



## Fording an Alliance

by N/A

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017

Later in the day as the rains were falling and the temperatures and the end-of-the-day traffic was jamming, over at the Metropolitan Club, supporters were gathering for the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NYSPPC) 2017 Food & Wine Gala.

The NYSPCC was founded in 1875 by a New York lawyer and businessman Elbridge Gerry. Mr. Gerry at the time lived in a mansion on the corner of 60th and Fifth where the Pierre stands today, and across the street from the Metropolitan Club. The past two events of the NYSPCC coincidentally have been held in those two locations. I wonder if Mr. Gerry's spirit is still in our midst. Just a fanciful thought but one to affirm another event that involves the community and its heart.

The NYSPCC is there to help the most vulnerable — the children in our community — to deal with their recovering from the trauma of their experiences in their families. The organization also helps prevent child abuse through working with parents, teachers and foster care. Child abuse is a kind of social cancer that afflicts its victims throughout their life.

They have programs to help child victims to handle it successfully and avoid its recurring generationally, as it often does. We live in a world where the word "abuse" is mainly ignored or taken without care, as if its dreamed up by some would-be victim. What it really is, is a crime against humanity.

Last night's fund-raiser proceeds support the NYSPCC's Trauma Recovery Program which offers a specialized thereapeutic program for children ages 5 through 18 who have experienced physical or sexual abuse, neglect, traumatic bereavement, or who have witnessed family violence.

Meanwhile, at the Metropolitan Club last night, the annual event of Food & Wine began at 6:30 with cocktails and a wine tasting. At 7:30 guests moved into dinner with a menu curated by Chef Michael Ferraro, Executive Chef/Partner of Delicatessen and MacBar. Then for the pleasure of the guests, Deborah Norville, an NYSPCC Children's Council Member, had a

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fascinating conversation with Nina and Tim Zagat, the husband and wife team who are co-founders and co-Chairs of Zagat which is a New York synonym for dining out in New York.



NYSPPCC founder Commodore Elbridge Gerry, Deborah Norville, Chef Michael Ferraro, and Nina and Tim Zagat

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