

G. Willicker's, on Route 20 in Shrewsbury, was originally called the Log Cabin, and it still has that look and feel—complete with fireplace. Jab N the Groove does very well, especially when hockey player Joe Junno sits in on drums. Other bands in rotation include Rex Pluto, Fall Out and Steppin' Out. The Loiterers play Wednesdays and the Dames Thursdays. Steppin' Out rocks the place Friday, Dec. 30, and Fall Out rings in the New Year.

Heading toward Boston, Chefs Diner in Northboro offers a shoebox setting to experience your favorite band. Scott Ricciutti frequently appears on one of the weekend nights, solo or with Huck. Admission for a recent show pairing Pop Twist Acid Bath and Everything was \$4 and included a free-drink ticket.

Curran's Anchor Lounge, 82 Wheelock Ave. in Millbury, a short turn off Grafton Street, can be a welcome change for those who want to simply hear music without having to play to current trends. During a recent appearance by Steppin' Out, the 75 or so in the house danced to Black Crowes-style Southern boogie, hooting and hollering their appreciation as each member took a solo instrumental break. Dark Horse, Strange Brew

and Last Waltz usually make monthly visits to the room.

Closer to downtown Millbury, Zach's Dance Club, 22 Howe Ave., is a newly renovated former car dealership showroom opened to attract an under-18 crowd. While its opening weekend in November featured live bands, the room has featured recorded dance music since that time. Admission is \$7 for guys and \$4 for gals. Flannel is in overabundance and skirts are a rarity.

Tumbleweeds, Route 30 in North Grafton, complements the Mount Auburn and Point Breeze in Webster in offering area country-music fans a place to dance the night away. The Roadhouse Band frequently plays to crowds that dance tightly to their slow ballads. Charlie's Sports Bar downstairs allows a chance to get away for the late results.

Smack in the center of North Grafton, the Olde Post Office Pub, Ray Street and Route 140, is a multifaceted facility. The main area is a wide-open space featuring churchlike, high ceilings with wide wooden beams. Whether it's the spinning of dance tunes by Deejay Bruce Bodin or a live performance by Jim Pardella, the room's always quite lively under the smil-

ing neon of Mr. Zip's Bar Zone.

Route 31 in Holden may not have the flair of Route 20, but it has started to make a name for itself as an alternative site to check out bands. Wong Dynasty (formerly the Christmas Tree Inn), 176 Reservoir Road, regularly features Mocha Java and Slipknot. •

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