

Glen Cove ferry project gets \$876G

- Fed money allows city to build passenger terminal
- Service to Manhattan expected to provide boost

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The Federal Highway Administration plans to give Glen Cove \$875,951 so the city can build a passenger ferry terminal after 14 years of planning.

The allocation announced yesterday by the state's U.S. senators — Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand — provides the final funding needed to allow construction of the \$3.5 million, 2,700-square-foot facility on Glen Cove Creek.

"This is great news for the city and the region," Mayor Ralph Suozzi said. He added that construction of the terminal — expected to be operational by fall 2013 — and ferry service to Manhattan would be an economic boost.

"This is a huge victory, that will not only provide convenient transportation to New York City, but also transform the waterfront," Schumer said.

Gillibrand added, "This terminal will increase economic development opportunities as part of the larger waterfront development project" to create the mixed-use Glen Isle complex on a previously blighted waterfront.

The city has dredged the creek, built bulkheads, in-

stalled a pier and floating docks, removed contaminated soil, installed utilities and built the terminal foundation at a cost of \$14 million in federal funds, with the city contributing about \$600,000.

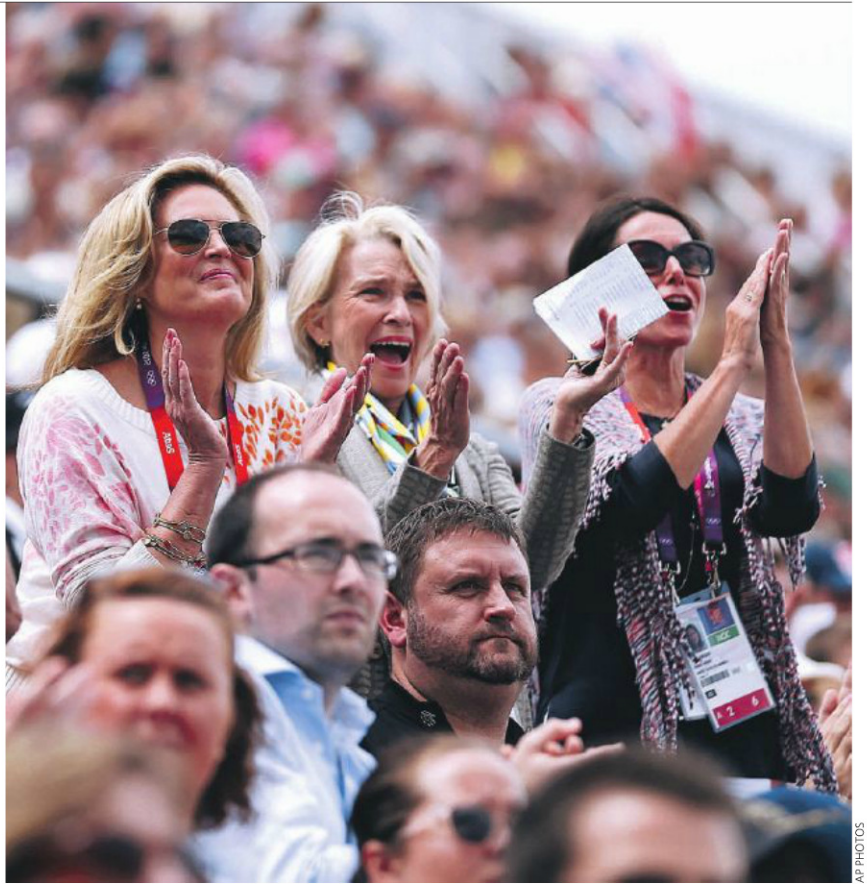
Suozzi said the \$875,951 and the city's \$175,190 matching contribution would fund construction of the first floor and shell of the second floor, and waiting area, restrooms, a small office and area for kiosks on the first floor.

A second phase, estimated to cost about \$2.2 million, would expand the second floor to accommodate a restaurant and offices, and bring up the terminal space to a total of 7,500 square feet.

The building would be designed so it could also be used for public events and would meet the highest standards for energy conservation.

The city will advertise for bids for a ferry operator to transport commuters to the city and also offer harbor and dinner cruises when construction ends. Suozzi said the dock can also be used by recreational boaters.

In its 2005 Long Island Sound Waterborne Transportation Plan, the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council identified the Glen Cove ferry as a viable regional site for destinations to the west. The plan noted that ferry services operating on Long Island Sound made more than 4 million passenger trips and nearly 2 million vehicle trips per year, making the region one of the country's top 10 ferry markets.



Rafalca's owners Ann Romney, left, Elisabeth Meyer and Amy Eberling yesterday

Sport rides Romney coattails

BY SHASHANK BENGALI
McClatchy Newspapers

LONDON — The poised 15-year-old stepped into the arena yesterday as the crowd fell into a polite hush. For six minutes he pranced and pirouetted just as he'd trained, and when it was all over, his team pronounced the performance a smashing Olympic debut.

The teenager in question is the horse Rafalca, the most famous American athlete on more than two legs at these Olympics. But his renown is due only partly to his prowess in the esoteric sport of dressage, best described for the unknowing as an intricate form



Rafalca, in competition yesterday, placed 13th among 25.

of equine dancing.

In the stands at London's Greenwich Park was Rafalca's co-owner Ann Romney, the wife of Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, whose connection to the rarefied world of big-time equestrianism has prompted interest in the sport unlike anything American riders have seen before.

Ann Romney "was absolute-

ly ecstatic" after Rafalca, a German-bred gelding, placed 13th among 25 horses that appeared yesterday, said Kenneth Braddick, a family acquaintance who edits the website Dressage-news.com and attended the competition.

Three more U.S. horses are set to go today, with the top seven national teams advancing to a final round Tuesday.



Rendering of the proposed ferry terminal in Glen Cove