



Titans host media day, B1

Jets caught off guard by Mason trade, B1

Enter our
\$25,000
gift card
giveaway
Details, A2

The Times

SERVING OUR COMMUNITIES
FOR MORE THAN 125 YEARS

THURSDAY, **75¢**
OCTOBER 13, 2011

Here for you **nj.com** 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

The corn stalks among us

At harvesttime, mazes twist, turn amid the kernels

By David Karas
STAFF WRITER

EAST WINDSOR — Matthew Oechsner, 9, paused for a moment as he stood in the small empty patch of soil and sand that was the center of an 8-acre challenge. He had faced larger and more difficult corn mazes before, but he still paid careful consideration to his every move.

He pointed at the pathway he wished to take, and disappeared into the stalks of corn.

Along with his family, Oechsner spent the afternoon Sunday navigating his way through the annual corn maze at K&S Farms, also home of the infamous "Field of Terror" Halloween display. This year's corn maze was designed to resemble a spider, and takes approximately one hour to go through.

The East Windsor-based corn maze is just one of six in Mercer and one of 13 in the region this autumn, and with haunted attractions, pumpkin stands and other annual festivities, individuals and families have an opportunity to take an afternoon or an evening to enjoy the cool weather and celebrate the season.

"New Jersey is more than just pavement and development," said Sharon Kyle, who owns K&S along with her husband, Kevin. It is the eighth season in a row they have designed a corn maze on their farm.

The pattern varies each year, she said, going from a Halloween theme to a cutout of the state, and each theme includes various stations throughout the maze. Visitors are challenged to locate all of the stations and record the clue or

SEE MAZES, PAGE A14



COURTESY K&S FARMS

The Oechsner family of Monroe Township, at top, make their way into the corn maze at K&S Farms in East Windsor on Sunday. At lower right, those who have successfully navigated the leafy labyrinth enjoy a hayride back to the main grounds. At lower left, a spider entices intrepid visitors into its lair.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL MANCUSO/THE TIMES

Justices hear N.J. case on searches

Bordentown man says he was stripped of his clothes — and his rights

By Jason Grant
STAR-LEDGER

WASHINGTON — It is a case that has roiled emotions and fueled fierce debate for six years now over a singular issue: Whether a detention center such as a jail can strip-search a noncriminal offender it is holding without first deciding whether there is a reasonable suspicion the person is concealing something.

Yesterday, the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in the case of Albert Florence of Bordentown. Florence was subjected to a strip-search twice in New Jersey — once in a Burlington County jail and again in an Essex County jail — after being arrested and held in lockup for nearly six days after supposedly not paying a fine that it turned out he actually had settled.

The case began on March 3, 2005, when a state trooper in Burlington County pulled over Florence's wife, April, for driving 82 mph in a 65 mph zone. The police officer ran the vehicle's registration and arrested Florence, the passenger, after learning that there was an Essex County warrant for his arrest, according to court records and a state police spokesman.

Despite showing authorities a piece of paper bearing "a raised seal from the State of New Jersey" and showing the judgments against him were satisfied — and had been since 2003 — Florence was arrested and detained for almost a week.

Yesterday, as the 35-year-old Florence watched from a back row in a courtroom packed with spectators, the nine justices of the nation's highest court asked tough, incisive questions of both sides.

Most important to them, it seemed — as they acknowledged Florence apparently

Justices sought to figure out what rule should apply to the tens of thousands of Americans hauled into jails each year on noncriminal offenses.

SEE SEARCHES, PAGE A11

Developer trims plans for GM site

Would halve number of housing units to answer Ewing residents' objections

By David Karas
STAFF WRITER

EWING — A developer with long-running plans for an unpopular affordable housing development off Parkway Avenue has offered to cut his housing total by half to ease concerns about the project.

Developer W. Barry Rank originally proposed 96 low- and moderate-income apartments for the 13-acre parcel, which is near the CSX freight rail tracks and a Marrazzo's supermarket. He eventually won the right to build the housing by going to court.

That original plan would have come close to satisfying the township's obligations for at least 98 units under 2009 Council on Affordable Housing guidelines, but now township officials are uncertain how many units are required given

Gov. Chris Christie's abolition of COAH this year.

Rank is seeking to build 48 units of affordable housing and possibly a strip mall.

At Tuesday's meeting of council, officials tabled any decision on Rank's proposal until their Oct. 24 meeting. Though his development plan is far from final approval, he needs a resolution from the council to apply for state funding for his affordable housing plan.

Township planning consultant Chuck Latini was cautious about accepting Rank's new plan, attributing his hesitations to the need for careful planning for the entire Parkway Avenue Redevelopment Zone, of which Rank's property is a part.

"I am an advocate for affordable housing," said Latini when addressing the council. "I am

SEE GM SITE, PAGE A11



DAVID KARAS/THE TIMES

Ewing Mayor Bert Steinmann (right) discusses pollution remediation at the former GM plant site on Parkway Avenue with engineers Mark Ramsdell and Jeffery Miller in March. Below, the site is currently a vacant expanse of asphalt.



TIMES FILE PHOTO BY DAVID GARD

Clementi mystery man files motion to keep his identity a secret

By Kelly Heyboer and Sue Epstein
STAR-LEDGER

More than a year after Rutgers University student Tyler Clementi was seen kissing a male date on a webcam, the man still doesn't know the identity of the other man in the high-profile case. But the young gay man lives in terror that his name will leak out and "the harm will be irreversible," he said in court papers filed yesterday.

The man — known only as M.B. in court papers — made his first public statement in a motion filed by his attorney in New Brunswick. M.B. asked a judge to reverse an earlier order to turn over his name to defense attorneys in the case against the former Rutgers student accused of spying on him and Clementi.

"I have a substantial fear that the release of this personal

information will result in a total invasion of my privacy," M.B. told the judge in a written statement. "It is difficult for me to describe this fear. It is continuous and overwhelming."

Clementi had just started his freshman year at Rutgers when he invited M.B. to his dorm room on the Piscataway campus. Dharun Ravi, Clementi's roommate, allegedly went to a friend's room, remotely turned on the webcam on his computer and watched the two shirtless men hugging and kissing.

Ravi, of Plainsboro, posted on Twitter that he saw his roommate "making out with a dude. Yay." A few days later, he tried unsuccessfully to use the webcam to spy on Clementi and M.B. a second time, investigators said.

Clementi, of Ridgewood, learned about the webcam and

SEE CLEMENTI, PAGE A11