

Sky park opens on NYC rail line

By Sara Kugler
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Supporters of turning an elevated rail line into a lofty, 1.5 mile-long park are walking on air — because it's almost ready.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg on Monday helped unveil the first half-mile section of the High Line park, a transformed rail line sitting three stories above the city's streets that was abandoned nearly 30 years ago. The park is scheduled to open to the public Tuesday.

The High Line stretches 1.5 miles from Gansevoort Street in the Meatpacking District all the way up to 30th Street along Manhattan's West Side, with views of the city and the Hudson river, including landmarks like the Statue of Liberty and the Empire State Building.

The rail line stands as high as 30 feet, and is 60 feet wide in some places, with railings of about three feet.

Many of those attending the opening ceremony noted how the High Line provides a new window for viewing the city's famous skyline.

"Anytime you usually look at the city from high up, you're inside a building," said City Council Speaker Christine Quinn. "But to be able to look from an elevated level and be outdoors is just a wonderful feeling."

Paris recently converted a rail viaduct into an elevated park called the Promenade Plantee, but officials say the High Line park is the first of its kind in the United States. Similar projects are being considered in Philadelphia and Chicago.

The New York rail line was built in the 1930s for freight trains carrying dairy products, produce and meats to warehouses and factories in the area. The goal was to avoid the increasingly crowded street level, which had become so treacherous for pe-

destrians that 10th Avenue was nicknamed "Death Avenue."

The last train ran on the High Line in 1980, and for many years, community groups and parks advocates sought to have it made over into a public space; some neighborhood residents wanted it torn down.

"People called it a blight, eyesore, crumbling relic," Bloomberg said.

It was nearly destroyed in 2001, but a judge blocked those plans after community advocates and the City Council sued. The campaign attracted celebrity advocates who helped raise money and advance the cause; several, including designer Diane Von Furstenberg and chef Mario Batali, attended the ceremony Monday.

Construction on the project began in 2006, and the first section, from Gansevoort to 20th streets, will open Tuesday. The part from 20th to



New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, center, delivers his remarks at ceremonies Monday on an abandoned elevated rail line in New York that is reopening this week as a landscaped public park: The High Line. The High Line stretches 1.5 miles up the west side of the Manhattan island.

30th streets is expected to open next year.

The total cost is \$152 million, funded in part by private donations, as well as the city, state and federal government.

The park is a mix of concrete and green landscaping, with features like a wading pool and trees in some areas. Designers incorporated the train tracks into some of the landscaping, as well as pre-

serve many of the wildflowers and other plants that have grown there for years.

There will be access points every two to three blocks, including some with elevators, organizers say.

The park will be open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Dogs will not be allowed for the time being because many of the new plantings are fragile.

Judge says raids violated immigrants' rights

By Dave Collins
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HARTFORD — Federal agents violated the constitutional rights of four illegal immigrants in raids that critics say were retaliation for a New Haven program that provided ID cards to foreigners in the country illegally, a federal judge has ruled.

The sweeps in New Haven on June 6, 2007, came two days after the city approved issuing identification cards to all city residents, regardless of immigration status. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials deny the early morning raids were retaliatory, saying planning began the year before.

Immigration Judge Michael Straus, in decisions last week, said the ICE agents went into the immigrants' homes without warrants, probable cause or their consent, and he put a stop to deportation proceedings against the four defendants, whose names were not released. ICE officials claim all four are from Mexico, but all four cited their Fifth Amendment rights in refusing to say what country they are from.

Two of the four immigrants lived in one home, and two lived in a second home. They said in affidavits that agents barged into both homes after residents had opened their doors only a little. The agents went into both homes looking for specific illegal immigrants on a "target list," who weren't found, court documents say.

Immigration officials have denied claims that the 32 arrests that morning were improper, and they said the people who were arrested had been ordered by judges to leave the country. They said in court documents that they were allowed into the homes during the sweep.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement authorities are reviewing the judge's ruling and will decide later whether to appeal, agency spokeswoman Paula Grenier said Monday. The department has 30 days to file a challenge. Grenier declined further comment.

Witnesses alleged in court documents that parents were arrested in front of their frightened children, agents refused to identify themselves and told people in the homes to shut up.

In his rulings issued June 1 and 2, Straus said the four immigrants' rights were "egregiously violated" and the agents' entries in the apartments were "unlawful."

"Examination of the agents' ... conduct confirms (the defendant's) Fourth Amendment rights were flagrantly violated," Straus wrote in one immigrant's case.

"The touchstone of the Fourth Amendment is 'reasonableness' and, by natural extension, one's reasonable expectation of privacy," the judge wrote. "Nowhere is that expectation of privacy more sacrosanct than in the confines of one's home."

Of the 32 people arrested, 30 were released on bond or supervision orders. Seventeen of those 30 immigrants challenged their arrests in court.

Straus denied motions in 11 of the 17 cases, granted motions in four of them and reserved decision in the remaining two. Of the 11 cases in which motions were denied, one person was later granted asylum by the judge and the other 10 have appealed.

Yale Law School students are representing the immigrants, who still live in New Haven.

"We're obviously very happy about it," Anant Saraswat, one of the students, said Monday. "We think our clients had a very strong case."

Saraswat said it won't be known for about a month whether federal authorities will appeal Straus' ruling. He said the case can be appealed to the Board of Immigration Appeals, then to the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York.

Obituaries

Death Listings

- BERKMAN, Dr. Alan**
63, of Stamford, CT
June 5, 2009
Plaza Jewish Community
Chapel, New York, NY
- BOVA, John F.**
85 of Stamford, CT
June 6, 2009
Lacerenza Funeral Home
Stamford, CT
- HAUX, Helen Gilchrist**
92 of Vero Beach, FL
May 21, 2009
Mass, St. Mary's Church,
Norwalk at 10am June 12
- HENDERSON, Elizabeth**
80, of Greenwich, CT
June 7, 2009
Castiglione Funeral Home
Greenwich, CT
- HOEY Sr., Francis Patrick**
of Stamford, CT
June 7, 2009
Edward Lawrence
Funeral Home, Darien, CT
- SAMAH, Randy J.**
39, of Stratford, CT
June 5, 2009
Lacerenza Funeral Home
Stamford, CT
- SEMPOR, Bernard T.**
90, died June 07, 2009
Norwalk's Hoyt-Cognetta
Funeral Home & Crematory

Obituaries



CARRIE V. MCMICHAEL
A longtime resident of Stamford, CT, passed away on Saturday June 6, 2009 at the Tandet Center. Funeral services will be held at the Union Baptist Church, 805 Newfield Avenue, Stamford, CT on Thursday June 11, 2009. Wake services 10-11am, funeral service to follow. Rev. Leroy Parker officiating.

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USDA Choice Boneless Rib-Eye Steak..... Lb. \$8.99
W/Bone Center Cut Pork Chops..... Lb. \$3.99
Sirloin Hamburger..... Lb. \$2.99

Obituaries

DR. ALAN BERKMAN
"We are doctors, we treat people." His brilliant work gave life to millions when others would let them die. He spoke the language of comfort and sorrow. He lived with integrity and compassion. He died with courage and dignity at 63 on June 5, 2009, surrounded by family and friends. The indifferent universe knows not; we weep for its loss and for ours. He is survived by his wife Dr. Barbara Zeller, his daughters, Sarah and Harriet, his grandson, Gabriel, his brothers, Jerry, Larry and Steven and his mother, Mona.
Dr. Berkman was the Vice Chair of the Department of Epidemiology, Associate Clinical Professor of Epidemiology and Associate Clinical Professor of Sociomedical Sciences at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. He was the founder of Health GAP (Global Action Project), whose political advocacy and action led to widespread, universal access to lifesaving treatment for people with HIV.
The funeral will be held on Tuesday, June 9th, at 10am at the Plaza Jewish Community Chapel, 630 Amsterdam Avenue, NYC. At a future time, there will be a public memorial service to celebrate Alan's remarkable life.

ELIZABETH "BETTE" HASSAN HENDERSON, 80, died peacefully at the Rosenthal Hospice in Stamford on June 7, 2009 from cancer. A lifelong Greenwich resident, Bette was the third daughter born to Thomas Frank Hassan and Mary McGuinness Hassan on September 14, 1928. She attended Saint Mary's Grammar School and graduated from Greenwich High School in 1946. In 1949, she received her degree as a Registered Nurse from the Greenwich Hospital School of Nursing. Bette married Frank I. Henderson, Jr. on August 26, 1950 and had three sons, Jeffrey, Mark, and David. She was pre-deceased by her son Jeffrey Henderson. She will be greatly missed by her husband, Frank Henderson of Old Greenwich, her sons, Mark Henderson (Marie) of Riverside, CT and David Henderson (Dana) of Southbury, CT, her daughter-in-law, Pamela Henderson of Stamford, CT, as well as her adoring grandchildren, Alyssa (Michael Morrison), Jacquelyn (Randall Ingham), Samantha (Thomas McCarthy), Andrea, Alex, Kara, Michael, Christopher, and Bryan. Bette is also survived by her sisters, Dolores Reilly of Westchester, PA and Claire Miody of Riverside, and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and "adopted" grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to the Greenwich Hospital Nurses Alumnae Association, P.O. Box 7922, Greenwich, CT 06836. The family also wishes to thank the caring and at-

Obituaries

tentive people who assist patients and their families at the Rosenthal Hospice. Visiting hours will be from 4pm to 8pm at Castiglione Funeral Home 134 Hamilton Ave. Greenwich, CT on Tuesday, June 9, 2009. A funeral mass for Elizabeth Henderson will be held at St. Clements Church 535 Fairfield Ave. Stamford on Wednesday, June 10, 2009. Burial will follow at First Congregational Church in Old Greenwich. You may leave an online condolence at www.castiglioneff.com.

FRANCIS PATRICK HOEY SR., "Poppy," of Stamford, CT died Sunday, June 7, 2009 at 3:38 AM at Stamford Hospital from complications associated with cancer in his liver. Francis Hoey was born in the Bronx, New York City to John and Mary (Judge) Hoey on January 9, 1924. He was the youngest son of four siblings including Edward Hoey, Johnny Hoey, and Eileen (Hoey) Hoffmeister. He was married to his lovely wife Patricia (O'Brien) Hoey on July 22, 1961 in Edgewater, NJ. They were happily married for almost 48 years. He had a successful career as a tool and die manufacturer at Mount Vernon Diecasting. He enjoyed playing tennis as a young man. He was an avid pool player, and was quick to challenge his friends in a game of cards. He always had a joke to share. He spent endless hours playing with his children, and later grandchildren.

Francis Hoey loved his family, was a great friend, and above all had a lot of fun in his life. He was one-of-a-kind person who was loved by all.

Francis Hoey is survived by his loyal and loving wife Patricia Hoey, son Daniel Hoey and Lynne Hoey of Sagamore Hills, OH, son Timothy Hoey of Stamford, CT, daughter Kelley (Hoey) and Robert Maconochie of Stratford, CT, and son Frank (Jr.) and Deirdre Hoey of Baltimore, MD. He was the proud grandfather of nine grandchildren including Kimberleigh Hoey, Emily Hoey, Jackson Hoey, Mackenzie Hoey, Teagan Hoey, Grace Hoey, Shannon Maconochie, Jacklyn Maconochie, and Adriana Maconochie. He is also survived by his brothers Edward Hoey in Las Vegas, NV, and John Hoey in Spring Hill, FL. Francis Hoey had an enormous number of friends who surely will miss his good humor, quick wit, and caring spirit.

Francis Hoey was predeceased by his son Michael Hoey who died on October 24, 1994 and his sister Eileen Hoffmeister (1986).

Funeral services for Francis Hoey will be held on Wednesday, June 10, 2009 at Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Church, 403 Scofielddown Road at 10 AM. Visitation will be held at the Edward Lawrence Funeral Home,

Obituaries

2119 Post Road, Darien, CT on Tuesday June 9, 2009 during the hours of 4:00 to 8:00 PM.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 538 Preston Avenue, Meriden, CT 06450.

HELEN GILCHRIST HAUX, beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, passed away after a brief illness May 21, 2009 in Vero Beach, Fla., at the age of 92.

Born in Wilmington, Del., December 22, 1916, Helen was the daughter of the late Andrew and Anna Carroll Mulhare. She was raised in Baltimore, Md. and Stamford and graduated from both Sacred Heart Academy and Short's Business School in Stamford. In 1942, she found her calling as a registered nurse, and graduated from the Norwalk Hospital School of Nursing. During 47 years of nursing, her varied assignments included staff positions at St. Joseph's Hospital in Stamford, Norwalk Hospital, and Silver Hill Hospital in New Canaan; and private duty nursing for many grateful patients.

Helen married Charles P. Gilchrist, Sr., June 25, 1942 and raised their family in Norwalk while pursuing her career. She is survived by their two sons, Charles "Todd" [Terri] Gilchrist and Kevin [Anita] Gilchrist, both of Norwalk; and two daughters, Anne Fasoli Freeman and Mary Ellen Arway [Ron] Jenkins, both of Vero Beach, Fla.

After Charlie died in April 1972, she married Robert J. Haux of Fairfield, May 22, 1976. They moved to Vero Beach, Fla. together in 1989. He predeceased her in February 2003, as did his son, Rev. Robert J. Haux in November 2008.

Helen was a champion square dancer, excellent seamstress, and hosted renowned family picnics. After her retirement at age 72, her many passions included amateur genealogy, keeping current with the medical field, and taking computer classes at Indian River Community College. She was a longtime parishioner of St. Mary's Church in Norwalk and later, St. Helen's Church in Vero Beach, and belonged to the Widow and Widowers of Fairfield County.

Helen will be greatly missed by her 11 grandchildren, Steven [Kim] Fasoli of Trumbull, Michael [Melissa] Fasoli of Tampa, Fla., Kristin [PJ] Gilchrist-Wax of Norwalk, Charles "Chad" [Melissa] Gilchrist of Wilton, Jennifer [Paul] Melton, Stacy Walther, Meghan [Richard] Rice, and Caitlin Jenkins, all of Vero Beach, Fla., Corey [Donna] Gilchrist and Kevin "Skip" [Chrissy] Gilchrist, both of Norwalk and Kelly Gilchrist of Superior, Colo. Also left to cherish her memory are 21 great-grandchildren; her sister, Mary [William] Lockwood of Stamford; her brother, Edward [Kay]

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