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Gov. David Paterson has ordered that flags be flown at half-staff on government buildings across New York state on Sunday in honor of killed in Afghanistan. The governor's office identified the men as Sgt. Andrew Seabrooks, Specialist Anthony Mangano and Specialist

News



"We set out to create a garden that was unlike any other."

Landscape architect James Corner, a main designer of the High Line project.



McCain s

Republican president putting down roots in campaign is opening Woodbridge yesterday first GOP presidential New Jersey in 16 year

High Line takes urban dream one step higher

Flyover into canopy of ferns is newest part of park plan

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The people building New York's most unique park — 30 feet above Manhattan's West Side — unveiled the radical design for the project's second phase yesterday, including a metal walkway lifting visitors 8 additional feet into a cool Amazonian canopy.

Called the Woodland Flyover, the raised walkway will cover two aerial blocks of feral ferns and moss between 23rd and 25th streets, flanked by shady 20-foot tall sumac trees. The second section of the \$170 million High Line project, a 1.4-mile raised railroad along 10th Avenue the city is converting to parklands, will also include the lush Chelsea Thicket, a dense area of shrubs and small trees,

"Can we build parks in the sky? Thankfully, we answered, 'Yes.'"
Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe

and a narrow lawn ripe for picnics, both stretching between 20th and 23rd. The third and final phase would wind north from 30th Street, where it will be incorporated into the West Side rail yards development project.

The park in the sky, at some points as narrow as 30 feet across, "will be one of the most magical parks in the world," City Planning Commissioner Amanda M. Burden said.

"It's living up to the promise it had," said Robert Hammond of Friends of the High Line, the community group that pushed for the



The Woodland Flyover would raise visitors 8 feet above a mossy floor.



The 23rd Street Lawn (left) was designed for the picnicker. The 26th Street Viewing Spur (right) harkens back to when billboards lined the High Line. Now, the park's visitors are framed like ads.



park's creation.

The second phase, stretching between 20th and 30th streets, will cost

\$71 million — \$50 million of which has already been raised — and will open at the end of 2009, the group

said. The first section, between Gansevoort and West 20th streets, will be open by the end of the year.