



Singer/guitarist/actor, Earl Bates, returns to Perkins County to reprise his retro, neo-folk, old-school-cool classics of the 60s through the 80s at the Cactus Palace in Venango on Friday, April 5 at 9 p.m.

Mr. Bates is once again touring his one man show, "Will Rogers in the 21st Century," which played July 4th in Grant. He also performed that night in Venango.

This Friday Earl wants to stop by to have some fun and pick up a little "gas money" on his way to a Nebraska Arts Council Touring Program engagement in Alliance the following evening. He hopes to bring along the downpours that tried to stop the outdoor show last summer.

Bates says, "Maybe I should just play The Rainmaker and put an end to this crazy dry spell!"

Digging through his eclectic musical tastes compelled him to write a crazy song list including the Beatles, Paul Simon, Cat Stevens, American Folk, Celtic Traditionals, Eagles, Tom Waits, James Taylor, Joni Mitchell, Jazz, Sting, Broadway Tunes, Lyle Lovett, Blues, John Prine, and on and on.

No electronic drum machines here. Armed only with an acoustic guitar, a formidable voice, wry rapport and plenty of conviction, Earl makes the most of his talent and life experiences. His adapted arrangements and "true yarns" put a personal spin on the familiar, as well as his rather esoteric and obscure selections. All are guaranteed to please any discriminating audience.