



Bean Soup

Entertainment & Stuff

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

Volume 13 Number 2

April 2009 - June 2009

Free*

New Local Menu Item - Connecticut Grown

New Boston Beef in North Grosvenordale, CT is a member of Connecticut Grown. Developed in 1986, the Connecticut Grown Program has blossomed over a period of two decades into a multifaceted campaign. This unique program uses a diverse array of avenues to promote local products. Look for Connecticut Grown products where you shop.

With the media emphasis on buying local products and our own practices of purchasing locally grown products when available, we are now adding a new local product to our permanent menu.

New Boston Beef is nestled in the northeast corner of CT, overlooking the Quinebaug River in the village of Fabyan, one of ten villages in the town of Thompson. Located at Fabyan Farm owned by Ross and Susan Eddy, New Boston Beef, is owned and operated by their son,

Jonathan Eddy, a second generation farmer. New Boston Beef is committed to providing delicious, all natural, antibiotic free and no hormone added beef.



Our Grill menu now features a Local Beef Burger made from product we buy directly from New Boston Beef. Look for other specials on our menu from this local farm including Italian sausage, ribeye steak, and meatloaf,

As the growing season approaches, remember to look at our special board for other locally grown items. We purchase from

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Let's see how many new fans we can generate by the end of the June 2009. ☺

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The Vanilla Bean Café

Things we would like you to know...

The Vanilla Bean Café opened in 1989 with 16 seats.

The Café is owned by the Jessurun Family.

The Café is open 361 days each year - we close on:
Easter Sunday, Fourth of July,
Thanksgiving, Christmas Day

Business Hours:

Mon - Tue	- 7:00 am - 3:00 pm
Wed - Thur	- 7:00 am - 8:00 pm
Friday	- 7:00 am - 9:00 pm*
Saturday	- 8:00 am - 9:00 pm*†
Sunday	- 8:00 am - 8:00 pm

*We may close early during colder months.

†Entertainment night - serving dessert, beer & wine until 10:00 pm.

Stella, the English Mastiff you may occasionally see around the café, is very social and great with children.

Web site: www.TheVanillaBeanCafe.com

E-mail: ask@thevanillabeancafe.com

Address: **Corners of Routes 44, 169 & 97
Pomfret, Connecticut**

Phone: **860-928-1562**

Music booking: **Maria Sangiolo**
maria@thevanillabeancafe.com

Art booking: **Randy Markes**
randy@thevanillabeancafe.com

Bean Soup ads: **Barry Jessurun**
barry@thevanillabeancafe.com

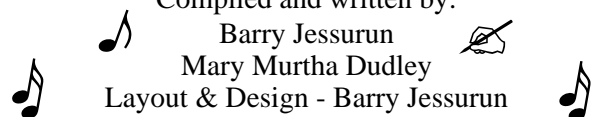
Bean Soup is an information and entertainment newsletter published by The Vanilla Bean Café.

Compiled and written by:

Barry Jessurun

Mary Murtha Dudley

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

Norwich Bulletin - Dining Guide

Food: ★★★★★
Atmosphere: ★★★★★

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 Cafe is one of those places you simply don't want to leave."

www.HiddenBoston.com

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Recipient University of Connecticut's Nozko Family Business Leadership Award

Check the hallway by the restrooms - our Hall of Fame- for more articles, letters and awards.



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- King Whitney Jr.

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- His Holiness the Dalai Lama

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"Self-importance is our greatest enemy. Think about it - what weakens us is feeling offended by the deeds and misdeeds of our fellowmen. Our self-importance requires that we spend most of our lives offended by someone."

- Carlos Castaneda



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April Entertainment

Friday - 3 - Open Mic



Host - Eric Paradine - Feature - Tom Wise tries to understand the nature of life and love, of growing up and seeing relationships blossom, wither, and blossom again. His musical background is deep and his influences are wide ranging. His true vision is simple, and he states it, "My name is Tom Wise. I sing songs about girls."

Saturday - 4 - Andrew McKnight

Audiences are at once spellbound and relaxed by **Andrew McKnight's** entertaining stories delivered with just the right touches of down home humor. His seemingly boundless energy moves around, one moment in dancing fingers, the next the impassioned delivery of a poignant lyric, followed by a playful rhythmic foot stomp to keep time; here is a man who clearly loves his work. It begins with a dramatic a cappella vocal, followed by a crisp and concise interlude of flat-picked guitar. Then the warm and supple tenor voice settles in to work, delivering literate and cinematic vignettes of rural Americans and their struggles in memorable melodies and compelling twists of phrase. The between song banter is as much of the show as the music, with humorous anecdotes and a theatrical flair for storytelling weaving the music and words into a memorable performance. Such is a typical Andrew McKnight concert experience.



Sunday - 5 - Bill Staines

Bill Staines travels across North America, singing his songs and delighting audiences at festivals, folksong societies, colleges, concerts, clubs and coffeehouses. A New England native, Bill became involved with the Boston-Cambridge folk scene in the early '60s. He quickly became a popular performer in the Boston area. In 1971, after one of his performances, a reviewer for The Phoenix stated that Bill was "simply Boston's best performer." A decade later, the annual Reader's Poll of The Boston Globe selected him as a favorite performer. In 1991, Bill entered his fourth decade as a folk performer with an international reputation as an artist. Singing mostly his own songs, he has become one of the most popular singers on the folk music circuit today and averages around 200 concert dates a year. Bill weaves a magical blend of wit and gentle humor into his performances, and as one reviewer wrote, "he has a sense of timing to match the best stand-up comic."



He who smiles rather than rages is always stronger.

- Japanese proverb

April Entertainment

Sunday - 11 - Garnet Rogers

Hailed by the Boston Globe as a “charismatic performer and singer”, **Garnet Rogers** is a man with a powerful physical presence - close to six and a half feet tall - with a voice to match. With his smooth, dark baritone, his incredible range, and thoughtful, dramatic phrasing, Garnet is widely considered by fans



and critics alike to be one of the finest singers anywhere. His music, like the man himself, is literate, passionate, highly sensitive, and deeply purposeful. Cinematic in detail, his songs give expression to the unspoken vocabulary of the heart. An optimist at heart, Garnet sings extraordinary songs about the small victories of the everyday. As memorable as his songs, his over-the-top humour and lightning-quick wit moves his audience from tears to laughter and back again.

Saturday - 18 - Ninesixteen

Ninesixteen is a Pomfret-based band that features music ranging from bluegrass to Badfinger, from Van Morrison to James Taylor, plus original works. Led by keyboardist/vocalist Donna Bessette and drummer/vocalist Andre Bessette, the band also features David Carter on lead guitar, flute and vocals, Putnam native Greg Nichols on rhythm guitar and vocals, Brian Bastow on bass, and Patrick McCarthy on lead and backing vocals. The band blends solid musicianship with tight vocal harmonies to create a unique sound among local bands. The group is also the “house band” at Christ Church by the name Living Water.



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The **Tim Peck Trio** serves as a vehicle to explore contemporary improvisational music, using compositions by artists from Faure to Keith Jarret as musical prompts. After studying jazz piano at Skidmore College, Tim brought his passion for music to the Pomfret School where he teaches classes in contemporary music, digital audio technology, and maintains a small teaching studio. Tim is joined by Sean Farias on bass and Miki Matsuki on drums, both in-demand musicians in the Boston area. This Boston-based trio comes to the Vanilla Bean Café for an intimate evening of contemporary jazz.

Saturday - 25 - Tim Peck Trio

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- Shakti Gawain



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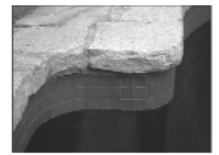
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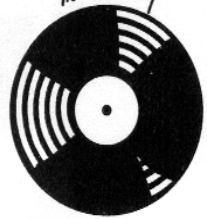
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May Entertainment

Friday - 1 - Open Mic



Host - Bonnie Lee Panda - Feature - The SophistiCats

Audiences enjoy the surprise of the eclectic styles and infectious energy of this talented group. Their repertoire ranges from the 1930's to originals in many styles, including jazz, rockabilly, gypsy swing, British Isles folk, and blues.

Saturday - 2 - Tony Bird

With a mesmerizing intensity, a unique voice, vision, guitar



style and persona, Malawi born songman **Tony Bird** is a complete original. Growing up in southern Africa in the era of colonialism and Apartheid, Bird developed a sharp, conscious universal eye with an expansive

repertoire, ranging from topical and historical commentary to love songs, musical tone poems and exotic travelogues that roam from bushmen to bicycles. Tony Bird has been called "The Father of African Folk-Rock." Yet, he is even more. He's an inventive, passionate and theatrical performer who delivers the moving, searching anthems of a mature poet. The extraordinary experience of a Bird concert is not to be missed. "The finest, most impressive folk poet in years." - *The Village Voice*.

Saturday - 9 - Barnacle

Early in 2006 Everett Brown, Mary Audette, and Tim Reilly



formed **Barnacle** - a high energy Celtic/sea music/folk band. What began as a "sea music" band quickly transformed into an eclectic mix of music from different areas of the world and different time periods, evolving from the bands diverse musical backgrounds,

ethnicity, and taste. They have appeared throughout New England at venues such as Rhode Island School of Design Museum; Mystic Seaport Sea Music Festival in 2007 and 2008; and at the Windjammer Festival in Camden, Maine. Their influences include Beausoleil, Great Big Sea, The Police, Skip Healy, Chieftains & The Roches.

Saturday - 16 - Joel Cage

"With husky, heart-felt vocals and an aggressive acoustic



guitar style reminiscent of Steve Stills, his performances offer more than the standard bill-of-fare of most folk singers, and more musicality and sensitivity than your average rock band. Somewhere in between, with a

comprehensive knowledge of both, **Joel Cage's** performances are both powerfully energetic, and subtly moving. He is evocative, mesmerizing, and totally musical, a showman with miles of experience behind him, and an honesty that is truly engaging." - *Black Mountain News*.

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May Entertainment

Sunday - 17 - Peter Mulvey

Peter Mulvey began as a self-described "city kid" from Milwaukee, WI. He played, wrote, and sang in bands while studying theatre at Marquette University. After graduating, he traveled to Ireland, where he learned the trade of busker on the streets of Dublin. Returning to the U.S.

a few years later, he settled in Boston, building an audience through street and subway performing, while also immersing himself in the thriving musical community. Since his 2000 release *The Trouble with Poets*, Mulvey has found a home with the venerable indie label Signature Sounds Recordings. His latest album, *Notes from Elsewhere*, is a retrospective collection of the very best songs Mulvey has written and performed over his 15 year recording career. Recorded solo in a studio, these are fresh takes on songs that have become fan and critic favorites over the years. These solo versions allow each song to shine on its own demonstrating Peter's strengths as a songwriter.



Saturday - 23 - Grass Routes

Grass Routes has been performing on the New England bluegrass scene for 27 years, and has appeared on radio and television and has pleased audiences at concerts, coffeehouses, festivals and many other venues in the Northeast. The band features the traditional bluegrass instruments of banjo, mandolin, fiddle, guitar and upright bass. Grass Routes performs a broad repertoire of songs ranging from straight-ahead traditional bluegrass to more contemporary folk and country material. Skillful instrumental work and strong vocals gives them their own distinctive sound.



Saturday - 30 - 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. "Atwater-Donnelly are marvelous musicians. Their voices blend beautifully, their instrumental work is sparkling, and they are captivating performers. I could listen to them for hours." - Frank Dudgeon, WUMB, Boston, MA.



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"If you watch how nature deals with adversity, continually renewing itself, you can't help but learn." - Bernie Siegel

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June Entertainment

Friday - 5 - Open Mic



Host - Bonnie Lee Panda - Feature - **Shawn Taylor**.
"Music has very much been my number one favorite pas-time throughout the years, and has given me many hours of enjoyment. My intention is to try and give that same enjoyment to others - If a song can find a way to your heart, put a smile on your face, or just brighten your day in some way, my goal has been reached!" -ST

Saturday - 6 -

"Spider" John Koerner

"Spider" John Koerner, traditional American folk and country blues musician, rhythmic guitarist, song-crafter, singer, and humorist, shapes his musical style from a solid foundation of study of the old blues masters, respect for the traditional song, and a firm command of his source material. "Alone among the young blues revivalists, Koerner had a sound that was completely idiosyncratic and personal. From the first guitar riff, there was never any doubt about who was playing. Today the material has changed but the sound is intact." - *Blueswire*. "The first guy I met in Minneapolis like me was sitting around... it was John Koerner and he also had an acoustic guitar with him. Koerner was tall and thin with a look of perpetual amusement on his face. We hit it off right away. ... When he spoke he was soft spoken, but when he sang he became a field holler shouter. Koerner was an exciting singer, and we began playing a lot together."- From Bob Dylan's autobiography, *Chronicles, Volume One*.



Saturday - 13 -

Occidental Gypsy Jazz Quartet

Occidental Gypsy Jazz Quartet are a refreshing extension of European café music who exemplify the exuberance and effervescence of the Swing era. Incorporating violin, vocals, and guitar harmonies along with unique arrangements; waltzes, swing, and ballads are their forte. Their well-rehearsed and lightning-fast swing make Occidental Gypsy the "archetype of authenticity" and "the Best Acoustic Gypsy Jazz Band in New England". They preform an exciting evening of acoustic gypsy swing playing the music of Django Reinhart and Stephane Grapelli featuring Joel Beauchemin -violin/trumpet, Brett Feldman - solo gypsy guitar, Jonathan Sigman - vocals/rhythm guitar , and Jeff Feldman- bass.



June Entertainment

Saturday - 13 - Laura Siersema



Raised in Amherst, Virginia, **Laura Siersema** grew up listening to her parents sing in their folk music group, the Hon-o-lees and the church choir. From the time she was little, she was playing ukelele, guitar and piano, hearing music live, and performing, too. *Talon of the Blackwater*, Laura's third CD, takes its listeners along the hazardous journey through blackwaters of anguish and turmoil to the other shore. Lush music touched by classical, folk, jazz, and new age, unfolds with piano, cello, fretless bass, fluid guitars, synthesizers and percussion. "Laura is an acoustic craftsman, a wordsmith...with the soul and lyrics of a true poet..." - *Indie-Music Reviews*. "She sounds like a young Judy Collins, but don't expect traditional fare from this singer/songwriter..." - *Sing Out!*

Saturday - 27 - Anni Clark



Anni Clark was recently nominated for "Female Vocalist of the Year" in the Texas Music Awards, based on her newest CD *Anni Clark LIVE*. Recorded at the rustic and intimate Deertrees Theatre in Harrison ME one hot summer's eve, the disc showcases 15 of Anni's most requested songs. With over two decades of full time touring and seven successful recordings under her belt, this Maine native's passion for communication through music continues to build a widespread and loyal audience. Anni supports her strong melodic vocals with both six and twelve string guitars to create infectious performances that blend "folk, pop, & blues with a dash of Maine hue-mah."

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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 Brie Benedict, Ham and Jalapeño Burrito, and Pumpkin Cranberry Pancakes. We use only 100% maple syrup and top-quality bacon. ☺

Dinner at The Bean

We are open for dinner Wednesday - Sunday nights. Each night we run four or five dinner specials. Recent items include: Sweet & Sour Beef Skewers, Shepherd's Pie, Baked Eggplant, and Maple Glazed Scallops. 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. The shows are one or two months in duration. Some shows have openings and some do not. Most of the artwork 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 - Martha Fonda

May - Tom Menard

June - NE Art Guild ☺

Entertainment

The Café is on the National Folk Music Circuit and attracts talent from all over the United States, drawing mainly New England performers. The majority of the shows are on Saturday night and start at 8:00 pm. The Open Mic night is the first Friday of each month. During the shows we separate our listening room from the tiled dining room and the kitchen with a theatre curtain. This helps 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 a little work done or check your mail while you eat lunch! ☺

Gilly's Art

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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% Connecticut Sales Tax. The prices listed on the menu are exactly what you pay. Our prices may seem to be inflated; however, a \$8.50 menu item is actually \$8.02 + \$.48 sales tax. Furthermore, this practice makes it easier for the customer, especially if that customer is a child who has exact change for a cookie. What you see is exactly what you pay - what could be simpler?

2. Not Market Standard Pricing - We are not trying to fool the customer into thinking that \$7.95 is less expensive than \$8.00. 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. ☺

"Those who trust us educate us."

- T.S. Eliot

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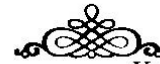
"The important thing is this: To be able at any moment to sacrifice what we are for what we could become."

- Charles du Bois

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Did you know...

We have been open for almost 20 years. We serve breakfast on Saturday & Sunday. The Bean offers a variety of vegetarian specials. You can view our Daily Specials on our website. All of our menu prices **include** 6% CT Sales Tax. **85 Main** in Putnam is our sister restaurant. We have Gluten free items available. We are open 361 days each year.



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

Pomfret CT 06258
P O Box 206

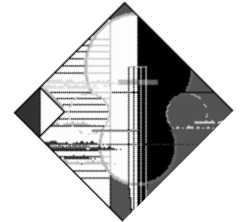


The Bean Soup

WiFi available in Dining Room



2009... What's Happening at The Bean ... 2009
April, May, June 2009 Calendar listings
Sunday, May 17th - Peter Mulvey



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



All shows start at 8:00 PM unless otherwise noted

- **Friday April 3rd** *Show Time 7:30PM* - \$5.00
Open Mic - Tom Wise
- **Saturday April 4th** - \$12.00
Andrew McKnight
- **Sunday April 5th** *Show Time 7:00PM* - \$15.00
Bill Staines
- **Thursday April 9th** *Show Time 7:00PM* - \$5.00
Songwriter Sessions
Jay Michaels, Paul Pasch, Adam Payne
- **Saturday April 11th** - \$20.00
Garnet Rogers
- **Saturday April 18th** - \$10.00
Ninesixteen
- **Saturday April 25th** - \$12.00
Tim Peck Trio
- **Friday May 1st** *Show Time 7:30PM* - \$5.00
Open Mic - SophistiCats
- **Saturday May 2nd** - \$15.00
Tony Bird
- **Saturday May 9th** - \$12.00
Barnacle
- **Thursday May 14th** *Show Time 7:00PM* - \$5.00
Songwriter Sessions
Dave Murphy, Damian Israel Shiner, Caleb Hawley

- **Saturday May 16th** - \$12.00
Joel Cage
- **Sunday May 17th** *Show Time 7:00PM* - \$15.00
Peter Mulvey
- **Saturday May 23rd** - \$12.00
Grass Routes
- **Saturday May 30th** - \$15.00
Atwater-Donnelly
- **Friday June 5th** *Show Time 7:30PM* - \$5.00
Open Mic - Shawn Taylor
- **Saturday June 6th** - \$15.00
"Spider John" Koerner
- **Thursday June 11th** *Show Time 7:00PM* - \$5.00
Songwriter Sessions
Janet Feld, Emily Hurd, Jane Fallon
- **Saturday June 13th** - \$12.00
Occidental Gypsy Jazz Quartet
- **Saturday June 20th** - \$12.00
Laura Siersema
- **Saturday June 27th** - \$12.00
Anni Clark

Call ahead, shows are subject to change

Checkout our Webcam - www.TheVanillaBeanCafe.com

The Vanilla Bean Café ♦ Corners of Routes 44, 169 & 97 ♦ Pomfret, Connecticut 06258 ♦ 860-928-1562