

# A handy guide for your Valentine planning

Mara Wegner , USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Published 11:34 a.m. CT Feb. 1, 2017 | Updated 1:08 p.m. CT Feb. 2, 2017



*Now that February has arrived, it's time to turn your attention to Valentine's Day plans. Whether you enjoy spending time indoors or outdoors with your special someone, there are a number of events and opportunities to choose from this Valentine's Day season in the Fox Valley. Here are some best bets to consider when making plans, whether your focus is on romance, chocolate or both.*

## **Treat yourself with 'Death by Chocolate'**

Heaps of whipped chocolate, dark rich chocolate, chocolate martinis and more will be featured at the 14th annual Death by Chocolate Valentine's Day event, set for 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. Feb 14.

Spend your evening in downtown Appleton sampling chocolate desserts whipped up by some of the best chefs in the area.

Tickets for the event, organized by Appleton Downtown Inc., are \$20 each and are expected to sell out. Tickets are available 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the ADI office, 116 N. Appleton St. For a list of participating businesses or to purchase tickets online, visit [appletondowntown.org/2017-death-by-chocolate](http://appletondowntown.org/2017-death-by-chocolate).

## **Send a singing Valentine**

The Appleton Fox Valleyaires Chorus wants to take your Valentine's Day message to a new level. They suggest a singing valentine for that special someone.

Send a Singing Valentine between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 14. They will sing two appropriate songs, present a long-stemmed rose, a valentine card and take a digital picture of the event. The quartet will arrive unannounced and search out the recipient, who will then be serenaded.

The cost starts at \$35. Add-on extras include Wilmar chocolates, Robinson's roses and balloons.

The charities supported by the Fox Valleyaires are Leaven and the Harmony Foundation.

Call AI to reserve a time slot at 920-733-2787. For more information, visit [www.foxvalleyaires.com](http://www.foxvalleyaires.com).

## **Take a candlelight hike**

A moonlight ski and snowshoe event will be offered 5-8 p.m. Feb. 10 at Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve, 4815 N. Lynndale Drive, Appleton. Enjoy the snowshoe or ski trail illuminated by candles. Normal trail and rental fees apply. For more information, call 920-731-6041.

### **Dance with your little sweetheart**

The ninth annual Father-Daughter Dance will be 6-9 p.m. Feb. 10 at Heart of the Valley YMCA. The event includes music, dancing, photo booth, cookies and a parting gift. Raffle baskets and 50/50 raffle tickets will be available at the event. \$25 per couple, \$5 for each additional child. Register at any YMCA or online at [www.ymcafoxcities.org](http://www.ymcafoxcities.org).

Fox Crossing/Town of Menasha Parks and Recreation Department will host a Daddy-Daughter Winter Formal 5:30-9 p.m. Feb. 10 at the Grand Meridian, 2621 N. Oneida St., Appleton. The evening consists of dinner, dancing, and the chance to win door prizes. For an additional fee, a professional photographer will be on hand to capture your moment and beverages will also be available. \$34 per couple and \$14 for each additional child. For ages 5 and older. Register to attend at <http://www.town-menasha.com>.

### **Enjoy a festival with the family**

United Way Fox Cities Emerging Leaders will host the 2017 Valentine's Family Festival 9:30 a.m.-noon Feb. 11 at Maplewood Middle School, Menasha. The free event is geared toward children 12 and younger and their families. This year's event includes cookie decorating, arts and crafts, photo booth, face painting, balloon animals and more. Books will be given to the children in attendance, while supplies last. Eat healthy snacks and have a chance to enter your teacher into a drawing for the chance to win a \$150 Scholastic Books gift card.

### **A classic romantic movie**

The New London Public Museum and the Grand Cinema Theater in New London are teaming up to bring another classic movie to the city. Step back in time Feb. 11 and enjoy the romantic 1957 movie "An Affair to Remember" on the big screen. The movie starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$2 per person and are on sale at the museum.

### **Warm up in downtown Neenah**

The annual Warm Your Heart event will be 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Feb. 11 in Neenah. Downtown restaurants and retailers will offer samples of warm soup, beverages, dessert and appetizers. Approximately 20 Neenah businesses are planning to participate. The \$15 registration includes a handcrafted Sunset Hill Stoneware mug and samplings of foods to warm your heart. Vote for your favorite warm treat and enter for a chance to win a \$50 downtown Neenah gift certificate. For more information, visit [www.neenah.org/downtown/warm-the-heart](http://www.neenah.org/downtown/warm-the-heart) or call 920-722-1920.

### **Take your valentine to the ballpark**

The Timber Rattlers are hosting a pair of Valentine's dinners Feb. 11 and 14 at Fox Cities Stadium, 2400 N. Casaloma Drive, Grand Chute. Space is limited for each night.

Tickets includes a candle-lit four-course meal, champagne, rose, photo of the couple and two 2017 ticket vouchers. Gates open at 5 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Seating may be reserved in person at the Neuroscience Group Field Box Office or order tickets by calling 920-733-4152. The deadlines to order tickets are Feb. 8 for the dinner on Feb. 11 and Feb. 10 for the dinner on Feb. 14.

### **Listen to love stories**

Storycatchers Live: Love Notes will be 7-9 p.m. Feb. 11 at The Draw, 800 S. Lawe St., Appleton. Members of the community become storytellers, sharing (mostly) true stories. This month's theme is "Love Notes." You do not need to tell a story to attend. Suggested donation of \$5 at the door. For more information, call 920-915-0020.

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