

WBDC has Faith in event

*Area radio host to
address group at
UConn-Stamford*

By Harold Davis
Special Correspondent

A woman who has reached lofty heights in broadcasting will be the featured speaker when the Women's Business Development Center of Stamford hosts "WBDC Helping to Raise the Bar for Women in Business" on Thursday at the Stamford campus of the University of Connecticut.



Middleton

The event, which begins at 5:30 p.m., will feature radio personality Faith Middleton, two-time winner of the Peabody Award as well as the Distinguished Public Service Award from the Connecticut Bar Association.

"This is the first time we've had Faith. She's an
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icon in Connecticut and passionate about economic empowerment for women. It's an honor to have her speak on behalf of WBDC and our mission," said Fran Pastore, chief executive officer of the WBDC, who expects 150 people to attend the event.

Middleton has hosted "The Faith Middleton Show" for 26 years on Connecticut Public Radio. She hosts several other programs on the network.

"When I met the brilliant women who run this vital or-

ganization, and then saw the data on how many women they've helped start their own businesses in Connecticut, I was amazed and inspired," Middleton said.

The event will showcase 25 clients that the nonprofit group has helped. It serves as a precursor for the organization's annual fundraiser that will follow later this month. The WBDC will celebrate its 12th year of operation in April.

"This is the first time that we've invited donors to see the work we've done and see the impact that its had on our clients. The purpose of the

event is to thank existing supporters and to cultivate new supporters," Pastore said.

The event also will focus on the economy.

"We're going to talk about the link between micro-enterprises and the impact that they have on the local community, especially in troubled economic times," Pastore said.

— For details about the WBDC program, visit www.ctwbdc.org.

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