

The Honorable Elizabeth Holtzman Advocates the Impeachment of George W. Bush

Forum Sponsored by CRDC, VID and GLID

Who better to discuss the impeachability of George W. Bush than the Honorable Elizabeth Holtzman? A graduate of Radcliffe College and Harvard Law School, she was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives for Brooklyn's 16th Congressional District, defeating Emmanuel Celler, a fifty year incumbent. She was the youngest woman ever to serve in Congress at the age of 31. While in Congress she served on the House Judiciary Committee as it held its impeachment hearings on the activities of Richard Nixon. That Committee drafted impeachment charges against Nixon, which ultimately drove him and many of his corrupt collaborators from office.

Liz Holtzman served four terms in Congress. Afterwards she was elected District Attorney of Kings County, the only woman to be elected to that office in New York City to this day. While there she helped end racial discrimination in jury selection and led the effort to reform New York's rape victim's rights.

In 1990 she was elected Comptroller of the City of New York. Again, she has been the only woman ever to be elected to that office. While Comptroller she increased pension funds assets dramatically, made investments in affordable housing; secured better breast cancer pre-

*By: Mary D. Dorman, Esq.
District Leader for the 75th AD*

vention programs and help end the municipal incineration program.

Ms. Holtzman is also the author of *The Impeachment of George W. Bush: A Practical Guide for the Concerned Citizen* (published by Nation Books). At the invitation of CRDC, VID and GLID, Ms. Holtzman, in a generous gift of her time and intellect, demystified the subject of the impeachment in sharing her motivation and experience of the impeachment of Nixon.

Ms. Holtzman began with an explanation of what impeachment is and how it works. Under the Constitution, the House of Representatives is responsible for initiating the presidential (and vice presidential) impeachment process. The articles of impeachment prepared by the House Judiciary Committee against Richard Nixon were based on "high crimes and misdemeanors." The many grounds included illegal wiretapping, misleading the public and abusing his powers of his office. The articles of impeachment resulted in Nixon's resignation.

"Thirty-three years later," she writes, "the same issues, the same arrogance, the same abuse of power emanate from the White House,

GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2007

7:00PM (SHARP)

Hudson Guild
441 West 26TH ST.
(Btwn 9TH & 10TH Aves.)

AGENDA

REPORT FROM ALBANY

Guest Speaker

LIZ KRUEGER,
our State Senator in the
eastern part of our district

*Endorsement of
Our District Leaders:*

Mary Dorman & Tom Schuler
for their 2nd Term

*Nomination of
Club Judicial Delegates
to be elected at our May meeting*

This year we will elect
6 regular and 6 alternate delegates

threatening our Constitutional system." Ms. Holtzman gives examples: the president directed an illegal domestic wiretapping program and other surveillance of Americans, which is clearly unlawful; he deceived Congress and the people in taking the country to war in Iraq; he permitted and condoned the use of torture or cruel treatment of detainees; he showed reckless indifference to human life in the face of Katrina and in equipping U.S. soldiers for the occupation of Iraq and he tried to cover up his war deceptions with the leak of misleading classified information.

Ms. Holtzman gives supporting, known facts for these allegations against Bush. She

continued on page 2

Elizabeth Holtzman...

continued from page 1

urges her readers, audience and the American public to hold the president accountable for his misconduct and abuse of the Constitution and hold their elected officials responsible for their inaction in the face of it.

Ms. Holtzman assures us that the American People can put impeachment on the national agenda. How? First: Gear Up! Inform yourself and friends about impeachment, host discussions in your home, your dorm, your community space. Second: Reach Out. Grass roots organizing is essential—political clubs, town meetings, fliers at street fairs and on-line. Third: Speak Out. Call your local radio station, write letters to local papers, petition, blog or sponsor a forum on the subject. Fourth: make sure your congressional representatives know that this is an issue that you want on the agenda. Fifth: pass resolutions locally that will raise the consciousness of the American people and the Congress. Next: vote nationally in key Congressional races for representatives who will support impeachment. Finally: don't stop—keep going and don't be discouraged, this can be done.

After her initial presentation Ms. Holtzman stayed and answered the myriad questions reflecting the concerns of the audience. Wasn't it too late in Bush's presidency for him to be impeached? (It's never too late) Would Cheney then be President? (He can be impeached as well.) (Go Nancy Pelosi!)

Each concerned citizen should contact her or his Senator and urge them to initiate an investigation of the alleged impeachable offenses against Bush. The elemental issue is: what did President Bush know and when did he know it? Ms. Holtzman feels confident, as do many of us, that such an investigation will show George W. Bush is guilty of high crimes and misdemeanors.

Four Years For What?

By Carla Nordstrom, CRDC member

Today, March 19, 2007, is the fourth anniversary of the United States invasion on Iraq. Each year I have joined a major demonstration in New York City to mark the event. The first year, I carried a sign that said, "Stop Your Shopping, Bombs Are Dropping." My 84 year old father who is a World War II veteran joined my daughter and me. One year the weather was glorious, another year it was gloomy.

In 2005, I carried a cardboard coffin across 42nd Street. The police silently led our funeral procession as shoppers looked on. This year's march was held on Sunday, March 18th. People came from all over the metropolitan area with signs and posters. It was not as somber as some marches, but it has gotten to the point where many of us recognize each other. One difference was a police officer announced at the beginning, "Welcome to our march, you will walk to 42nd Street and turn right..."

While the War on Iraq has become a concern for most Americans there does not seem to be any way to end this war. Some of us take to the streets and contact our politicians regularly, while others sit back. I am pessimistic because the politicians who can end it aren't doing what they need to do. Many of us who have been on the streets for the past five years are tired of demonstrating.

Of course that doesn't mean I'll stop standing on the corner of 24th Street and 8th Avenue on Tuesday evening from 6:00 to 7:00pm with Chelsea Neighbors United to End the War. But it sure would be nice if more of you would join us.

SAVE THE DATE!

**Saturday, May 5,
from 12 noon to 3:00 pm**

This year the Club will be holding their **Annual Brunch Fundraiser on Saturday, May 5** from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. at Nisos Restaurant, 19th Street and 8th Avenue.

We are excited this year to be honoring:

David Patterson, NY State Lieutenant Governor; **Katharine Roberts**, Community activist and longtime CRDC member; **Callen-Lorde Community Health Center** for their many years of providing critical health care in Chelsea; and **Janet Weinberg**, Director of Development for GMHC with the Esther Smith Award.

Member tickets remain at \$50, and Guest tickets are \$125. You will be receiving your invitation shortly.

We also plan to have a raffle with prizes donated by local businesses and community people. This was a popular event at last year's Brunch. If you have something to contribute or wish to volunteer to solicit donations call Judy Richeimer at 212-243-3525 or email Linda Longstreet at lindabusybeemail@yahoo.com.

Assembly Member Richard Gottfried Honored

On March 16 the American Red Cross in Greater New York honored our own Assembly Member Richard N. Gottfried, Chair of the NYS Assembly Health Committee, by naming a conference room at its new headquarters, 520 West 49th Street, in his honor.

In presenting the award, Theresa A. Bischoff, CEO, of the American Red Cross of Greater New York said, “We are delighted to honor Assembly Member Richard Gottfried in this manner and to thank him for all he has done for the chapter over the years. His support for us and all New Yorkers is unwavering. He works with us closely as we offer vital humanitarian support for individuals and businesses in our community—whether through recruitment and training of volunteers, preparing residents for emergencies, or bringing first aid and CPR classes to the public.”

Housing ‘Hot Flashes’

Gloria Sukenick, CRDC Chair Housing Committee

FLASH: Hoorays for Dan Peckham, recent star of *Chelsea Now*'s March 16-22 issue. He was billed as a “real estate legend” for putting up a real fight for his long time rent stabilized apartment in a 22nd Street building that’s currently being emptied by the new “demolition” strategy. It’s a ploy currently being used by landlords all over the city to empty buildings of rent regulated tenant. Funny—I used to think of “demolition” as demolished—or as no longer there. But leave it to Department of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR) to come up with strange amendments to the English language, in order to benefit real estate interests. Hope the new regime in Albany and at DHCR will bring some big time changes.

FLASH: A huge demonstration is being planned for late May. A coalition of tenants, housing activists, the homeless (whose numbers are once again growing), AIDS activists, churches, unions—the list is impressive, and from every borough in the city—are coming together to make their voices heard. Our new governor needs to hear the voices of the huge numbers of citizens who are concerned by the disappearance of affordable housing, the possibilities of displacement, increasing harassment and unfair rent increases. The list goes on. For more information, Housing Here and

Now, 718 246-7900, ext. 250. Email, info@housing-hereandnow.org.

FLASH: A well attended forum was held at Fulton Houses on the issue of public housing funding and a NYCHA proposal to have public housing tenants move to the federal Section 8 programs. There is much to be skeptical about with this proposal. For one, many low income people in need of housing would be not able to get housing assistance since vouchers would be given to those already in public housing. Outreach to city and state elected officials is planned, protesting this plan and seeking needed funds.

FLASH: *New York Times*, Friday, March 23 reports that there has been a big increase in the population of young children in Manhattan in recent times. A large percentage of these children are white and their parents are decidedly in the upper income brackets...hmmmmm! Does that give validation to predictions that we are becoming a city for the wealthy only, i.e. DUBAI ON THE HUDSON???

FLASH: Or maybe a *TWEET*, because a little birdie told me of a rumor going around that there is a proposal for affordable housing at the 7th Avenue and 20th Street Sanitation site? Could it be true? Now wouldn’t that be something! Finally a possibility to create something that would keep the prized diversity our neighborhoods have been enriched with for many years to come.

More HOUSING HOT FLASHES to come next time.

The Street Fairs Are Coming

Here is the current crop of approved Street Fairs planned for the Chelsea area in April/May, 2007.

April 28: *Chelsea Visiting Neighbors*
8th Ave. between 14-23rd Sts.

May 26: *Chelsea Reform Democratic Club*
6th Ave. between 14-23rd Sts.

May 26: *Chelsea Ceramic Guild*
19th St. between 7th-8th Sts.

For further information, call Community Board 4 at 212-736-4636.

Tom Schuler will be looking for volunteers to help at the Club’s Street Fair Table on May 26. To volunteer, call Tom at 917-716-442-4428.

PO Box 1120
Old Chelsea Station
New York City, NY 10113-1120

Chelsea, Madison Sq., Flatiron, Rosehill



In This Issue...

Elizabeth Holtzman for Bush Impeachment

by Mary D. Dorman, Esq., District Leader

Save The Date! Saturday, May 5

Annual CRDC Club Brunch/Fundraiser

Four Years For What?

by Carla Nordstrom, CRDC Member

Assembly Member Gottfried Honored

Conference Room Named in His Honor

Housing 'Hot Flashes'

by Andrew Berman, CRDC member

The Street Fairs Are Coming

Chelsea Street Fairs for April & May

To members who have not paid their 2007 dues ... remember, you

will not be able to seek nomination for Club Judicial Delegate at our April meeting, nor will you be able to vote to endorse our District Leaders. Dues may be paid the night of the April meeting. Not sure, call Doris at 212-924-5433 as to your status.

Join CRDC Today!

**It's Never
Too Early
To Pay Your
2007 Dues**

If you haven't already, become a 2007 member of CRDC, New York City's most progressive Democratic club. Just fill out this form and return it to us.

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

Phone (Day): _____

(Evening) _____

Email: _____

___ \$25 Individual ___ \$40 H'Hold ___ \$50 Patrons

___ \$10 Ltd. Income ___ \$15 H'Hold Limited Income

Make checks payable to CRDC and mail to:

PO Box 1120

Old Chelsea Station

New York City, NY 10113-1120

Questions? Call 212-924-5433 or email us at
info@crdcnyc.org