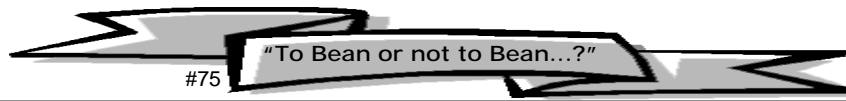




The 75th Issue!

Bean Soup

Entertainment & Stuff



Issue 19 Number 3

July - September 2015

Free*

The Vanilla Bean Café - Celebrating 26 Years!

The Vanilla Bean Café is a family run restaurant located in CT's northeast Quiet Corner. On August 26th, twenty-six years ago, the Jessurun family opened a sandwich and ice cream shop in a restored barn on the corner of Scenic Routes 169, 97 and 44.

This year will mark the 26th anniversary for The Vanilla Bean Café. Through the years, customers have gathered here in the Café dining room for meals, shows, anniversary and birthday parties and even wedding receptions. The owners have hosted local food tastings and several annual benefit concerts. Coca Cola held their national launching of Vanilla Coke at the Café in 2002. Along the way, The Vanilla Bean Café has become an integral part of life in this community.

The restaurant has expanded and evolved over the years and is now a 90 seat restaurant with a fireplace, a larger, more modern kitchen, and a patio with tables for outdoor dining. And, while this may be the last undeveloped area on the east coast from Boston to D.C., high quality food and entertainment are not missing here. The menu now offers plenty of country comfort food mixed with a variety of sophisticated and current entrees. There are fresh and seasonal specials on the menu every day. Weekend mornings from 8:00 am to noon is the time to enjoy the delicious breakfast offerings which include original and traditional omelets, French toast, and country pancakes served with 100% real local maple syrup and tasty, top-quality apple wood smoked bacon and sausages.

The entertainment is a truly special offering at this café and is no less than remarkable. The café is a small folk club with a capacity of only 60 people but the performers are not small town singers. In fact, the

Vanilla Bean Café is a significant stop on the National folk circuit, but mainly draws entertainers from the area that traverses the northeast from Portland, ME and Burlington, VT to Northampton, MA and New York. Renowned folk singer Maria Sangiolo and owner Barry Jessurun are a husband and wife team, who together book and promote folk, blues, bluegrass and jazz musicians who perform original music at the café on Saturday nights. With a plethora of artists and musicians living in the area, performers

express appreciation for the listening audience they find here in the Quiet Corner where commerce is not nearly as pronounced as culture.

Whether coming for a bite to eat or staying to see the show, customers find the Bean an easy place to be. The main dining room is a gallery displaying artwork by local artists. A

four panel installation in the original dining room by Pomfret School's art teacher, JP Jacquet, depicts café life. Customers share in a sense of belonging here as they peruse the history, accolades, pictures and stories that decorate the walls. The Vanilla Bean Café is a public place where people can really feel at home.



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- Vaibhav Shah

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Wednesday, Thursday	7 am - 8 pm
Friday	7 am - 9 pm*
Saturday	8 am - 9 pm*†
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*We may close early during colder months.

†Entertainment night -
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Web site: www.TheVanillaBeanCafe.com

E-mail: ask@thevanillabeancafe.com

Address: **450 Deerfield Road
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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

"Trust because you are willing to accept the risk, not because it's safe or certain."
- Anonymous

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."

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- Henry Ward Beecher

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"What seems to us as bitter trials are often blessings in disguise."
- Oscar Wilde



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July Entertainment

Friday - 3 - No Open Mic

Saturday - 4 - No Show

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 -

The Johnson Girls



Widely acclaimed for their powerhouse performances of rousing work songs, haunting ballads and laments, and hair-raising harmonies, **The Johnson Girls** have performed at major festivals, clubs, coffeehouses, and more across the United States, Canada, the UK, Ireland, and Europe, have performed live on Oscar Brand's radio show, France Bleu radio and appeared on French TV. The Johnson Girls is an energetic all-woman a cappella ensemble, performing traditional and contemporary music with an emphasis on songs of the sea and shore. With a sound that has been called "exciting," "haunting," and "uplifting," the Johnson Girls give powerhouse performances that bring audiences to their feet wherever they go. Each of The Johnson Girls brings a specialty and style to the ensemble. Their extensive repertoire includes songs with an Afro-Caribbean influence, of the inland waterways, of fishing, mining, Irish, Anglo-American, Italian, French, and Canadian ballads and work songs, and much more. The Johnson Girls bring a unique interpretation to their repertoire while preserving the traditional roots of their music.

"Happiness is a butterfly, which when pursued, is always beyond your grasp, but which, if you will sit down quietly, may alight upon you."
- Nathaniel Hawthorne

July Entertainment

Saturday - 18 - Bird and Horse

Pomfret's own, **Bird and Horse** is here at the Vanilla Bean Café for the first time, fresh out of the studio with their new CD, *Shine*. The band, consists of Erik Stark, lead vocals, guitars, Mark Thayer, guitars, vocals, Robert Stanley, bass, vocals, and Ray Navarro, drums, percussion, vocals. This band of seasoned performers, centered around the melodic, hook driven songs of Erik Stark, and the infectious fun they have on stage will leave you humming the tunes, and wanting more.



Saturday - 25 - The Cafe Trio

The **Café Trio** was formed by a group of musical friends for the purpose of playing an international repertoire of pieces such as might be enjoyed by people sitting at tables in the evening outside of the favorite café in Paris, Rome, Galway or Rio.



The sounds of the mandolin, accordion, guitar and bass evoke another time and space, in which the pleasures of leisure time spent well with friends eating, drinking, conversing and enjoying pleasant music are paramount. Mark and Beverly Davis are well known for their classical guitar duo concerts, as well as their work with the New American Mandolin Ensemble and the Providence Mandolin Orchestra. Jan Jungden has performed on keyboards with such notables as Jake and the Family Jewels, the Patti Tuite Band, and The Convertibles, as well as delighting audiences with her own bands - the Jan Jungden Trio (jazz) and FUSE (funk). Jan is the pianist and Co-Director for Musicals at Eastern CT State University, and recently wrote and produced the music for the opera "Transylvanian B&B; Miami." She has been sighted playing Hammond B-3 with the Big Jump Band.

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- Kim Garst

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August Entertainment

Saturday - 1 - Gail Wade Trio

Gail Wade has been performing publicly since the early 1980s. Gail has appeared on stages both as a solo musician and as a member of the former CT-based band, "The Hot Flashes". During the past twenty-plus years Gail has gained the respect of audiences throughout the USA, Ireland and several European countries. A strong guitarist and clawhammer banjo player with a rich and soulful voice, Gail 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 such as "Anna's Owl" and "Harder Every Day" 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.



Friday - 7 - Open Mic



Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham - Feature - Robert C. Fullerton is a self-taught musician, whose musical journey has taken him through blues, folk, rock, gospel, jazz and even choral music. This journey has brought him to a place of seeing other people's music through his own eyes and ears, resulting in interpretations that are faithful to the original, yet often quite unique.

Saturday - 8 - Erica Wheeler

Erica Wheeler's sense-of-place work 30 years ago began when she attended Hampshire College as an aspiring wildlife biologist. It was there she also discovered the power of story to inspire conservation and stewardship, often more than research and data alone. Erica's music is described as "cinematic" and "poetic." She has released six albums that take listeners on journeys through the American landscape and the lives lived there. Her music has charted in the top-ten on Billboard's Gavin Americana Chart and has been featured on syndicated radio programs such as "All Things Considered" and "Voice of America. Her most recent CD "Good Summer Rain" was sponsored in part by the Trust for Public Land, a national land conservation organization. The album was also the winner of the 2008 National Association for Interpretation Media Award for *Best Interpretive Music*.



August Entertainment

Friday - 14 - Hootenanny/Sessions

Saturday - 15 - Jeff Przech
CD Release Show

2015 finds Connecticut songwriter **Jeff Przech** preparing the release of his debut solo record, "Sounds Like Fresh." The title is a little piece of wordplay on Jeff's last name, which actually does sound like fresh. The album's eleven tracks (ten original songs and a cover of Ryan Adams' "English Girls Approximately") are an amalgam of stories (both fiction and non-fiction), strong melodies, and expressive, honest lyrics. Przech is a reflective and genuine songwriter, one who takes great pride in his craft. "Sounds Like Fresh" will be Przech's first, but certainly not last, entry into the arena of American(a) music. There are songs about where he's been, but "Sounds Like Fresh" gives a crystal clear glimpse of where Jeff Przech is going as well.



Saturday - 22 - 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.

Saturday - 29 - 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.



"The whole secret of a successful life is to find out what is one's destiny to do, and then do it." - Henry Ford

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September Entertainment

Friday - 4 - Open Mic



Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham - Feature - Allison Giuliano fell in love with music as a kid, performing Christmas "concerts" for her family on her toy keyboard--songs she taught herself by ear. Allison can now be found performing locally as a solo singer/songwriter and alongside fellow Rhode Island songwriters at area restaurants, festivals, parties & venues and is enjoying picking up random instruments to learn--recent ventures include the mandolin, ukulele, and harmonica.

Saturday - 5 - Meredith Rose

Meredith Rose has been playing acoustic and electric guitar, singing, and writing songs since the age of twelve. She is a Connecticut-based singer/songwriter with a very promising future in music. Although just a newcomer to the Connecticut music scene, Rose has made a quite an impact performing across the state, earning her a nomination for 'Best Singer/Songwriter' at the 2014 CT Music Awards. Since then, Rose has been writing, recording, and performing across New England and beyond. With a tender voice and guitar-centric storytelling, her sound is best described as Americana pop. When you see her live, however, the songs move seamlessly through her favorite genres of acoustic folk, foot-stompin' rock, and ear-catching pop.



Friday - 11 - Hootenanny/Sessions

Saturday - 12 - Grass Routes

Grass Routes is a Connecticut five-piece bluegrass band. Since 1980 they have been delighting audiences with a repertoire ranging from traditional bluegrass standards to folk and contemporary songs all performed in their own unique bluegrass style. Skillful instrumental work and strong vocals give Grass Routes their own characteristic sound. Showcasing especially tight harmonies, vocals include duets to four part harmonies. What make Grass Routes unique is that each member sings lead. With five lead vocalists, Grass Routes presents a different style and material with each vocal arrangement.



"The mind is everything. What you think you become."

- Buddha

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

September Entertainment

Saturday - 19 - J P Jones & Friends

J P Jones is an American singer-songwriter and composer. A self described "mystic in the tradition of the



New England Transcendentalists," his work draws from authors and philosophers,

from painters and fellow poets, from the American folk and blues traditions, from popular music of the 1960s and from the work of classical composers. He is one of the most prolific songwriters on the Indie Music scene, and has recently teamed up with Andy Jones, Kevin Sullivan and Chris Vailancourt, performing all original material. JP writes haunting songs that cross genres, by turns humorous, rousing, reflective, zany and profound. Performances are unpredictable, spontaneous, and engaging.

Saturday - 26 - Antje Duvkot

Ghosts of the American Road & Chuck Cannon

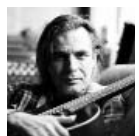
Antje Duvkot has solidified her reputation as one of Boston's top singer songwriters with "Big Dream Boulevard" her debut studio release and "the Near Demise of the Highwire Dancer" and "New Siberia" her follow-up albums. The debut CD was produced by Seamus Egan, founder of the Irish super group, SOLAS and the project was released on songwriter Ellis Paul's label and quickly attracted international attention for Antje. It was voted "#1 Folk Release of 2006" by the *Boston Globe* and was named to the "Top10 Releases of the Year" by National Public Radio's, Folk Alley.

Kevin Higgins is a friendly voice of reason trapped in the body of a working-class dreamer and. Hearing



Barbara Malteze deliver a song is tantamount to a religious experience. They are **Ghosts of the American Road**; weaving individual vocal styles over guitar and piano, embellishing melodic poetry that has become their cinematographic, signature sound. This is "American Music", where all styles come together at a distinctly original musical crossroads.

Chuck Cannon grew up in the low country of South Carolina listening to a lot of R&B, Gospel, Rock and



Country. His music and stories are full of those old echoes. He has been fortunate that a pretty diverse array of fine artists from around the world have covered his songs, which have logged well over 25 million airplays.

Lori McDermott



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- Swami Vivekananda

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- Thomas A. Edison



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- Joseph Addison

VBC Review Quotables...

“Extremely Tasty” Food - New York Times

“Relaxed” Atmosphere - Boston Globe

“Truly Bizarre” Service - New London Day

“Good things come to people who wait, but better things come to those who go out and get them.” - Anonymous

“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.

July - Sarah Brenner

August - Mike Rogan

September - Jennifer Bombara ☺

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?

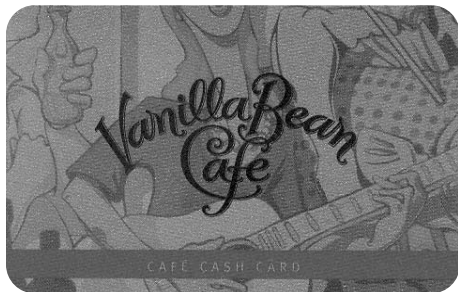
2. Not Market Standard Pricing - We are not trying to fool the customer into thinking that \$9.95 is less expensive than \$10.00. We find this type of pricing insulting to our customers. However, the reason it is used so extensively around the nation is that it works effectively. We don't like that practice,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

"Creativity is a great motivator because it makes people interested in what they are doing. Creativity gives hope that there can be a worthwhile idea. Creativity gives the possibility of some sort of achievement to everyone. Creativity makes life more fun and more interesting." - Edward de Bono

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 august be purchased in any amount at the restaurant or online



and are reloadable - add to the card balance at any time! Cards august 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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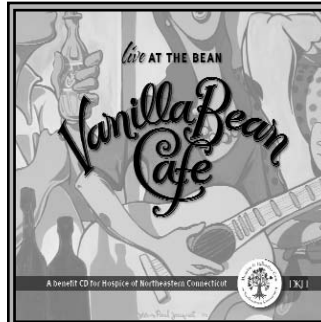


Mark Thayer
Producer/Engine Ear

Phone 860-974-2016
mark@signaturesounds.com
www.signaturesounds.com

"We hold in our hands, the most precious gift of all: Freedom. The freedom to express our art. Our love. The freedom to be who we want to be. We are not going to give that freedom away and no one shall take it from us!"

- Diane Frolov and Andrew Schneider



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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

- **Friday July 3rd**
No Open Mic
- **Saturday July 4th**
No Show
- **Friday July 10th** 7:00 pm - \$5.00
Hootenanny/Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts
- **Saturday July 11th** - \$12.00
The Johnson Girls
- **Saturday July 18th** - \$12.00
Bird and Horse
- **Saturday July 25th** - \$15.00
The Cafe Trio
- **Saturday August 1st** - \$15.00
Gail Wade Trio
- **Friday August 7th** 7:30 pm - \$5.00
Open Mic - Robert C. Fullerton
- **Saturday August 8th** - \$15.00
Erica Wheeler
- **Friday August 14th** 7:00 pm - \$5.00
Hootenanny/Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts



- **Saturday August 15th** - \$10.00
Jeff Przech
CD Release Show
- **Saturday August 22nd** - \$12.00
The Fixins
- **Saturday August 29th** - \$15.00
Atwater - Donnelly
- **Friday September 4th** 7:30 pm - \$5.00
Open Mic - Allison Giuliano
- **Saturday September 5th** - \$12.00
Meredith Rose
- **Friday September 11th** 7:00 pm - \$5.00
Hootenanny/Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts
- **Saturday September 12th** - \$15.00
Grass Routes
- **Saturday September 19th** - \$12.00
J P Jones & Friends
- **Saturday September 26th** - \$20.00
Antje Duvokot / Chuck Cannon
& Ghosts of the American Road

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
~ July, August & September ~



** Saturday - September 19th - J P Jones **

** Saturday - September 26th - Antje Duvokot **



The 75th Issue!

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Country Café

~ Yankee Magazine - Editors' Choice ~



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



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on your
smart phone



Calendar Listings
on your
smart phone