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Select Board plans meeting about police Chief Gray

Executive session date not yet determined in North Andover

By Angelina Berube
» aberube@eagletribune.com

NORTH ANDOVER — The Select Board plans to hold an executive session concerning police Chief Charles Gray but city officials have yet to set the date.



North Andover police Chief Charles Gray

Town Manager Melissa Rodrigues confirmed on Thursday that the session is related to Gray who also remains on active duty after two North Andover police unions announced a vote of no confidence in Gray and called for his removal.

The executive session, originally scheduled for Monday, listed an agenda item that's typically cited for personnel issues.

Under Massachusetts General Law, such executive sessions are called "to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or discuss the discipline or dismissal of or complaints or charges against, a public officer, employee,

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METHUEN: SEARLES ESTATE

Group advocates for new approach

By Teddy Tauscher
» ttauscher@eagletribune.com

METHUEN — A group of residents is urging the city to take a more active role in the future of the Searles Estate after underwhelming results of a public bid.

The Friends of the Searles Estate has a plan for the property that rather than relying on a single buyer's proposal would allow for a community- and city-led process for reuse with Methuen potentially retaining ownership of the historic 18-acre estate among other options.

SEE SEARLES, PAGE 4

'You will never see freedom again'



John Carey is lead away in handcuffs by a court officer after the formal sentencing for the murder of Claire Gravel in Lawrence Superior Court.

John Carey sentenced for Claire Gravel's murder

By Jill Harmacinski
» jharmacinski@eagletribune.com

LAWRENCE — Denise Foley recalled the horrific, recurring nightmares where her younger sister, Claire Gravel, screams for help over and over.

"And none of us were there," Foley tearfully said in Lawrence Superior Court.



Claire Gravel's senior portrait. She graduated from North Andover High School in 1983.

Foley said she waited 39 years, 9 months and 9 days. But finally, on Thursday, she confronted her sister's killer — John Carey — just moments before he was sent to prison for the rest of his life.

Claire's brutal murder at age 20 left a hole in Gravel's tight-knit family from North Andover "that could never be filled," Foley said.

Losing Claire was difficult enough, but then watching her parents deal with the loss of a child was unbearable, she said.

"Claire's murder affected five generations of our family," Foley said.

One by one, Gravel's five siblings took the stand Thursday to tell Judge Jeffrey Karp about their fun- and family-loving sister whose energy and dreams were cut short when Carey strangled her to death with her own tank top in 1986.

Carey, 67, was convicted on March 3 of murdering Gravel who was a Salem State College student from North Andover.

SEE CAREY, PAGE 2

Make It Haverhill moves closer to downtown

By Jonah Frangiosa
» jfrangiosa@eagletribune.com

HAVERHILL — A local nonprofit's hub has moved from Washington to Orchard, reopening its doors for residents seeking new skills and career opportunities in a more open space.

Make It Haverhill, the workforce development and digital access hub of Community Action Inc., has settled into a new home at 59 Orchard St.

The group, which has served thousands of clients since

Make It Haverhill open house

The public is invited to a drop-in open house from 5 to 6:30 p.m., April 30, at 59 Orchard St., Haverhill, for a tour of the new building, meet staff and learn more about the programs and services.

founded in 2019, unpacked cardboard boxes and officially moved April 1, setting a milestone for organizers, who said the relocation allows the

organization to expand services, provide more training and create "pathways to employment and economic mobility."

"This move represents an important milestone for Make It Haverhill," Program Director Lisbeth Valdez said. "As we advance this next phase of growth, we are building a space that reflects our mission and allows us to deliver workforce training and digital access in a way that is intentional, responsive, and aligned with

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A multi-use room at Make It Haverhill's new home on Orchard Street.

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