

**MORTGAGE FIRM SELECTS  
ROCKLAND FOR REGIONAL HQ**

*Orangeburg, NY*—Mack-Cali Realty Corp. of Cranford, NJ has filled 55,000 sf at One Ramland Rd. in Rockland County. Woodland Hills, CA-based WMC Mortgage Corp. agreed to a 5.5-year term in the facility, where it plans to relocate its new Northeast regional HQ. The lease is expected to create approximately 300 jobs in the area. The 232,000-foot office/flex building is owned by a joint venture of Mack-Cali and a private developer.

**GORHAM REOPENS AS BLAKELY  
AT 136 WEST 55TH ST.**

*Manhattan*—A new hotel has opened its doors on West 55th Street, just west of Avenue of the Americas. When fully operational by mid-September, the Blakely New York will have 120 rooms. The 17th-floor penthouse consists of a meeting room, which accommodates 18 to 20 for boardroom-style meetings and 40 for receptions, an adjoining penthouse suite and a spacious terrace that serves both rooms and can be divided into two separate areas. The owner, BD Hotels, a partnership of Richard Born and Ira Drukier, plan to offer introductory room rates for a limited time, beginning at \$225 a night. The lodging was designed by George Porter. The building was the site of the former Gorham Hotel, which opened in 1929 as an apartment hotel.

**MULTIFAMILY**

**MAKING A MARC ON WEST SIDE**

*Manhattan*—A new 48-story luxury rental apartment building has debuted on the West Side. The Moinian Group has developed Marc, a 303-unit residential complex at 260 West 54th St. Amenities include a doorman, 24-hour concierge, valet parking and maid service. In addition, The Marc Club, which is free of charge to tenants for their first year, has a cinema room for private screenings; a health club; a business center with office and conference rooms; a resident lounge the Marc Café and a 10,000-sf sundeck.

Rents start at \$2,385 for the studios, \$2,795 for one-bedrooms and \$3,835 for two-bedroom units.

**TWO SITES PREPARE  
FOR NEW RESIDENTIAL UNITS**

*Manhattan*—Construction is slated to begin this spring on two new apartment buildings in Harlem. The proposed sites consist of a 9,000-sf parcel located at 2000 Fifth Ave. at 124th Street, across from Marcus Garvey Park and a 7,500-sf



65-71 East 130th St.

site of four contiguous vacant lots at 65-71 East 130th St. between Madison and Park avenues. Ralph J. Trionfo of Upside Ventures represented both the owners and the developers. The 2000 Fifth Ave. property was acquired last summer

under a long-term ground lease with an aggregate value of approximately \$42 million by 2002 Fifth Avenue LLC. The developer plans to build a nine-story, 23-unit co-op, with a retail component, sublevel parking for 32 cars and a community facility.

In a separate transaction, East Harlem Development Corp. purchased the 130th Street site for \$1,155,000 from Sheltering Arms Children's Services. East Harlem Development Corp. is building a seven-story, market-rate rental apartment building, which will also include a community facility and 25 units.

**RETAIL**

**GARRICK-AUG FINDS  
FLAGSHIP FOR OPTIQUE**

*Manhattan*—The former Pacifica Restaurant at 1199 First Ave. at 65th Street is set to become the flagship store for Optique by Lenscrafters. The eyewear boutique signed a 10-year, 1,775-sf deal on the ground floor of the building, where it plans to open this summer. The leasing team of Faith Hope Consolo and Joseph A. Aquino from Garrick-Aug Worldwide Ltd. negotiated the transaction on behalf of the landlord. Additional terms of the deal were not released. —RBY