

Out with the old, spin with the new

By Meredith Goldstein, Globe Staff | December 26, 2008

Nightclubs like to get creative on New Year's Eve. This year, local hot spots are throwing costume theme parties, bringing in reality stars, even putting on something called a "white trash buffet." With all these out-on-the-town options for the over-21 crowd, there's really no reason to ring in the new year in front of the TV.

Gulu-Gulu Cafe The funky bar with an impressive beer selection is dedicating its New Year's party to the decade of wide collars and wider-legged pants. That's right, it's the Disco Ball, featuring 1970s tunes spun by local DJs Radio Scotvoid and Noel Snow. Come dressed in your '70s finest. The cover includes some food and a champagne toast. 8 p.m. \$10. 247 Essex St., Salem. 978-740-8882, www.gulu-gulu.com

Game On! Master Millions, a local DJ who has toured with Ciara, Hilary Duff, Lupe Fiasco, and 50 Cent, will be spinning pop and hip-hop. The night includes a dessert buffet and prizes such as sports tickets and gift certificates, which will be hidden in balloons. Between the music and the balloon popping, you shouldn't need a noisemaker. 8 p.m. \$30. 82 Lansdowne St. 617-351-7001, www.gameonboston.com

T.T. the Bear's Heroes has planned a special party for New Year's Eve. You'll hear all of the popular dance night's regular music (new wave, punk, electro, and more), and you'll also get noisemakers, champagne, and access to a "white trash buffet." Best of all, the club is open until 3 a.m. for the occasion. 9 p.m. \$12, \$15 at the door. 10 Brookline St., Cambridge. 617-492-2327, www.ttthebears.com

Saint The Back Bay club has gone all James Bond on us for New Year's Eve. Not only has it come up with a Bond-inspired trailer for its party, it's calling the shindig "Quantum of Saint." Your admission gets you late-night bites and a champagne toast. 9 p.m. \$50. 90 Exeter St. 617-236-1134, www.saintboston.com

CBS Scene The next best thing to seeing the Times Square ball drop in person? How about watching it drop on 135 high-definition televisions at once. That's how many screens CBS Scene in the new Patriot Place complex has, all of which will be tuned to the New York City celebration for Foxborough revelers on New Year's Eve. Also on tap: '80s music, a live broadcast from Mix 98.5, and a buffet and champagne toast. 9 p.m. \$50. 200 Patriot Place, Foxborough. 508-203-2200, www.cbsscene.com

Estate The nightclub that enriched your life by bringing Brody Jenner and Paris Hilton to Boston does it again on New Year's Eve, with "America's Next Top Model" CariDee English acting as party host. The night includes a lingerie fashion show and, if you spring for a VIP ticket, a meet-and-greet with English. 10 p.m. \$75, \$100 for VIP ticket. 1 Boylston Place. 617-351-7000, www.theestateboston.com

Midway Café "Sparkle," a New Year's Eve dance party benefit for the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition, features DJs Tre Andre and Gunner cranking the tunes. 9 p.m. \$10 before Dec. 30, \$15 at the door. 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.masstpc.org/events/newyears.shtml

Revolution Rock Bar Our outgoing president would probably be happy with the New Year's Eve party here. The Lone Star State-inspired event - Welcome to Dallas - is supposed to attract folks in boots who want to ride the mechanical bull and snack on barbecue. Despite the theme, the music won't be country; DJ Rick Rude will be playing dance hits and mash-ups. 8 p.m. \$65. 200 High St. 617-437-1617, www.revolutionrockbar.com

McGreevy's The Back Bay bar co-owned by Ken Casey of the Dropkick Murphys is treating New Year's Eve like St. Patrick's Day and hosting a Celtic Ball. Wear green, and stick around for the Guinness toast at midnight. 9 p.m. \$10 with RSVP. 911 Boylston St. 617-262-0911. www.mcgreevysboston.com

Kings The nightclub/bowling alley is one of the few spots hosting a free party. Music will be provided by the Plaid Daddy Band, a cover act that plays everything from Rob Thomas to Young MC. 8 p.m. Free. 50 Dalton St. 617-266-2695, www.backbaykings.com ■