

32 GRAMERCY PARK SOUTH HIGHLIGHTS

April 2012

BOARD NEWS

- The elevator modernization project is slated to kick off on Monday, May 7. More information, including a preliminary schedule and tips for minimizing disruption and inconvenience, are included at the back of this month's issue of *Highlights*.
- Construction of the roof garden is being coordinated with the elevator project. We are making every effort to keep at least part of the roof available during the warm summer months, but there may be occasions when, for the safety of residents, we will have to close it off temporarily. Please bear with us.
- The engineers at Cutsogeorge Tooman & Allen presented their recommendations for repairs to the terrace. The managing agent and the directors are exploring another alternative that, if viable, may be significantly less costly.
- From time to time, usually in the late evening when he is required to leave his station, the doorman locks the front door...limiting access to the building for tenants who are outside, waiting to come in. Until now, all the possible solutions to providing 24/7 access to the building have either been expensive or ugly. We think we have found an affordable—and attractive—key card solution. The proposed system is currently being reviewed by the building's architect.
- If you're interested in upgrading, the following apartments are on the market: 12M and 13M. (If your apartment is on the market and it is not listed here, we apologize. Please leave a note with the doorman or contact the editor at 32gpsboard@gmail.com.)

FYI

- **Have a bike?** If you have a bike in the Bike Room, please get in touch with the managing agent to register and tag your bike for 2012. The annual fee is \$150. You can reach Victor J. Kavy by email, at vkavy@greenthal.com, or by leaving a voice mail at (212) 340-9613.

All residents with bikes currently in storage have until April 30, 2012 to register their bicycles. "Orphaned" bikes will be donated to a children's charity.

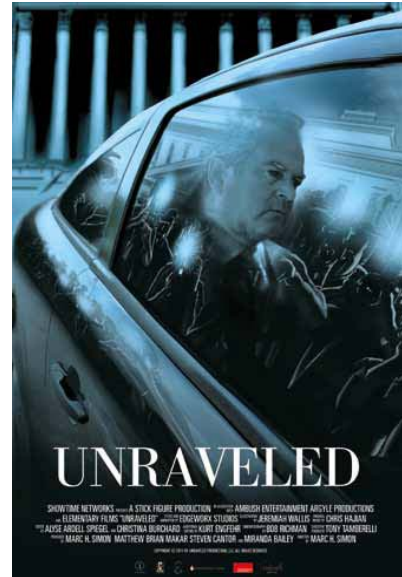
- **Spare the trees. Please.** In order to reduce our consumption of paper, Greenthal has been providing the Board with electronic documents, saving about 35 reams of paper annually. We have also begun printing *Highlights* on both sides, cutting our paper consumption in half...but we could be doing better still.

If you would like to receive the newsletter by email as a .pdf attachment, please sign up at the doorman's desk. Or send an email with your name, apartment number and email address to 32gpsboard@gmail.com.

[**NOTE:** Your email address will not be shared with anyone else; the only mail you'll receive will be the monthly issue of *Highlights*; and you can opt-out at any time.]

- **Opening in a theater near you.** Film director (and fellow resident) Marc H. Simon invites you to the premiere of his newest project, UNRAVELED, premiering on Friday, April 13, at the City Village East Cinemas (on Second Ave, between 11th and 12th Streets).

Just days before Bernard Madoff captured headlines as the largest Ponzi schemer in U.S. history, Marc Dreier, a prominent Manhattan attorney, was arrested for orchestrating a fraud that netted hundreds of millions of dollars from hedge funds. Set in the ‘purgatory’ of house arrest—an upper East Side penthouse, where the Court has ordered Dreier confined until his sentencing day—the film weaves Dreier's struggle to prepare for the possibility of life imprisonment with first-person flashbacks, which reveal his audacious path of destruction.



Check out the website at www.UnraveledTheFilm.com and view the UNRAVELED trailer at <http://trailers.apple.com/trailers/independent/unraveled/>.

- **Rite of spring.** Sponsored by the Trustees of Gramercy Park, the Annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Sunday, April 8, from 9:00am to 3:00pm in the Park. (It’s always a big hit with kids!) Families are welcome to organize their own Easter egg hunts. For more information, contact Arlene Harrison at (212) 260-3875.
- **Artists wanted.** Gramercy Neighborhood Associates (GNA) is inviting entries for its Annual Art Show, which opens on May 22 at the National Arts Club. Applications will be available in early April. If you’re not already on the Art Show mailing list—and you’re interested in showing—sent a note to GNA at events@gnaonline.org.
- **Downing in paper?** Last month, we asked our readers if they would be interested in the Board’s arranging for a mobile shredding van to be available for a few hours this spring, so that residents could safely dispose of sensitive paper receipts, files and records. Sadly, we had only three positive responses...so the 32GPS ShredFest is off. However, the Board has researched paper recycling programs in Manhattan and discovered that New York City is planning to provide shredding opportunities from 10:00am to 4:00pm on Sunday, May 20, at as-yet undetermined locations. We’re hoping it’s Union Square! Check the official website at http://www.nyc.gov/html/dca/html/news/shred_fest_nyc.shtml for details.
- **Test your knowledge.** What’s the oldest building in our neighborhood? [HINT: it’s not 34 Gramercy Park East, which was built in 1883 and is the oldest surviving cooperative building in the city.]

The correct answer is 258 Third Avenue at 21st Street: the tiny two-story building now occupied by Iris Nail. It is estimated to date from 1832, and is thought to have been erected by Samuel B. Ruggles as part of the original development of the Gramercy Park area. Visit <http://www.preserve2.org/gramercy/proposes/ext/ension/third.htm> for more information.

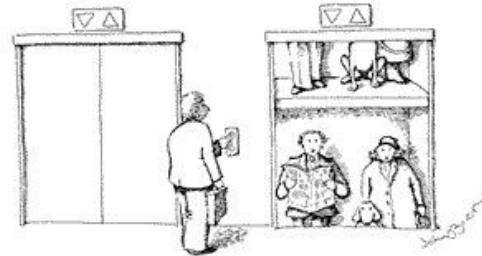


Elevator Etiquette

The long-awaited renovation of our elevators is scheduled to begin on May 7, 2012.

While move-ins and move-outs will continue to be accommodated, major renovations will be suspended until the elevator work is completed...unless your contractor is willing to move materials and trash using the stairs only.

We're doing everything we can to minimize disruptions, but you should know that upgrading both machines and both elevator cabs is a complicated job that, even with overtime, will likely take between 10 and 12 weeks to complete. For most of that time, there will be only one elevator in service. Except in an emergency, no elevator deliveries will be permitted during rush hours.



Making small changes in the way we commute to and from the lobby can significantly reduce any potential problems. Here are some suggestions:

1. If you live on the 4th floor (or lower) — and you're physically able — please consider using the stairs rather than the elevator.
2. Walk to the nearest odd-number floor to catch the elevator. (For example, if you live on 16th floor, walk down to 15.) This will cut the total number of elevator stops in half.
3. If you're bringing a bicycle, stroller or luggage cart into the elevator, please make an effort to reduce your footprint, so that others can also be accommodated.
4. Unless it's essential, avoid using the elevator during "rush hours" (8:00am-10:00am and 5:00pm-7:00pm). Please ask your housekeeper not to use the Laundry Room before 10:00am.
5. If there is a person on your floor with special needs (e.g., someone who's older, ailing or disabled), please consider offering to help, by running errands for them.
6. However tempting it may be, don't push the "up" button when you want to go down. It just slows everything down. Please instruct your housekeeper and contractors in the proper operation of the elevator.
7. Please do not hold the elevator door while having a conversation with a neighbor.
8. Try not to schedule food deliveries during the peak periods
9. Contractors will have to thoroughly plan their projects. They should not be continually running to the hardware store — unless they're prepared to use the stairs.

