

At



*Sunday*  
*August 13<sup>th</sup>*  
*4:00-6:00 p.m.*

*"Though some may refer to him as a folksinger, Paul is more, for lack of a better word, a singular storyteller, a musician whose words reach out from inside and yet also express the feelings, thoughts and sensibilities that most people can relate to in one way or another, regardless of age or upbringing.*

*~Wicked Local / Marblehead, MA*

Some artists document their lives through their music. Others chronicle their times. It's a rare artist who can do both, telling their own story through songs that also encapsulate the essence of people and places who have helped define their era overall. Woody Guthrie comes to mind, and so does Bob Dylan. Bruce Springsteen certainly as well. Yet few others, for whatever genius they may possess, can relate their own history to the history experienced by those who find that common bond, be it in a coming of age, living through the same realities or sharing similar experiences. **Ellis Paul** is one of those gifted singer/songwriters.

The major tipping point in Paul's career came with the opportunity to open for Bill Morrissey, one of New England's most prominent folk artists. Paul would repeatedly ask Morrissey about his own influences and seek his advice on who he ought to listen to. "You know, that's a very smart thing to do," Morrissey muses. "It helped set him apart." A lot of young singers I meet are not curious about what went on before. . . ."

Paul also became infatuated with the music of Woody Guthrie, drawn to Woody's social consciousness and the humanitarian streak that ran through his work. His commitment to Guthrie's legacy eventually led to his inclusion in a ten day celebration of Woody's work held at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in September 1996, an event that included such notables as Bruce Springsteen, Billy Bragg, the Indigo Girls and Ani DiFranco and which was presided over by Guthrie's daughter Nora. Later, when Guthrie's hometown of Okemah, Oklahoma hosted the first Woody Guthrie Folk Festival in July, 1998, Paul was tapped as one of the headliners. He has since made this an annual part of his touring schedule, garnering the honor of being named an honorary citizen of Okemah in the process. The connection with Guthrie continued into the new millennium when Nora Guthrie invited him to put music to a set of her father's lyrics. He later participated in the "Ribbon of Highway" tour, a communal salute featuring such luminaries as Arlo Guthrie, Marty Stuart, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Nanci Griffith, Guy Clark and Janis Ian, among others.



**Ellis Paul**

Concert is **\$25** per person prepaid donation with reservations – payable to **Ellis Paul**.

Call **903-583-2661** to reserve a seat. Mail donation to **Faye Wedell, P.O. Box 812, Bonham, TX 75418**.

- For a \$1 suggested donation, you can enjoy coffee, tea, and punches.
- There will be an optional "Old-Fashioned Potluck Picnic" after the concert. When you call for reservations, please say if you plan to participate and indicate what dish you'll bring.
- You are invited to bring your own instruments for some pickin' and singin' in a Song Circle after the concert.

**Harmony House** is on Wildscape Acres, 10 miles north of Bonham, Texas (65 mi. NE of Dallas) near Ravenna.

Ask for directions when you call for your reservation.

[www.WildscapeAcres.com](http://www.WildscapeAcres.com)