

# Tress distress

Sensitive stylist gives tips for cancer patients

By SUSAN REDSTONE

**C**ANCER patients in need of a lift — and a bob — can get both for free at the Avon Salon & Spa in Trump Tower.

A senior stylist named Joelle launched the Breast Cancer Awareness Support Program there recently after her two sisters were diagnosed the same week.

Their travails — one sister lost so much hair she opted for a wig — inspired Joelle to devote Wednesday evenings from 5 to 7 to cancer patients and their hair problems.

While many women opt to cut their locks off to pre-empt thinning, Joelle proceeds differently — patiently taking them through a series of haircuts so they can see how they'll look with different lengths.

For 30-something marketing exec Mary McEvoy, who's undergoing treatment for ovarian cancer, the program sounded like an answer to her prayers.

Two days after her first bout of nauseating chemotherapy, she was sitting in Joelle's styling chair clutching tear sheets from



N.Y. Post: Jennifer Weisbord

Avon stylist Joelle gives ovarian cancer patient Mary McEvoy a new hairstyle.

beauty magazines.

"After the shock of the initial diagnosis and the realization that my disease is curable," McEvoy says, "the thing that made me freak out and burst into tears was the possibility of losing my hair."

thrilled with this haircut whether I was sick or not.

"And if worse comes to the worse and I do go bald, I've met someone who I trust to help me figure out my best look."

After assessing McEvoy's mood and her thick, dark, shoulder-length locks, Joelle gave her a wispier, frothier, modified bob to suit thinning hair.

She also gave her tips on preventing excess damage by washing in lukewarm water and towel-blotting dry, and suggested vegetable coloring alternates to the peroxide-based colors McEvoy's doctors have banned for the next few months.

"It's sassy," says McEvoy of her new do. "I'd be

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