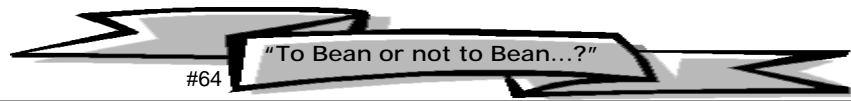




# Bean Soup

## Entertainment & Stuff



Volume 16 Number 4

October - December 2012

Free\*

## Dog Lane Café @ Storrs Center

### A College Town Emerges In Storrs - New Restaurants, Shops & Apartments at UCONN

by Kenneth Gosselin - Reprint from Hartford Courant

Students flocking to the University of Connecticut in Storrs this [year] will be able, for the first time, to say they are in a college town -- or at least the beginnings of one.

Businesses are settling into their new storefronts and tenants are moving into the upper-floor apartments of the first buildings completed in the ambitious, \$220-million Storrs Center development. Meanwhile construction is ramping up on future phases.

"The hope is that this becomes Main Street," said Cynthia van Zelm, executive director of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership.

The long-term aim is to create a true downtown area that Mansfield has lacked, a strong drawing card for visitors and a selling point to attract employers to town. The center, at the southern edge of campus, is across the street from Mansfield Town hall and the town high school.

Envisioned as a downtown where none has exist-

ed, the development is attracting plenty of attention. UCONN Women's Basketball Coach Geno Auriemma plans a restaurant there, the wildly successful Vanilla Bean Cafe in Pomfret has leased space for a separate venture, Dog Lane Café and all 127 apartments now ready for occupancy — ranging from studios to three-bedrooms — have been leased.

And now, the private developer soon will announce a lease with the Price Chopper supermarket for a 35,000-square-foot neighborhood market that will focus on regionally grown and produced food. The store could open by late next year in a portion of Storrs Center called Market Square that is expected to break ground in the spring, pending approvals.

"Students and faculty want to have a there, there," said Howard Kaufman, managing member of Tuxedo, N.Y.-based Leyland Alliance, the project's master developer. "UCONN has so much, but for some reason, this just never developed."



Opening in November

## Vanilla Bean Listed as one of the Top Low-Calorie Menus In Connecticut by CBS Connecticut

To eat healthy or to eat happy, that is the question. Whether it is nobler in the tummy to suffer the calories and the cholesterol of outrageous smorgasbords, or to take forks against a sea of soy, and by devouring them, end them? Fortunately in Connecticut, the choices are no longer so stark or grim. Many top, and not necessarily expensive, restaurants offer fare that is as hearty as it is heart-friendly, and as luscious as it is low in calories. Here are just five of the restaurants that offer great low-calorie menus in Connecticut.

The Vanilla Bean Café - Known to its many loyal local customers simply as "The Bean," The Vanilla Bean Café in Pomfret is as little-known a gem as is the small town around it in remote Windham County. The fewer than 4,000

residents, however, know a good thing when they see it (or in this case taste it), and "The Bean" keeps them coming back with a local, organic, fresh, diverse and healthy menu. There are vegetarian, vegan and seasonal fruit specialties for the trendier health-conscious crowd, but there are also many comfort foods from burritos to raviolis on this menu. "The Bean" serves breakfast and lunch "361 days a year" (closed on Easter, 4th of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas), and dinner Wednesday through Sunday. It has a good, fast grill menu and on Saturdays and Sundays, presents an epic feast dutifully named "The Weekend Breakfast."

Black Bamboo in West Hartford, Claire's Corner Copia in New Haven, Istanbul Cafe in New Haven, and It's Only Natural in Middletown

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trine that age  
brings wis-  
dom." - H. L.  
Mencken*

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\*We may close early during colder months.

†Entertainment night -  
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Stella, the English Mastiff you may have seen  
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**Bean Soup** is an information and  
entertainment newsletter.

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

### 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](http://www.VisitingNewEngland.com)

"the Vanilla Bean Café is one of those places you simply don't want to leave."

[www.HiddenBoston.com](http://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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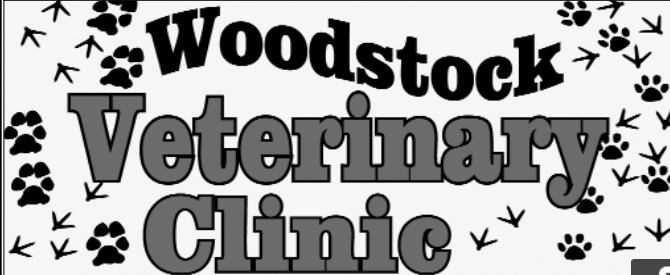


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## October Entertainment

### Friday - 5 - Open Mic



**Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham Feature - Paula Ryan** is a compelling singer/songwriter from Ireland. Her powerful, insightful songs are inspired by her Irish Gaelic roots and driven by many cultural influences and instruments.

### Saturday - 6 - Original Jelly Roll Soul

"Everyone loves jazz music, they just don't know it!" This is the fundamental thought behind **Original Jelly Roll Soul**, based out of RI, a place far off the jazz map. OJRS, a 5 piece band started in 2010. They pride themselves on continuous musical and technical evolution. Collectively the band has over 170 years of professional experience in the music world. Their performances are diverse, humorous, high energy, and fun. They present their sound within the many sub-genres of jazz music, including New Orleans, swing, jump, hard bop, Afro-Cuban, as well as Ethiopian, and others. They also draw from genres such as blues, gospel, ragtime, calypsos and other Caribbean styles of music. If you want an exciting, uplifting and educational musical experience, then this is the group to see.



### Friday - 12 - Songwriter Sessions

One Friday each month, 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 - 13 - Amy Black and Daphne Lee Martin & Raising the Rent

**Amy Black** is a Boston based singer/songwriter with storytelling and Southern tradition in her blood. In record time, she's become one of the most sought after acts in New England, sharing stages with Chris Isaak, The Courtyard Hounds, Suzy Boggus and Rodney Crowell and playing to a packed house The Boston Music Festival. Black also recently made her mark down south on the live radio show Music City Roots hosted by Jim Lauderdale, as a headliner at The Basement (Nashville) and Eddie's Attic (Georgia). The Boston Herald wrote that her "stunning debut" of original music on One Time brims with "beautifully imagined sound and soul." Wrung from the rags of New London's





## October Entertainment

speakeasies, **Daphne Lee Martin & Raise the Rent** stir together a wicked musical cocktail. Fusing honky-tonk torch vocals with swing and gypsy fiddling, swirling jazz-pop, and ragtime harmony singing, they bring together the gems of their own original songs with a top-shelf selection of beloved American broadsides of a bygone age.

### Saturday - 20 - Meg Hutchinson

Originally from rural western MA, contemporary acoustic songwriter **Meg Hutchinson** is now based in the Boston area. She has won numerous songwriting awards in the US, Ireland and UK, including recognition from John Lennon Songwriting Competition, Billboard Song Contest and prestigious competitions at Merlefest, New Song, Kerrville, Falcon Ridge, Telluride and Rocky Mountain Folks Festivals. Meg credits influences including poet Mary Oliver, songwriter Shawn Colvin, and mood maker David Gray. Hutchinson's songs begin with vivid, naturalistic images, of apple orchards and trailer parks, stark factory towns and the Statue of Liberty. But she is guiding us to more intimate places, exploring how we feel in this time of fast and frightening change. Whether singing about technology, billion dollar bailouts or global warming, Meg Hutchinson makes these big issues personal by showing how they affect our everyday lives. She goes beyond the casual observation of current events and explores the emotion behind the experiences, bringing the characters' inner lives out into the open.



### Saturday - 27 - 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.



*"Happiness is not something you postpone for the future; it is something you design for the present."* - Jim Rohn

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## November Entertainment

### Friday - 3 - Open Mic



**Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham Feature - Curtis Brand** says, "My music is an effort to reach out to people I have not yet met and present some of what I have learned in my travels. I hope you find something of value in what I have tried to share."

### Saturday - 3 - Paul Geremia

For forty years, **Paul Geremia** has lived on the fruit of his musical labours, travelling and performing in



venues from street singing to club and concert bookings, throughout the U.S.A., Canada and Europe. Geremia has built a reputation as a first rate bluesman, songwriter, a "scholar" of early jazz and blues, and one of the best country blues fingerpickers ever with his tools - six and twelve-string guitars, harmonica, piano and a husky soulful voice - and with an innate sense of the humor as well as the drama of the music, he keeps traditional blues fresh and alive with his performances. Geremia has a style which is very much his own though his background isn't typical for a bluesman. A third generation Italian-American, born in Providence, he grew up in a family that moved across the country several times. Geremia developed an appetite for music, history and travel, which has served him well.

### Friday - 9 - Songwriter Sessions

### Saturday - 10 - Peter Mulvey

**Peter Mulvey** has spent twenty-odd years on the road, performing songs from his own catalog and



from a vast, varied, and deep well of classic and obscure covers. Night after night, the process of divining the heart of a song and being alert to where the moment can lead, has shaped him as an artist. To each rendition, he brings the soul of a singer, a light touch in a heavy world. Recorded in just three days at Signature Sounds Studios in CT, The Good Stuff is a sequence in which a bluesy take on the Ellington classic "Mood Indigo" is sandwiched between Tom Waits' obscure "Green Grass," lovingly relocated from the guttural, and a charmingly haphazard rendition of Jolie Holland's "Old Fashioned Morphine". This triptych represents not so much the diversity of songwriting on the record as the commonality. "I'd put those three artists in the same drawer in the big bureau of songwriters," says Mulvey. "They're from different eras, and considered different animals -- jazz composer, bohemian beat poet, Americana revivalist -- but to my ear they're the same, in that they're always trying to write a timeless song." "Peter Mulvey is all substance, which is his style." - *The Boston Globe*.




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"Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does."

- William James

## November Entertainment

### Saturday - 17 - Roy Book Binder



**Roy Book Binder**, has earned his stripes. He travelled with The Rev. Gary Davis in the 60's. In the 70's, he re-discovered Pink Anderson and revived his career. Roy has been included in *The Blues Who's Who & The Big Book of Blues*. Jorma Kaukonen included Roy's songs on his last two Red House Records. Roy has appeared on TNN's Nashville Now thirty times with many of Country Music's biggest legends and has toured nationally with Bonnie Raitt, JJ Cale & Hot Tuna. You name it, he's done it!

### Sunday - 18 - Bill Staines



**Bill Staines** travels across North America, singing his songs and delighting audiences at festivals, folk-song 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."

### Saturday - 24 - Stories with Paul Lynn



Paul Lynn engages his audience with a combination of folksy humor and wry commentary. Regardless of the subject, Lynn said, "One thing is certain; Woodstock Yankees continue to look at life a tad differently than our urban friends." Lynn has a master's degree in American folk culture and history museum training from Cooperstown Graduate Programs. He has worked at Old Sturbridge Village in various craft/ballad-singing capacities for a number of years. Lynn has immersed himself at Pine Mountain Settlement School in the Southern Appalachian culture and tradition of songs and ballads including the accompanying instrument, the plucked dulcimer. Lynn has a notebook filled with hundreds of pages of stories, ready to be retold.

#### VBC Review Quotables...

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"Relaxed" Atmosphere - *Boston Globe*

"Truly Bizarre" Service - *New London Day*

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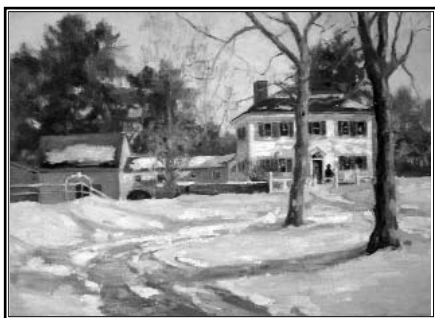


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- Mahatma Gandhi

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



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## December Entertainment

### Saturday - 1 - Al Copley

**Al Copley** is a pianist and singer. He arranged and co-founded "Roomful of Blues", the renowned American jump band nominated for two Grammy Awards while he was with them. After 16 years with Roomful, Copley relocated to Europe. In 2002, he performed two of his full symphonic orchestrations before an audience of more than 25,000 with the Boston Festival Orchestra at Summer Pops. "Capable of evoking at once Jay McShann, Memphis Slim or Art Tatum; Copley interprets the blues most joyfully. "His great sense of humor, his sense of swing and phrasing are a wonder... great conviction" - *Bulletin of the Hot Job Club of France*



### Friday - 7 - Open Mic



**Hosts - Faith Montaperto & Kala Farnham. Feature - Katie Sachs** is a singer songwriter with a serious ear for music and relentless drive for social justice. Writing and performing since the age of 13, Katie has grown up to create complex melodies and vivid lyrical imagery, which she expresses through a voice that is visceral and compelling.

### Saturday - 8 - Poor Old Shine

Foot stomping, mind racing, fast flinching music - day in and day out, **Poor Old Shine** is the Roots-Americana collaboration of Chris Freeman and Will Leet. They travel with an assortment of instruments



including guitars, banjos, pump organ, string bass, cello, a swarm of harmonicas, and a yard-sale-scrap-metal drum set. It's old songs with a new feel, banjos with paint peeled, shoes with holes and treadless soles, and music that is real. Poor Old Shine's music is rooted in the folk and Appalachian mountain music tradition and fits in well at bluegrass festivals and sticky rock clubs alike. They have been compared to The Avett Brothers, Mumford and Sons, Langhorne Slim, and The Low Anthem because of the changing instrumentation and harmonies. Each set mixes Freeman and Leet's songwriting with traditional folk ballads, prison work songs, and front porch style jamming. Poor Old Shine also features musicians Antonio Alcorn (Mandolin, guitar), Scott Thomas McColl (Upright Bass), Malachai Madden (Cello, Guitar), and David Norman (Organ). All 6 are UCONN. The new band has performed at Toads Place, The Space and Sully's.

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### Friday - 14 - Songwriter Sessions

*"It is often merely for an excuse that we say things are impossible."* - Francois de La Rochefoucauld




## December Entertainment

### Saturday - 15 - Liz Queler & Seth Farber



Hailed by Billboard Magazine as “a singer’s singer”, **Liz Queler** (vocals/guitar/mandolin), a native New Yorker and the daughter of renowned opera conductor Eve Queler, has performed on esteemed stages from the Newport Folk Festival to Carnegie Hall. Her voice and compositions have been heard on countless jingles as well as TV and film soundtracks. Her folk/rock songwriting, a cross between Emmylou Harris and Sheryl Crow, has won her numerous awards. **Seth Farber** (keyboards/accordion/vocals) was musical director to the late, great Odetta for the last decade, producing three CDs, two of which were nominated for Grammys. He was also assistant conductor at the Broadway musical “Hairspray” for its 6 year run. Both Liz and Seth currently tour with Grammy nominated children’s rock band “Brady Rymer and the Little Band That Could.” Along with their son, Joey, they were featured this year on Rosie O’Donnell’s HBO special “A Family is a Family Is A Family.”

### Sunday - 22 - 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 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.

### Holiday Hours Thanksgiving

Wednesday, November 22nd - Open 7:00 am- 3:00 pm

Thursday, November 23rd - Closed

### Christmas

Monday, December 24th - Open 8:00 am- 3:00 pm

Tuesday, December 25th - Closed

Monday, December 31st - Open 8:00 am- 3:00 pm

### New Year’s Day

Tuesday, January 1st, 2013 - Open 11:00 am - 3:00 pm



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Learn as if you were  
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- Mahatma Gandhi

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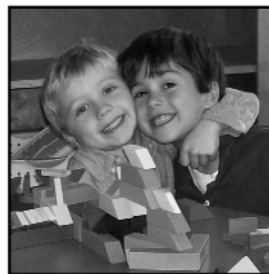
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the only time we’ve got.”  
- Art Buchwald

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- Billie Burke

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- Robert Louis Stevenson

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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.

October - Dorothy Hall  
November - Gilly Gordon  
December - Quilts

## 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

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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 \$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.

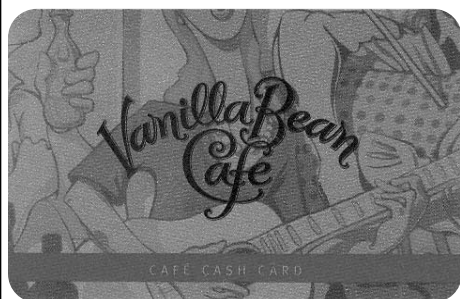


*"Always continue the climb. It is possible for you to do whatever you choose, if you first get to know who you are and are willing to work with a power that is greater than ourselves to do it."*

- Ella Wheeler Wilcox

## 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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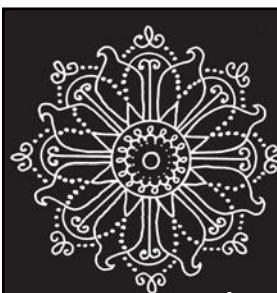
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*"When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would hope that I would not have a single talent left and could say; I used everything you gave me."*

- Erma bombeck



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- William Shakespeare

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



All shows start at 8:00 pm unless otherwise noted

- **Friday October 5th** 7:30 pm - \$ 5.00  
Open Mic - Paula Ryan
- **Saturday October 6th** - \$12.00  
Original Jelly Roll Soul
- **Friday October 12th** 7:00 pm - \$ 5.00  
Songwriter Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts  
Robin O'Herin, Craig Sonnenfeld & Meg Braun
- **Saturday October 13th** - \$12.00  
Amy Black and  
Daphne Lee Martin & Raising the Rent
- **Saturday October 20th** - \$15.00  
Meg Hutchinson
- **Saturday October 27th** - \$10.00  
Griff Tones - Benefit Concert
- **Friday November 2nd** 7:30 pm - \$ 7.00  
Open Mic - Curtis Brand
- **Saturday November 3rd** - \$15.00  
Paul Geremia
- **Friday November 9th** 7:00 pm - \$ 5.00  
Songwriter Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts  
Steve Allain, Jan Luby & Mary Ann Rossoni
- **Saturday November 10th** - \$15.00  
Peter Mulvey

- **Saturday November 17th** - \$15.00  
Roy Book Binder
- **Sunday November 18th** 7:00 pm - \$20.00  
Bill Staines
- **Saturday November 24th** - \$15.00  
Stories with Paul Lynn  
TEEG Benefit
- **Saturday December 1st** - \$15.00  
Al Copley
- **Friday December 7th** 7:30 pm - \$ 7.00  
Open Mic - Katie Sachs
- **Saturday December 8th** - \$15.00  
Poor Old Shine
- **Friday December 14th** 7:00 pm - \$ 5.00  
Songwriter Sessions - Lisa Martin Hosts  
Derek Burkins & TBA
- **Saturday December 15th** - \$12.00  
Liz Queler & Seth Farber
- **Saturday December 22nd** - \$15.00  
Atwater-Donnelly

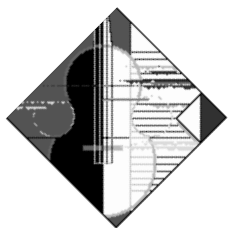
**Call ahead, shows are subject to change**

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

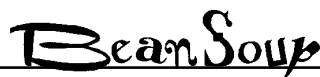


2012 ... What's Happening at The Bean ... 2012

~ October, November & December ~

\*\* Saturday, October 20th - Meg Hutchinson \*\*

\*\* Saturday, December 1st - Al Copley \*\*



☞ "Be yourself; everyone else is already taken." - Oscar Wilde



**Opening in November**

### Holiday Hours Thanksgiving

Wednesday, November 22nd - Open 7:00 am- 3:00 pm

Thursday, November 23rd - Closed

### Christmas

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Tuesday, December 25th - Closed

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