



Hard to see progress after USMNT makes same old exit

SPORTS, 1B

The Bulletin

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2026 | NORWICHBULLETIN.COM K1

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Program gives struggling artists \$1,000 a month



A few commissions, contracts, sales or cancellations can dramatically change what artists earn in a given year. GETTY IMAGES

The result: freedom and time to focus on their art

Joanna Woronkiewicz
Indiana University
and Doug Noonan
Indiana University Indianapolis
THE CONVERSATION

Though artificial intelligence is making it easier than ever to produce images, music and text, the technology is also making it harder for the people who have traditionally produced this work to earn a living.

The program selected artists through a weighted lottery. It adopted an expansive definition of “artist.” Anyone engaged in artistic, cultural or community-centered creative practices – such as musicians, storytellers or muralists – was eligible to apply.

A photographer who once was commissioned to make art for an advertising campaign is now competing with graphics produced by the AI image generator Midjourney. A novelist who used to

make money on the side as a technical writer is seeing that work be replaced by a series of prompts in ChatGPT.

See PROGRAM, Page 3A

Firefighter ordinance deemed ‘legally insufficient’

Matt Grahn
Norwich Bulletin
USA TODAY NETWORK

Even though a vote on an ordinance related to the conflict between Norwich and the volunteer fire service was expected on July 6, the vote never happened.

“An Ordinance Protecting the Norwich Volunteer Fire Service” has been deemed not legal by Corporation Counsel Amy Siefert, according to her letter to the Norwich City Council dated June 29. As a result, the second reading of the ordinance was cancelled for the July 6 council meeting.

The letter specifies the ordinance isn’t legal because it, in part, seeks to change the City Charter without going through the formal charter-changing process, Siefert wrote.

The ordinance would place ultimate authority for fire response in each volunteer fire district to that department’s chief, whereas the charter text states that in any call where paid and volunteer firefighters act together, they are under the command of the Norwich Fire Department chief.

“That portion of the proposed ordinance is legally insufficient and would be without force or effect if adopted in its current form,” Siefert wrote.

Charter changes also need to follow the process laid out in Chapter 99 of the Connecticut Statutes, titled Municipal Charter and Special Acts, Section 7-188, Siefert said.

Siefert also wrote that other provisions conflict with the current charter.

“Those inconsistencies provide an independent basis for concluding the ordinance, as drafted, is legally insufficient,” Siefert wrote.

Before the council meeting, Norwich Mayor Swarnjit Singh said he respects the opinions of Rob Dempsky and Justin Burrows, who petitioned for this ordinance, but noted the

See ORDINANCE, Page 2A

Program to look at CT signers of Declaration of Independence

Beth McDermott
Norwich Bulletin
USA TODAY NETWORK

As the nation commemorates America’s 250th anniversary, Otis Library invites the community to take a closer look at one of the most significant docu-

ments in American history during “The Declaration of Independence, the Connecticut Signers, and the Price of Rhubarb,” presented from 5 to 6 p.m. July 13, by local historian Bev York, in the Community Room.

This engaging and informative program will examine the creation of the

Declaration of Independence, the role of the Continental Congress, and the contributions of Connecticut’s four signers. Participants will gain insight into the political climate of the Revolutionary era and the individuals who helped shape the nation’s founding.

York will also delve into one of Nor-

wich’s more unusual historical stories, the so-called “rhubarb scandal,” which played a surprising role in preventing one Connecticut delegate from signing the Declaration. Through historical anecdotes and local connections,

See PROGRAM, Page 2A

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Volume 165 | No. 161
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