

play



EL BARCO
1035 N. Ashland Ave.;
773-486-6850

Served with: Tostada rounds on each table.
But try it with ... Seafood, including the whole red snapper.
Takeaway: \$5 for a 6-ounce container.

This Veracruz-style salsa comes to the table warm with a basket of crisp tostada rounds and two other sauces (verde and naranja). Deep, sweet and smoky, it trails off with a slow burn. Don't even think about asking staffers for a recipe. It's like a state secret. Still, we guess that it may contain chipotle chiles, molasses and brown sugar, among other ingredients.

AY AY PICANTE
4569 N. Elston Ave.;

Valentine's Day events

Please submit listings by going online to metromix.com/listings.

BARS

29 Candles ... An '80s Prom Party: A Valentine's Day party package includes domestic bottles and drafts, wine and well drinks. Come dressed in prom, '80s or "Sixteen Candles"-themed costumes for a chance to win an iPod and other prizes. 9:30 p.m. Feb. 14; \$30. *Kincade's*, 950 W. Armitage Ave.; 773-348-0010.

Anti-Valentine's Day bash: Who needs a date when there's beer? 5 p.m. Feb. 14; no cover. *Wells*

Wines of Romance Rose Festival:

Sample an extensive variety of rose champagnes and sparkling wines from around the country. Prices start at \$10 (glasses) and \$38 (bottles). On Friday and Saturday, The Ava Logan Quartet performs in the Jazz Club; \$15 cover. 3 p.m. Feb. 14; price vary. *Pops for Champagne*, 601 N. State St.; 312-266-7677.

ETC

Belles and Whistles: Michelle L'Amour and the Chicago Starlets perform onstage striptease and exotic dances down the aisles. Also includes comedy and variety acts and short films. 11:59 p.m. Feb. 14; \$12-\$14; \$20 for two in advance. *Music Box Theatre*, 3733 N. Southport Ave.; 773-871-6604.

The Bowery Boys: The world premiere of a musical inspired by the rags-to-riches stories of 19th Century American author Horatio Alger Jr. The story line follows the 1880s adventures of a streetwise kid and young immigrant woman as they chase the American Dream. Playwright David H. Bell directs; music by composer Jeremy Cohen. 2:30 p.m., 8 p.m. Feb. 14; \$45. Meal packages available. *Marriott's Lincolnshire Theatre*, 10 Marriott Drive, Lincolnshire; 847-634-0200.

ComedySportz: Two teams of professional comedians compete in this improv show. Includes live musical accompaniment. 6 p.m., 8 p.m., 10 p.m. Feb. 14; \$21. *ComedySportz Theatre*, 929 W. Belmont Ave.; 773-549-8080; 773-549-8080

Duets for My Valentine: See dance performances by guest artists The Slaughter Project (St. Louis, MO) and local ensembles Chicago Tap Theatre, Chicago Dance Crash, Inside Chicago Dance, Big City Swing, Corpo Dance Company, Thodos Dance Chicago, Momenta Chicago Dance, Nonstop Dance

Valentine's Day at Martini Park: A four-course meal includes a bottle of Moët champagne. 5 p.m. Feb. 14; \$48 per person. Martini Park, 151 W. Erie St.; 312-640-0577.

Valentine's Day at Fat Cat: A four-course meal includes a bottle of Moët champagne. 5 p.m. Feb. 14; \$48 per person. *Martini Park*, 151 W. Erie St.; 312-640-0577.

Valentine's Day at Martini Park: A four-course meal includes a bottle of Moët champagne. 5 p.m. Feb. 14; \$48 per person. *Martini Park*, 151 W. Erie St.; 312-640-0577.

Valentine's Day at O'Donovan's: Food and drink specials augment the regular menu. 4 p.m. Feb. 14; prices vary. *O'Donovan's*, 2100 W. Irving Park Rd.; 773-478-2100.

Valentine's Day at Par Lounge: Choose any appetizer, soup or salad, entree and dessert from the eclectic, global menu. Add a split of champagne for \$7.50. 5 p.m. Feb. 14; \$22. *Par Lounge*, 1415 N. Milwaukee Ave.; 773-252-6410.