



# Bean Soup

## Entertainment & Stuff

#65

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

Volume 17 Number 1

January - March 2013

Free\*

### !!! Dog Lane Café is Open !!!

The advanced design and detailed implementation have all been worth the effort. After much anticipation, the doors are open at our newest sister restaurant, Dog Lane Café! Our newest sister restaurant is located at One Dog Lane in Storrs, CT. Brand new, beautiful and certainly not just another all-day-long snack shop, Dog Lane Café stands out as extraordinary place to eat, drink and relax.

Drink coffee here. Dog Lane Café offers a delicious house blend, daily coffee specials and a variety of specialty coffee drinks all day long. At the convenient self service coffee bar, customers make it just the way they like it. Other choices all day long include an extensive selection of black and green teas, freshly blended smoothies, local Hosmer Mountain sodas and a variety of specialty beverages.

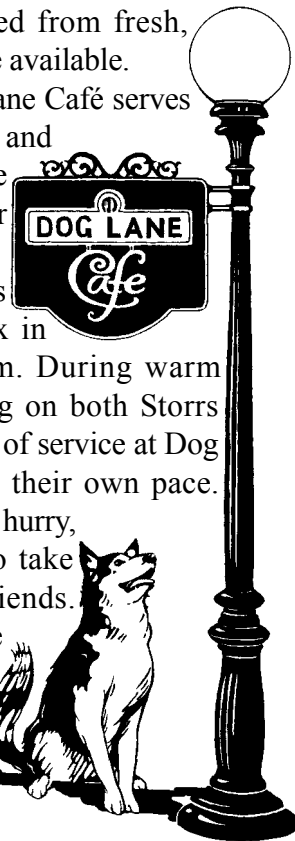
Great food served here. Order from the regular menu or choose one of the daily specials. Dog Lane Café offers made to order, minimally processed, high quality food. Choose from a wide variety of sandwiches and grilled items or enjoy a freshly prepared salad. Chili and soup are made from scratch and spe-

ciality menu items are created from fresh, local ingredients when they are available.

Bakery items? Yes! Dog Lane Café serves fresh baked muffins, cookies and more. All baked goods are delivered from local bakers or baked on the premises!

Dog Lane Café specializes in Fast Casual service. Relax in the comfortable dining room. During warm months, enjoy outdoor dining on both Storrs Road and Dog Lane. The style of service at Dog Lane Café lets customers set their own pace. Fast service when you are in a hurry, hospitality when you want to take some time and relax with friends. We mean it when we say...COME. SIT. STAY.

Dog Lane Café offers quality food and, friendly service in a unique and inviting atmosphere.



### Pomfret Celebrating 300 Years!

Positively Pomfret: The town will be celebrating Pomfret's yearlong 300th anniversary all this year with a series of events. The festivities began with Positively Pomfret Day 2012 with the display of the Pomfret Tercentennial Quilt; a piece more than 40 residents spent months creating. The quilt will be raffled at a May 2013 town meeting.

If weather cooperates, there will be an outdoor skating party in January. February will feature an exhibit of quilts at the Audubon Barn. The Vanilla Bean Café will host an art exhibit featuring works by

Pomfret residents that will be on display all of March. Also at the Bean during the month of March we will be featuring musicians and bands that are all from Pomfret on Saturday evenings. A special tercentennial

postmark will be used by town post offices in May. April will include a talk about Israel Putnam and the annual Town Meeting will be held in May, almost exactly 300 years to the day after Pomfret's first Town Meeting. In early June there will be a Tercentennial Ball sponsored by the Lions Club. The anniversary comes full-circle next September with Positively Pomfret Day 2013.

Sign up on our mailing list at [www.TheVanillaBeanCafe.com](http://www.TheVanillaBeanCafe.com)

INTERIORS

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*"Be miserable. Or motivate yourself. Whatever has to be done, it's always your choice."*  
- Wayne Dyer

## The Vanilla Bean Café wants you to know...

The Vanilla Bean Café opened in 1989 with 16 seats

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Monday, Tuesday	7 am - 3 pm
Wednesday, Thursday	7 am - 8 pm
Friday	7 am - 9 pm*
Saturday	8 am - 9 pm*†
Sunday	8 am - 8 pm

\*We may close early during colder months.

†Entertainment night -  
we serve dessert, beer & wine until 10 PM

Stella, the English Mastiff you may have seen around the Café, passed away in Nov. 2009. 

Web site: [www.TheVanillaBeanCafe.com](http://www.TheVanillaBeanCafe.com)

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

Address: **Corner of Routes 44, 169 & 97  
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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**  
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**Bean Soup** is an information and entertainment newsletter.

Compiled and written by:  
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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

### 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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- Colleen Wainwright

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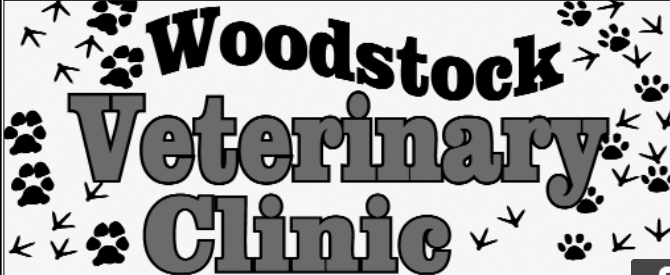



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*"The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential... these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence."* - Confucius



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## January Entertainment

Friday - 4 - No Open Mic 

Saturday - 5 - Chris Smither

**Chris Smither** is an acclaimed acoustic roots singer-songwriter whose career spans 40 years, 12 albums, and 3 DVDs. His most recent CD is *TIME STANDS STILL*. He tours worldwide, performing at clubs, concert halls and festivals in the US, Canada, Europe and Australia. His songs have appeared in various films and on TV shows and have been covered by Bonnie Raitt, Emmylou Harris and Diana Krall, among others. In 2009, Chris contributed a short story to *Amplified*, a collection of fiction by today's best performing songwriters, including Mary Gauthier, Robbie Fulks, Jon Langford, Maria McKee, Rhett Miller, and others. June brought the release of a new live Smither album, *LOST AND FOUND*. This 14 song new collection available online at [www.smither.com](http://www.smither.com) and at live shows.

Friday - 11 - Songwriter Sessions

One Friday each month (unless otherwise noted), The Vanilla Bean Café offers a warm and intimate listening room for artists in a monthly music series called **Songwriter Sessions**. Hosted by Lisa Martin, the series is dedicated to the craft of songwriting. Each performer is required to write a song based on a theme chosen by the previous month's audience. Newly crafted songs are presented in round three of the evening's series which features three local or regional songwriters.

Saturday - 12 - 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. With his "smooth, dark baritone" (Washington Post) his incredible range, and thoughtful, dramatic phrasing, His music is 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."

## January Entertainment

### Saturday - 19 - Don White

If you laugh and cry within the same ten minutes, you either need a vacation or you are sitting in the audience 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 evidenced 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. *Stereo Review Magazine* called it "...A candidate for song of the year." "...there is an honesty and self-deprecating wit in his material that is an immediate tonic." - *The Boston Herald*



### Saturday - 26 -

### Howie Bursen & Friends Benefit for NE CT Food Bank

**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 failed 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.



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- Wilson Mizner

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- Stephen Covey

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~ John Muir ~

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## February Entertainment

### Friday - 1 - Open Mic



**Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham Feature - Seth David-Christian and Alex Herr** form the Pomfret CT rock duo known as **Our Burgundy**. Blending styles and melodies from the earliest forms of Rock and Roll, with reminiscent tones of the 90s, the band creates a uniquely timeless sound.

### Saturday - 2 - Yankee Dogs

**Yankee Dogs** is a group of music veterans from northeastern CT known for work in area bands including Band of Humans, Blue Steele, The Ron Stone Band, Yankee Dogs, The Stephanie Hansen Band, The Outlyers, R.O.A.D., Chordwood, Arizona Made, J.P. Jones & Rite Tite, and Switch. Band members Bill Reid, Louise Muller and Mike Barrette came together during jam sessions at open mics and discovered a shared love of American roots music. Reid's interest in traditional American music along with Muller's and Barrette's renown solo work makes for a fun and rollicking time through a catalog of western swing, folk rock, blues, rockabilly, rock & roll, and bluegrass.



### Friday - 8 - Songwriter Sessions

### Saturday - 9 - Griff Tones

The **Griff Tones** are Pomfret School's premiere performing ensemble and serve as the ambassador to the outside community and alumni. Becoming a member is not easy. Interested students must pass through a weeklong audition process culminating in a performance during convocation after which the final cut is made. 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. The Pomfret School Chorus and Griff Tones will be traveling to Ireland in March. Fundraisers help to assure that all students who sing in both groups can participate on the tour. The students do all of their own fundraising for the trip. Their hope is that everyone can attend and that no one is left out for financial reasons. Both groups will be performing group numbers and Broadway songs for the evening.




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*"Always do your best. What you plant now, you will harvest later."*  
- Og Mandino

## February Entertainment

### Saturday - 16 - Brooks Williams

Bluesy guitarist **Brooks Williams** is a certified road warrior, wowing audiences for twenty-one years in both North America, Ireland, the UK and Turkey with his powerful acoustic and resonator slide guitars. Brooks Williams is as diverse and versatile a musician as you are likely to encounter. *Dirty Linen* magazine calls Williams one of "America's musical treasures." He regularly brings audiences to their feet and is quite simply one of the most entertaining and engaging performers on the circuit today. As one of the world's premier acoustic guitarists and singers, Brooks Williams continues to tour worldwide, every night delivering the deepest and most intense interpretations of everything from early blues songs to his recent original compositions. He is quite simply one of the most entertaining and engaging performers on the circuit today. From coast to coast, country to country, Williams and his guitars roll and tumble like nobody's business.



### Saturday - 23 - Atwater-Donnelly Trio

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. Their performance is appealing to all ages, and with humor, audience participation, and a relaxed stage presence, Aubrey and Elwood explain song origins to create a deeper understanding of the music and its cultural history. The trio is formed when Aubrey and Elwood are joined by **Cathy Clasper-Torch**. Cathy adds a deeply rich third dimension with fiddle, cello and vocals. The Atwater-Donnelly Trio has become extremely popular in Southern New England.



#### VBC Review Quotables...

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

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## House Portraits



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*"I have long since come to believe that people never mean half of what they say, and that it is best to disregard their talk and judge only their actions."* - Dorothy Day

*"Life's uncertain, eat dessert first."*

*"If you don't design your own life plan, chances are you'll fall into someone else's plan. And guess what they have planned for you? Not much."* - Jim Rohn

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## March Entertainment

**Friday - 1 - Open Mic**



**Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham. Feature - Hannah Fair** - the music of this acoustic singer/songwriter is unpolished yet fresh, raw, earthy, and organic, shifting and changing as nature itself.

**Saturday - 2 - Donna Dufresne  
Gypsy Romantique**

**Donna Dufresne** is an eclectic singer, songwriter and performer northeast CT. **Gypsy Romantique** is the newest incarnation of Donna's adventures in song writing. Melding the gypsy inspired Paris hot club jazz of the 1930's and American western swing of the same era, with their Latin influences and a touch of unabashed schmaltz.



**Friday - 10 - Songwriter Sessions**

**Saturday - 9 - 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 - 16 - Cashel Rock**

**Cashel Rock** is a fluid configuration of friends and musicians from CT's northeast corner who lead a great evening of sing-alongs 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 listening to them a great occasion."



## March Entertainment

### Saturday - 23 - The Wade-Elliott Band

The music of **The Wade Elliott Band** is an exciting mixture of American Folk, acoustic driven rock, blues, and a little country funk. The two principle songwriters are brothers with distinct styles. Glenn, has a driving acoustic rock sound, and Mark's style is more ballad with funk tones. The lyrics, which reflect years of life's experiences, are substantive and homespun. The Wade Elliott Band brings together creative melodies and chorus hooks and has a great live sound with Fred's searing guitar licks, Ray's rock-solid drum techniques and Rich's tasteful keyboard and bass arrangements. The Wade Elliott Band has just wrapped up their first album entitled, "Ride This Town", a part time project and a labor of love for the entire band.



### Saturday - 30 - Maria Sangiolo & Sally Rogers

**Maria Sangiolo** has been writing and performing for children and their families for the past ten years. A two-time Parents' Choice award-winning artist, recipient of a grant from the CT Commission on Culture and Tourism and one from the Iguana Fund from Club Passim in Cambridge, Maria paints with her pen and her voice. Maria has been singing since she first heard the "angel of music," as a little girl riding in the back seat of her parents' blue Chevy wagon. Her musical career has spanned over two decades, enriching her fans lives with her original & interpreted music. Maria's songs are honest, joyful, and earth-centered, all sung from her young-at-heart muse. **Sally Rogers** is a musician who lives outside of Hartford, CT with husband Howie Bursen and daughters Maya and Malana. She plays guitar, banjo, and dulcimer and specializes in traditional folk, old-timey and (most recently) children's music. She plays both traditional and original pieces and has been recognized by numerous awards including Best Folk Album of 1982 (Circle of the Sun), Best Children's Recording of 1992 (What Can one Little Person Do?) and again in 1993 (At Quiet O'Clock). She has made frequent radio appearances on "A Prairie Home Companion" and the nationally syndicated "Mountain Stage."



*"The key is to keep company only with people who uplift you, whose presence calls forth your best." - Epictetus*



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- Aesop

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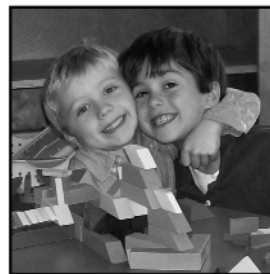
- Benjamin Disraeli

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- Colleen Wainwright

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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 Caprese Omelet, and Turkey Spinach Scramble. We use only 100% maple syrup and top-quality bacon. ☺

**Dinner at The Bean**

We are open for dinner Wednesday - Sunday. Each night we run four or five dinner specials. Recent items include: Beer Batter Cod, Mushroom Ravioli, Sesame Seared Tuna, Steak Medallions 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. 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 - Lauren Hylka**  
**February - Dorothy Hall**  
**March - Pomfret Resident Artists**

Part of the Pomfret 300 Anniversary Celebration ☺

**Entertainment**


The Café is on the National Folk Music Circuit and attracts talent from all over the United States while featuring mainly New England performers. The majority of the shows are on Saturday night and start at 8:00 PM. Our Open Mic night is on the first Friday of each month. During shows, a theatre curtain separates the listening room from the tiled dining room and kitchen in an effort to keep the music in and the kitchen noise out. ☺

**On-Site WiFi**

We provide complimentary wireless internet service. Bring your lap top to the Café, search for available networks and log on to the VBC. Get some work done or check your email while you eat lunch! ☺

**Gilly's Art**

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



1 mile from the Vanilla Bean Gilly Gordon 974-1140

## Our Pricing Practices

**1. Sales Tax Included** - Our prices include the 6% 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 \$8.95 is less expensive than \$9.00. 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.

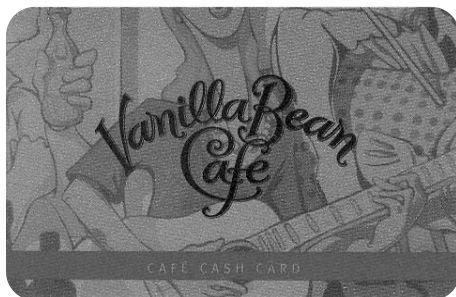
**3. No Pennies, Dimes or Nickels** - Because our prices include tax and we do not price in the standard way, we do not have to use pennies, dimes or nickels. This is a service to both the customer and to us. We don't give you lots of change, and we only have to use quarters and fifty-cent pieces. This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



*"The greatest gift you can give to somebody is your own personal development. I used to say, 'If you will take care of me, I will take care of you.' Now I say, 'I will take care of me for you if you will take care of you for me.'"* - Jim Rohn

## 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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- Albert Einstein



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- Alacia Bessette

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



All shows start at 8:00 pm unless otherwise noted

- **Friday January 4th** -  
No Open Mic -
- **Saturday January 5th** - \$30.00  
Chris Smither
- **Friday January 11th** 7:00 pm - \$ 5.00  
Songwriter Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts  
Amy Herrera, Ian Fitzgerald
- **Saturday January 12th** - \$20.00  
Garnet Rogers
- **Saturday January 19th** - \$15.00  
Don White
- **Saturday January 26th** - \$20.00  
Howie Bursen & Friends  
Food Bank Benefit
- **Friday February 1st** 7:30 pm - \$7.00  
Open Mic - Our Burgundy
- **Saturday February 2nd** - \$12.00  
Yankee Dogs
- **Friday February 8th** 7:00 pm - \$5.00  
Songwriter Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts  
Lara Herscovitch, Joanne Lurgio, John Fuzek

- **Saturday February 9th** - \$10.00  
Griff Tones - Benefit Concert
- **Saturday February 16th** - \$15.00  
Brooks Williams
- **Saturday February 23rd** - \$15.00  
Atwater-Donnelly Trio
- **Friday March 1st** 7:30 pm - \$7.00  
Open Mic - Hannah Fair
- **Saturday March 2nd** - \$15.00  
Donna Dufresne & Gypsy Romantique
- **Friday March 8th** 7:00 pm - \$5.00  
Songwriter Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts  
Jake Klar, Michael Orlen, Tom Smith
- **Saturday March 9th** - \$15.00  
Delta Generators
- **Saturday March 16th** - \$12.00  
Cashel Rock
- **Saturday March 23rd** - \$10.00  
The Wade Elliot Band
- **Saturday March 30th** - \$15.00  
Maria Sangiolo & Sally Rogers

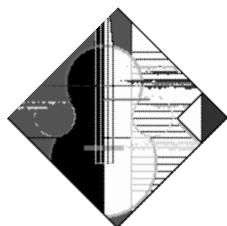
**Call ahead, shows are subject to change**

**Cash or Check Only for show Admissions**

WiFi available in Dining Room



P O Box 206  
Pomfret CT 06258



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



## 2013 ... What's Happening at The Bean ... 2013

~ January, February & March ~

- \*\* Saturday, January 5th - Chris Smither \*\*
- \*\* Saturday, February 16th - Brooks Williams \*\*



Get the calendar listings  
on your smart phone.



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"Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible."

- Dalai Lama