

Ballroom dancing

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several dances, then you can dance every dance rather than wait for the one dance you know."

But some people still prefer the elegance of a formal dance, and like aficionados

of other dance styles, from swing to country line dancing, ballroom dancers constantly bemoan the scarcity of places where they can dance to their kind of music.

"It's a shame there aren't more places up here that offer this type of dancing," said Trombley. "That's the biggest complaint I hear,

that there's nowhere to go." She hopes that when the Dance Center goes forward with a planned expansion this summer, she'll be able to offer ballroom-style dance socials on weekends. The fledgling Northern Michigan USABDA chapter has held two dances so far, and

wants to rotate its schedule between Traverse City, Gaylord and Petoskey.

There are a few big ballroom-style events in this part of the state. Twice a year, the Portage Point Inn in Onekama puts on a big dance extravaganza with a live dance band, and each October, ballroom dancers

from all over the country gather at Mackinac Island's Grand Hotel for a weekend of dancing. But there are other places where it's possible to step out onto the dance floor: the Top of the Park, the Fireplace Inn, even Shimmers Lounge (during the week, anyway).



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