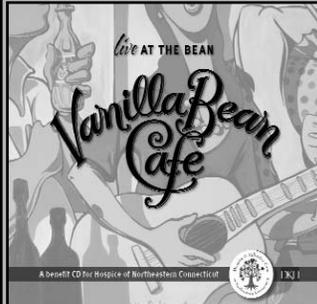
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*"Be who you are and say what you feel because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind."*

- Dr. Seuss



Live at the Bean  
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*"Love is trembling happiness."* - Khalil Gibran

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**Elaine W. Lind, Office: 860-774-1047 Cell: 508-450-7395**

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



All shows start at 8:00 pm unless otherwise noted

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| ● <b>Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup></b><br>Open Mic - Reed Foehl<br>7:30 pm - \$5.00                           | ● <b>Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup></b><br>Atwater Donnelly Trio<br>- \$20.00                          |
| ● <b>Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup></b><br>Stacy Phillips & Paul Howard Duet<br>- \$15.00                    | ● <b>Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup></b><br>Britt Connors & Bourbon Renewal<br>- \$10.00               |
| ● <b>Friday April 10<sup>th</sup></b><br>Hootenanny/Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts<br>7:00 pm - \$5.00        | ● <b>Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup></b><br>The Meadows Brothers<br>- \$10.00                          |
| ● <b>Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup></b><br>Tony Memmel<br>- \$10.00   | ● <b>Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup></b><br>Joel Cage<br>- \$15.00                                     |
| ● <b>Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup></b><br>Kala Farnham<br>- \$10.00  | ● <b>Friday June 5<sup>th</sup></b><br>Open Mic - Alec Chambers<br>7:30 pm - \$5.00                 |
| ● <b>Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup></b><br>Andrew McKnight<br>- \$15.00                                     | ● <b>Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup></b><br>Carolyn Waters<br>- \$10.00                                |
| ● <b>Sunday April 26<sup>th</sup></b><br>Eric Taylor (at the Pomfret Audubon Center)<br>7:00 pm - \$15/\$20 | ● <b>Friday June 12<sup>th</sup></b><br>Hootenanny/Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts<br>7:00 pm - \$5.00 |
| ● <b>Friday May 1<sup>st</sup></b><br>Open Mic - Andy & Judy<br>7:30 pm - \$5.00                            | ● <b>Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup></b><br>Nine6teen - Benefit Concert<br>- \$20.00                  |
| ● <b>Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup></b><br>Low Lilly<br>- \$15.00  | ● <b>Saturday June 20<sup>th</sup></b><br>Oakes and Smith<br>- \$10.00                              |
| ● <b>Friday May 8<sup>th</sup></b><br>Hootenanny/Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts<br>7:00 pm - \$10.00          | ● <b>Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup></b><br>Alex Smith<br>- \$10.00                                   |

Cash or Check Only for show Admissions

Call ahead, shows are subject to change

WiFi available in Dining Room



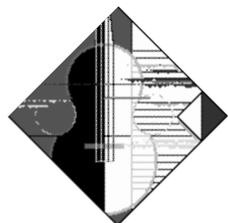
P O Box 206  
Pomfret CT 06258



2015 ... What's Happening at The Bean ... 2015  
~ April, May & June ~



\*\* Saturday - May 30<sup>th</sup> - Joel Cage \*\*  
\*\* Saturday - June 13<sup>th</sup> - Nine6teen \*\*



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



Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> - Eric Taylor  
Live at Pomfret Audubon Center

A mesmerizing performer, Taylor has been a featured artist at many festivals, including Kerrville, Newport Folk Festival, Woody Guthrie Folk Festival and the Take Root Festival in Holland. He tours throughout the U.S. and Europe every year. "Simply said, Eric Taylor is an American treasure."



7:00 pm Show Time - \$15 Advance / \$20 Door - 860-928-4948



The Vanilla Bean Café ♦ 450 Deerfield Road ♦ Pomfret, Connecticut 06258 ♦ 860-928-1562