

# 32 GRAMERCY PARK SOUTH HIGHLIGHTS

February 2013

## BOARD NEWS

- The bridge required for the building's Cycle 7 and terrace work has been installed on the Third Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street sides of 32GPS. We will be making every effort to minimize the impact of the City-mandated project on residents' use of the roof.
- In the wake of Hurricane Sandy, our Managing Agent is working on an Emergency Plan for our building. While there's no easy fix, he's also investigating generators to determine the most cost-efficient and practical options for our building.
- Renovations to the front of the elevator area in the lobby are still under discussion. The building's architect has been asked to provide samples of a variety of new options.
- Touch-ups have been made to the worn bronze surfaces in the lobby and the broken pane by the doorman's desk has been replaced.
- Our elevator vendor has been instructed to fix the malfunctions in the indicator displays and ensure that the Resident Manager has the ability to program the LED remotely.
- For residents who would like to upgrade the heating in their apartments, you now have a new option: you can install thermostatic valves—self-contained controls with sensor, setpoint dial and valve actuator in each unit—for your radiators. The control device can be placed up to six feet away from the valve. You set the temperature and the valve adjusts the level of heat. The benefits? Increased comfort and energy savings, with reduced under- or overheating. There are some limitations. For example, these valves can't be used inside enclosures or where airflow around sensor is restricted. For more information, contact Resident Manager Jorge Camus at [jorgecamusjr@gmail.com](mailto:jorgecamusjr@gmail.com) or leave a note for him at the front desk.
- If you're interested in upgrading, apartments 18A/B and 8K are on the market. (If you're selling your apartment and it's not listed here, we apologize. Please leave a note with the doorman or send an email to [32gpsboard@gmail.com](mailto:32gpsboard@gmail.com).)

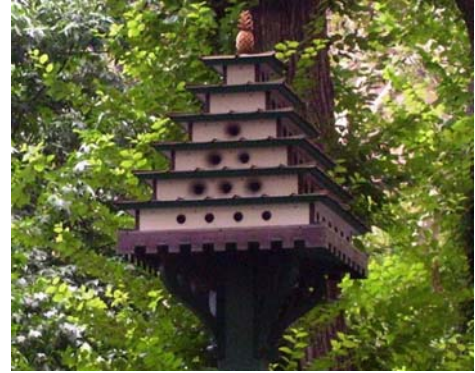
## FYI

- **ShredFest 2013.** Our neighbor, Pat Snyderman, is interested in hiring a shredder truck to come to our building later this month for onsite, secure destruction of old income tax reports, bank statements and other sensitive information. The cost of the service is \$210 per hour and Pat would like to sign up 10 or more people.

If you're interested, please forward your name, email and phone number to Pat at [psnyderman@verizon.net](mailto:psnyderman@verizon.net), or leave a note at the front desk or under her door (11J), and Pat will be back in touch with you as to date, time and your share of the cost.

- **Are You a Passionate Cyclist?** Check out New York City Bike Maps at <http://www.nycbikemaps.com/> for maps of the City's Bike Paths, Bike Lanes and Greenways. Google Earth downloads are also available. For a free paper map call 3-1-1 or visit any New York City bike shop.

- **A Home to Sparrows.** Imported from Europe in the early 1860s, sparrows soon became so numerous and were so popular that elaborate birdhouses, in the form of Chinese pagodas, were built for them in a number of parks, including Union Square and Gramercy Park.
- **Protecting Our Neighborhood.** The focus of the Gramercy Park Block Association (GPBA) is safety, security, quality of life, historic preservation and maintaining the property values of our historic residential community.



If you would like to stay informed about GPBA’s work, visit their website at <http://gramercyparkblockassociation.org/>; or you can join the Block Association at <https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/GramercyParkBlockAssociation/Membership.html> and receive the regular Gramercy Park eNewsletter, sent by Park Trustee Arlene S. Harrison, founder and president of the GPBA.

- **Saving Money, Paper & Energy.** If you’re not already receiving *Highlights* as a .pdf attachment, and you’d like to, please send an email with your name, apartment number and email address to [32gpsboard@gmail.com](mailto:32gpsboard@gmail.com). Your information will not be shared with anyone else and you can opt-out at any time.
- **A Man of Gargantuan Appetites.** A flamboyant New York railroad mogul during the Gilded Age, Diamond Jim Brady was also one of the most accomplished trenchermen in U.S. history.



Famed restaurateur George Rector affirmed that Diamond Jim “was the best 25 customers we ever had.”

A typical Brady dinner consisted of two or three dozen oysters, each measuring six inches from tip to tail, followed by half a dozen crabs, green turtle soup (at least two servings) and six or seven giant lobsters. Next: two portions of terrapin, two whole canvasback ducks and a steak and vegetables. Then there was dessert.

“When he pointed at a platter of French pastry,” Rector recalled, “he didn’t mean any special piece of pastry. He meant the platter.” The meal concluded with a two-pound box of chocolates.

All in all, over a sixteen-hour—9:00 am to 1:00 am—span, Diamond Jim consumed breakfast lunch, dinner and three major, feast-sized, “snacks”...a truly prodigious amount of food. Not surprisingly, in 1917, Brady died of a heart attack. When his body was examined by doctors, they discovered that his stomach was six times the size of that of an average man.

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**EDITOR’S NOTE:** To submit a story idea, email the Editor at [32gpsboard@gmail.com](mailto:32gpsboard@gmail.com) or leave a note addressed to *Highlights* Editor, 32GPS Board at the front desk.

