



1 Robin Selden, Brett Galley, Joan Lunden 2 Rhodie Lorenz, Debbie Katz, Amy Hochhauser  
 3 Megan Couch, Anna Marroti, Tori Kochiss and Wendy Farnen Price from Ella Health  
 4 Dramatic display by Hollywood Pop 5 Jaimee Moxham, Megan Paimer Ribera, Cindy Palmer  
 Dean 6 Donna Moffly, Cristin Marandino 7 Maria McGraff and Sabrina Taylor from DiMare  
 Pastry Shop 8 Karen Rigo and Dave Gluckman of Lux, Bond & Green

|| MOFFLY MEDIA & BREAST CANCER ALLIANCE ||

# Leading Ladies

**F**or more than 300 female professionals, it was an evening of social networking and business strategizing. The Stamford Hilton's Garden Pavilion was the venue for Moffly Media's seventh annual Women In Business event. The function, themed Inspiring Entrepreneurship, served as a knowledge and networking forum for local entrepreneurs and business owners. News 12 Connecticut's Rebecca Surran moderated a dynamic panel of speakers that included Joan Lunden, health journalist and founder of Camp Reveille for Women; Robin Selden, executive chef at Marcia Selden Catering & Event Planning; and Brett Galley, co-owner of the event-planning company Hollywood Pop. The evening, sponsored by Ella Health of Westport, featured a cocktail reception and hors d'oeuvres, followed by the panel discussion that led to a lively and thoughtful Q&A session. The event concluded with a grand prize drawing for Ippolita Cascade earrings donated by Lux Bond & Green. Moffly Media donated a portion of the proceeds to the Breast Cancer Alliance. »



“As a little kid I used to collect butterflies. I was always doing outdoor things.”



High Ridge and Scofieldtown roads. “When the museum moved up there you packed a lunch,” Redniss remembers. “Watching your neighborhood change gave me an appreciation for change being traumatic in people’s lives when it comes to land use.”

Rick, his brother, Ray, and his buddies liked to climb up the water tower on Blachley Road.

“We used to pull the chains and it would spin us the other way,” he remembers. That was before Jaycroft School, and then the Clairmont headquarters, and then Chelsea Piers and NBC Sports Group moved in.

Come the time he was a teenager, Rick drove to work at Caldor’s on Broad Street in his 1960 Corvair. Downtown was a little different then. You had Pacific Street with all the old hops, like Cousin Shapiro’s, where you got your hip clothes like blue suede shoes. Goodies was the big hangout on Broad Street.”

After Rick headed to college, Landmark Square arrived during the 1970s, and the mall followed in the 1980s. “It’s funny—you go to some places and it’s barely changed. For example, my street is very, very similar to when I grew up. The downtown, though, there are obvious big changes there. It’s always a balancing act to try to preserve and protect and to cope with growth,” he says.

**Rick Redniss is president and principal of Redniss & Mead, the land use and zoning design and consulting firm.**



## Robin Selden (48)

Robin Selden grew up at the end of Echo Hill Drive. Her house stood in Stamford, the backyard in Pound Ridge. “We thought it was so cool to stand in the backyard and say ‘We’re in New York!’” Not as cool as tooling around the streets on her roller skates, though. If there were ever to be an

Olympic event in roller-skating, Robin and her friends were training for it. “My neighbors and I had blue-and-white striped sneakers attached to skates. Old-school skates and scrunchy socks. We’d do dance routines on our street every day.”

When the skates came off, Robin and her friends wound their way by foot down curvy Old Long Ridge Road to Lee’s Country Market. “They had the best deli there. My parents had a charge and we’d get an ice tea or a soda, some kind of snack and just put it on the charge that my parents paid off each month,” Robin recalls.



A family celebration at the Selden home for Jeffrey’s high school graduation in 1987

and the old ladies would go [there] and take their bread home.”

Robin’s grandparents’ house might have been the best place for food. Her grandmother was Miss Cuba when she captured the heart of a Jewish dentist from New York. “She was an amazing cook who made incredible food,” Robin recalls. Her culinary prowess stamped its influence on Robin’s mother, Marcia, who started a catering business. Robin and her brother, Jeffrey, often tagged along on jobs, working as dishwashers or buspersons. Robin took her pay from those catering jobs and added it to her stash from working in the (now defunct) housewares and bedding department at Lord & Taylor. When she was sixteen, she bought herself a car, the better to cruise around with her other free-spirited friends, especially to sneak off to the falls off Riverbank Road. Those stories, however, are best left for another day.

**Robin Selden is the managing partner and executive chef at Marcia Selden Catering & Event Planning.**



“Does anybody even do that anymore?”

Many of Robin’s memories are tasty ones. “There was a restaurant on Newfield Avenue, Ettorucci’s, that now is a bank. And the Lakeside Diner. When I was in high school we would go there for lunch. It was amazing and is still there. We used to go to the Ground Round. They played movies and served peanuts. That was a fun place to go,” she says. “Another fun restaurant was The Sittin’ Room, where the Bull’s Head Diner is now. There was an early-bird special

“Another fun restaurant was The Sittin’ Room ... There was an early-bird special and the old ladies would go [there] and take their bread home.”