

Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens tribute set for Friday

Weekend Planner

By [Geri McShane](#) | Albert Lea Tribune

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A Tribute to Buddy Holly and Ritchie Valens is coming to the Marion Ross Performing Arts Center in Albert Lea Friday beginning at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale at Doyle's Hallmark in Northbridge Mall. For more information call, 377-4372.

"Richie Lee is new to us," said manager Patrick Rasmussen. "I've done two tributes to Buddy Holly in the past, but this is the first time Richie will be here. He's played a lot of venues in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa, so he is familiar to quite a few people. He recently played at the Senior Citizen's Center. So if you saw him there, come to the Performing Arts Center and catch the entire show."

Lee, 19, is from Des Moines, Iowa, and was singing almost before he could talk. At age 8, he won a Buddy Holly look alike lip sync contest in Des Moines. His interest in Buddy Holly began at the age of 6, listening to CDs. He began taking guitar lessons at age 11 and drums at age 12. Lee has played with many Iowa rock'n'roll bands. He played 14 ballrooms by age 16. He has also gone as far as Boston to play a couple of shows with the Drifters and this summer will go to Memphis for an Elvis Tribute. He has been on shows with many famous people, too many to mention.

The performance will include songs of Ritchie Valens, but also all the greatest songs of Buddy Holly: "Everyday," "True Love Ways," "That'll be the Day," "Peggy Sue," "Maybe Baby" and more. Lee is also a big fan of Eddie Cochran and is planning on playing a few of his songs.

General admission tickets are \$15. The box office will open at 6:30 p.m. and the auditorium at 6:45.