



Only markets stand in way of Japan's Takaichi

BUSINESS, 4A

The Spectator

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026 | EVENINGTRIBUNE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Steuben County schools eye merger

Neal Simon
Corning Leader
USA TODAY NETWORK

Two Steuben County public school districts will study the pluses and minuses of merging.

The respective school boards of Campbell-Savona and Bradford said in a joint statement that they have "authorized a feasibility study to explore the possibility of a merger between our two districts."

The study, according to the school boards, will examine a merger's implications for academic programming, staffing, transportation, facilities and taxes.

The study process will provide both boards with the opportunity "to gather objective, detailed information about potential educational, financial, operational and community impacts" of merging, the boards said in a Feb. 6 statement.

"Our shared commitment is to trans-

parency, open communication and keeping the educational needs of our students at the center of this process," the boards added. "We encourage community members to stay informed and engaged as the study moves forward."

The completed study will be presented publicly and be "carefully reviewed" by both boards, the statement added.

A timeline was not released. The school boards said additional details about timelines, public meetings and opportunities for input will be commu-

nicated in the coming months.

NYS offers financial incentives for school districts to merge

In authorizing the merger, the boards cited the "realization during the past few years that New York state has pulled back its levels of financial support and slowed the amount of aid each district is receiving."

See **MERGER**, Page 2A

Hornell restaurants offer special menus for Valentine's Day dining



The Hush Cocktail Lounge on Main Street, Hornell. PROVIDED PHOTO CHRIS POTTER

Wintry weather creates fire, CO hazards

Neal Simon
Hornell Evening Tribune
USA TODAY NETWORK

This winter has been unrelenting, with temperatures below freezing for most of the last several months.

The persistent cold strains heating systems and presents fire safety challenges, Hornell Fire Chief Frank Brzozowski said. Steuben County has seen multiple fires this winter, including a fatal incident in the Village of Bath Jan. 31.

An invisible threat also presents challenges. Carbon monoxide is a danger as "people tend to lock up their houses really tight" during the winter.

"Windows are closed, doors are closed. It's an avenue for a catastrophe if carbon monoxide gets in the house," Brzozowski said. "It can be distributed by a range of things, from being too close to a garage where there's fumes coming in from the garage, (and) where there's a heating device in your house such as a furnace or a propane gas or wood heater."

Cooking appliances like stoves can also create carbon monoxide in the home if they are not properly vented, Brzozowski cautioned.

"CO is what we call the silent killer because it's odorless, it's tasteless. You can't see it," Brzozowski said. "Wherever there's air, CO can go."

Brzozowski advises residents to have working CO detectors mounted on each floor of the home.

"They will detect CO that gets in the house after it approaches a lethal limit, and it will sound the alarm so if it happens during the night while you're sleeping or something, you can get out of the house without getting over-come," Brzozowski said. "That's first and foremost."

The chief also encourages residents to check their heating and cooking appliances and make sure everything is properly vented. Snow and ice buildup should be inspected outside the home.

"Venting does get blocked up from time to time, or you might have replaced an appliance or something and the venting isn't quite right," he said. "If you don't know, you should get a professional in, a heating contractor or somebody to check it for you."

See **HAZARDS**, Page 2A

'A cherished holiday'

Neal Simon
Hornell Evening Tribune
USA TODAY NETWORK

Looking to enjoy a romantic night on the town with a special someone on Valentine's Day?

Join the club! Nearly 40% of American consumers plan to celebrate Valentine's Day with an evening out, according to the National Retail Federation, spending more than \$6 billion at restaurants, bars and clubs on Feb. 14.

With a record \$29.1 billion in spending forecast overall, an evening out is topped only by \$7 billion for jewelry in the NRF's annual survey ahead of the holiday.

"Valentine's Day is a cherished holiday that resonates with many Americans, as seen with expected record-breaking spending this year," said Katherine Cullen, NRF vice president of Industry and Consumer Insights.

With the holiday falling on Saturday, restaurants and night spots are preparing for larger crowds, with customers free of work or school night restrictions on time.

Here are some options in and around Hornell for a night on the town with your significant other on Feb. 14. Lobster,



A Cupid's Choice Classic Donut and a Brownie Batter Classic Donut, two of Dunkin's most on theme offerings this Valentine's Day, are displayed side by side. PROVIDED BY DUNKIN'

steak, raspberry cheesecake and spicy Tex-Mex are all in the offing.

Dinner and romance at these Hornell area businesses

The American House and Hotel See **VALENTINE'S DAY**, Page 2A

brings out monster lobster tails for Valentine's Day. The 20-24 ounce tails are a guaranteed sellout so the House and Hotel recommends making reservations as soon as possible. The restaurant will

Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to eveningtribune.com/enewspaper or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!



Volume 153 | No. 115
To subscribe 888-896-3107
or visit eveningtribune.com
©2026 \$1.00

