



Man seeks fiancée's release from ICE

NEWS, 5A

The Bulletin

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2025 | NORWICHBULLETIN.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

NPU plans upgrades to housing properties

Beth McDermott
AI-assisted reporter
The Bulletin
USA TODAY NETWORK

Norwich Public Utilities is investing \$500,000 in affordable housing in the city, according to a community announcement.

The funds, contributed through the state's Housing Tax Credit Contribution Program, will be used for construction and upgrades at three multi-family rental homes in Norwich. The properties, located at 120 Elizabeth St., 91 South 2nd Ave. and 130 Washington St., have 58 units and can accommodate up to 115 residents.

All three properties will be rented to low-, very-low, and extremely-low income households, according to the announcement.

The planned improvements include replacement of old, drafty windows at 91 South 2nd Ave. to improve energy efficiency and resident comfort; installation of new kitchen cabinets at the same location to ensure safe, functional, and modern living spaces; upgrades to the HVAC systems to provide reliable heating and hot water year-round at 91 South Second Ave.; a full roof replacement at 120 Elizabeth St. to stop leaks and protect the building; and replacement of an aging boiler at 130 Washington St. to improve reliability and energy efficiency.

All of the properties are currently occupied and will remain so during the rehabilitation work, according to the announcement. There will be no temporary relocations for residents.

The Housing Tax Credit Contribution Program, administered by the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, allows organizations to make contributions to eligible nonprofit agencies in lieu of paying a portion of their gross revenue tax bill. While Norwich Public Utilities is a tax-exempt organization, it pays taxes on the purchase of its electricity.

"We are excited to continue our collaboration with ECHO to address the pressing need for more housing that is affordable," said Jeff Brining, general manager of NPU. "For more than 120 years, NPU been an important part of the fabric of our community; through our latest investment, we are deepening our relationship with the

See NPU, Page 3A

NEW FOOD



Jessica Pedroza, cashier at the Chubby Llama, shows one of the restaurant's appetizers, papa huancaína, which was one of her favorites growing up. PHOTOS BY MATT GRAHN/NORWICH BULLETIN

Restaurants that made their mark around Norwich in 2025

Matt Grahn
Norwich Bulletin
USA TODAY NETWORK

As it's the holiday season, most people have home-cooked food on their mind, be it ham or roast beef dinner, a seemingly endless plate of sweets, or just about anything else. However, once the new year rolls around and all the entertainment and leftovers are done, it's time to treat yourself to a meal out.

2025 saw a lot of activity with restaurants in and around Norwich. While some have moved locations, others are entirely new. From Peruvian food to café fare and Chinese food, there's plenty of options among the restaurants that opened this year. Be sure to check them out and perhaps you'll find your new favorite spot.

The Game Changer Jeep Club

The Game Changer Jeep Club opened its restaurant at 278 West Thames St. in

See FOOD, Page 2A



A chicken chili verde burrito and a strawberry margarita is just a tiny bit of what's available at El Traviezo in Norwich.

Adult art classes coming to Norwich Free Academy

Beth McDermott
AI-assisted reporter
The Bulletin
USA TODAY NETWORK

Norwich Free Academy's School of Visual and Performing Arts is introducing a series of adult art classes starting this winter.

The classes will take place in the Bradlaw Building at 305 Broadway and are open to participants of all skill levels, according to a community announce-

ment. The courses are designed to offer hands-on experiences in various art forms, guided by experienced instructors.

The offerings include four distinct classes: Drawing from the Casts, Beginner Jewelry & Metals, Open Metals Studio, and Watercolor. Each course includes all necessary supplies.

Drawing from the Casts will be led by Sandra Gustafson and will be held from 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays, starting Jan. 7. The fee for this class is \$225.

Beginner Jewelry & Metals, instructed by Sarah Nash, will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays, beginning Jan. 3. This class costs \$275. Supplies are included; sterling silver and stones available for an additional cost.

Open Metals Studio, taught by Dan Charron, will be available from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Mondays, starting Jan. 5. The fee for this class is also \$275. Supplies are included; sterling silver and stones

See ART, Page 3A



Art classes at Norwich Free Academy's School of Visual and Performing Arts
PROVIDED BY NORWICH FREE ACADEMY'S SCHOOL OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to norwichbulletin.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 164 | No. 301
To subscribe 860-887-5582
©2025 \$1.50

