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## Rabies clinic

Ella Walker comforts Sierra, a Siberian Husky, before the dog receives its annual rabies shot at the clinic sponsored by the Jamestown Humane Society. Photo by Andrea von Hohenleiten

## Landfill closure causes concern among residents

### Town Council approves landfill closure plan

By Erin Tiernan

The Town Council decided to move forward with the landfill closure and proposed composting facility plans at its Monday night meeting after hearing recommendations from Town Engineer Michael Gray and concerns from residents.

The proposed design components to the landfill property on North Main Road include increased thickness of the soil cap; it will be 2-feet thick over areas with toxic waste. A drainage

slope and implementation of a storm water management system will help control soil erosion at the site.

A compost pad will be placed over the cap of the closed solid waste landfill on a 4-inch thick asphalt pad to prevent disruption of the underlying waste. Gray said appropriate measures will be taken to ensure air quality and safety. The compost product will be sampled and temperature monitored to ensure it complies with Environmental Protection Agency standards.

The estimated cost of the project by GZA GeoEnvironmental is \$820,994, including a 20 percent

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## Town Council discusses substance abuse prevention

By Erin Tiernan

Local experts addressed the Town Council on Monday night and explained the importance of proactive substance abuse prevention in Jamestown schools.

Student assistance manager and Jamestown resident Laura Hosley clarified the objectives of funding a student assistance counselor position in school. She said Jamestown students have continuously excelled at abstaining from substance abuse in comparison with other communities. She credited students' intolerance toward substance abuse to proactive efforts in the community.

"I'm not sure you understand the value of what we have going

on here in Jamestown," said Hosley. "After the home, the school is the next place that needs to be there for the kids. The student assistance program here is what has really worked."

Hosley said the island's Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force has been successful with prevention, intervention, discipline and aftercare due to efforts at the teen center and in school. She said students' access to an assistance counselor in school is a fundamental component of keeping children healthy.

Sarah Dinklage, executive director of Rhode Island student as-

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## School Committee tables budget discussion

By Eileen M. Daly

The Jamestown School Committee reviewed the status of the 2010 budget at its April 2 work session and concluded that reductions in health insurance costs, through group health membership, will allow the committee to meet the Town Council's request for a \$150,000 reduction to achieve a 0 percent tax increase.

The committee, however, still must respond to the governor's proposed use of federal IDEA funds to replace \$104,000 in state aid. The committee plans to address this issue at the April 23 meeting, when the administration is scheduled to propose additional

reductions to offset the loss of general, unrestricted state aid.

School Committee Chairperson Cathy Kaiser began the meeting by saying, "Well, we know what our task is."

Committee member B.J. Whitehouse responded with, "Can we state this clearly, because I am not sure we know exactly what our task is."

Kaiser pointed to the need to decrease the budget by \$150,000 to meet the 0 percent tax increase the town council requested and committee members agreed that the health care reductions would be enough to cover this reduction.

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## Seawall construction

R. P. Iannuccillo & Sons Construction Company of North Providence started work Monday to repair damage to the seawall caused by storms. The northbound lane of Conanicut Avenue may be closed to traffic on some weekdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. when construction involving heavy equipment is underway

Photo by Jeff McDonough