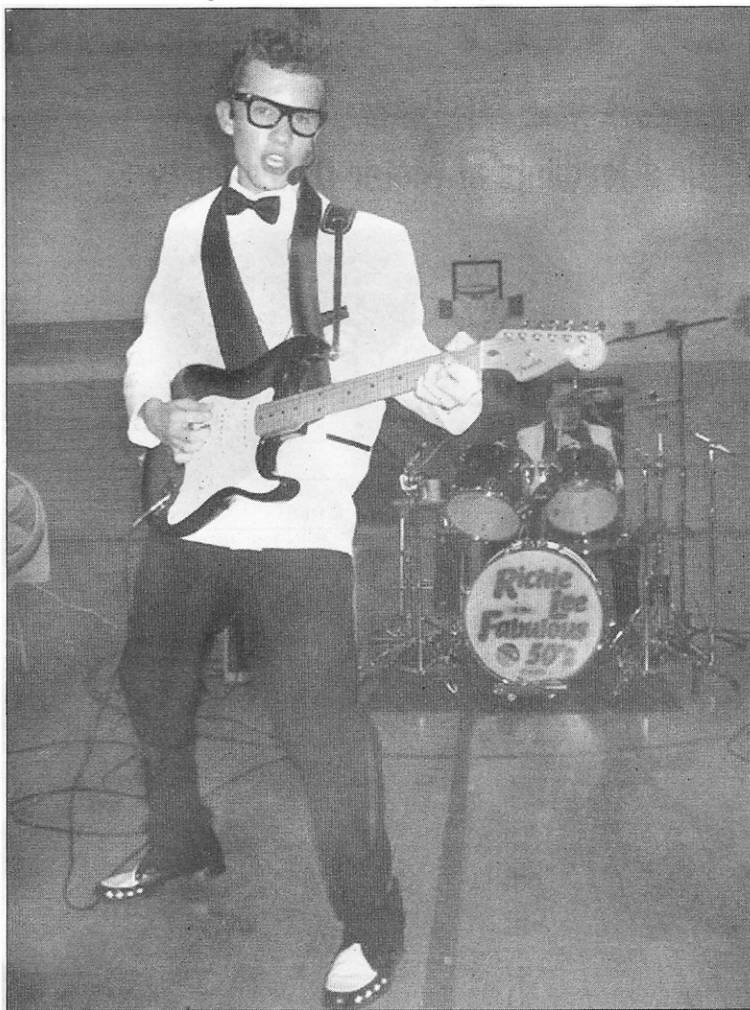


Options, so many options



Submitted photos

Richie Lee and the Fabulous Thunder Birds will play Buddy Holly music at the Kato Ballroom New Year's Eve Party.

Happy New Year!

'Rockin' Eve' isn't the only entertainment option Monday night

Free Press staff

MANKATO — Sure, New Year's Eve is on a Monday night, probably the most boring day of the week for such a fun holiday.

But lots of people have New Year's Day off, anyway, so instead of hitting the couch and rockin' it in with Dick Clark's posse in Time's Square, make your own fun in your own time zone this year.

Here are a few options if you feel like going out.

The Kato Ballroom will be throwing a New Year's Eve Party with lots of music and dancing. Richie Lee and the Fabulous 50s will play Buddy Holly music.

Party-goers who also want dinner can come at 6 p.m., with the meal served at 6:30 p.m. For those who just want to dance, the party starts at 8 p.m. The cost is \$33 in advance for the meal, \$35 at the door for the meal, \$13 in advance for the dance only, and \$17 at the door for the dance. Call 625-7553.

If big laughs are more your style, comedian Wild Bill Bauer is holding his seventh-annual New Year's Eve Show at the Holiday Inn. Headliners include Don Peterson, a law professor by day and a comedian at night, and Michael Thorn, who has a bit of an edge to his comedy, so leave the kids at home. Dan Geiger

of WCCO will host and provide music.

Show times are 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. and tickets are \$15, with a \$5 discount to anyone who has dinner at the hotel (reservations are required). Call 345-1234.

Other events include:

- New Year's Even Party with the Paul Durenberger Band, 9 p.m., Wine Cafe, 301 N. Riverfront Drive
- DW3 & B Squad, acoustic rock, 9 p.m., Pub 500, corner of Cherry and Front streets
- Fish Frye, acoustic rock, McGoff's Irish Pub, across from the Alltel Center

For complete listings of events, please visit www.mankatofreepress.com and view the entertainment calendar, published each Thursday in the Currents section.