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CONVENIENT COMMUTER FERRY SERVICE
ATTRACTS RESIDENTS TO THE HARBORS AT HAVERSTRAW

Ginsburg Development Companies includes ferry terminal in master-planned community

VALHALLA, N.Y. (Nov. 13) – Expectations of one of the most convenient – and beautiful – commutes to work anywhere in the world are helping draw residents to The Harbors at Haverstraw, a new community under construction on the edge of the Hudson River in Rockland County.

The Harbors is one of the nation’s few communities with an on-site commuter ferry terminal just a short walk from people’s doorways. Many of The Harbors residents use the ferry for a time-saving connection to the Ossining Metro-North station directly across the river, and this number is expected to skyrocket when new service offering a one-seat ferry ride directly to Yonkers and Manhattan starts next year.

“I think it’s wonderful that the ferry is right there and so close. It saves me time,” said Madeline Zivian, a resident of The Harbors who said convenient mass transit to New York City was a key factor when deciding to move there. “I take it three days a week because I’m working part-time now. I love it. Having mass transit was essential when I moved here from New Jersey.”

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Ginsburg Development Companies: Ferries provide convenient commute -- 2

Martin Ginsburg, founder and principal of Ginsburg Development Companies, the Valhalla, N.Y.-based firm building The Harbors, said the ferry service is part of his effort to provide a full-service community and help connect residents with the Hudson River.

“We want The Harbors to have everything residents will need,” said Ginsburg. “The Harbors has a beautiful clubhouse, a fitness center, a pool complex and even a Runcible Spoon bakery and general store. A key part of The Harbors amenity package is the ferry service, which will make commuting to New York City easier than ever. When the new service starts next year people will be able to take a one-seat ride taking about an hour to get to Manhattan. It will be a very convenient commute.”

Zivian, who has been riding the ferries since last December, said she sees about a dozen of her neighbors on the ferry on a regular basis, fostering new friendships as they wait for the ferry together or ride to and from Ossining. “It’s nice because you get to meet new people.”

Recreational interest in ferry rides along the Hudson River has been demonstrated by fast-growing increase in Ferry-Go-Round events offering rides between riverfront towns hosting special events. Guests took approximately 9,500 ferry boat rides along the Hudson River during a September Ferry-Go-Round event, the most single-day journeys in the three-year history of program. Ginsburg created the Ferry-Go-Round to help local residents and tourists rediscover the beauty of the Hudson Valley.

“The popularity of the Ferry-Go-Round has exceeded our most optimistic expectations,” said Ginsburg. “Thousands of people came out to ride the ferries and visit historic towns like Haverstraw, Peekskill, Ossining and Tarrytown.”

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Zivian said she hopes increased ferry ridership will lead to more service weekends and evenings. “I think it would be great to be able to use the ferry on weekends or after dinner or a show in the evening. I hope they’re able to do that in the future.”

Ginsburg said he expects service to expand into the evenings and weekends in the future as commuter ferries gain popularity. “Ferries are a wonderful, convenient and cost-effective way to get to work. I think they’ll become much more popular in the future,” said Ginsburg. “The Hudson Valley is simply beautiful. What a lovely way to commute to work, traveling along one of the most beautiful rivers in the world.”

Current GDC communities include Riverbend in Peekskill, N.Y., The Fairways at Wallkill (N.Y.), Harbors at Haverstraw (N.Y.), Hudson Pointe in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Ichabod’s Landing in Sleepy Hollow, N.Y., Marbury Corners in Pelham, N.Y., Liberty at Newtown (Conn.), Ridgewood at Middlebury (Conn.) and The Greens at Gillette Ridge in Bloomfield, Conn. To place your name on GDC’s priority list for future communities, log on to www.gdc-homes.com, click on to “future communities” and then “name of development” or call 1-866-GDC-4-HOMES.

Ginsburg Development Companies (GDC), established in 1964 and based in Valhalla, N.Y., is one of the nation’s premier full-service real estate design, development and management companies. Martin Ginsburg is the president and chief executive officer. GDC has developed more than 10,000 residential units during its 40-year corporate history. GDC’s residential sales Web site is www.gdc-homes.com. Information about GDC’s commercial ventures, corporate activities and charitable foundation is available at www.gdcllc.com.