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Winning gold at regional pastry competition is sweet for Susan Notter



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From left, Tim Harris, Pennsylvania School of Culinary Arts instructor; Cher Harris, executive pastry chef at Hotel Hershey; Chef Susan Notter; and Jim Bologa, Porter and Chester Institute president and CEO.



Posted: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 1:15 pm

 **By LYNN SCHMIDT | Lifestyle Editor**

Susan E. Notter, pastry arts program director at The Pennsylvania School of Culinary Arts in Lancaster, captured the gold medal at the 2014 ACF Northeast Region Pastry Chef of the Year competition held at The Crowne Plaza Hotel at The Crossings, Warwick, R.I., April 11-14.

Notter competed against Cathleen A. Barron of Depew, N.Y., another pastry educator with years of experience.

"After the competition was done," Notter says, "we helped each other with all of the dishes and once the results were announced, she came and congratulated me."

The chefs were competing for the right to represent the ACF Northeast region in the national competition to be held in Kansas City, Mo., July 25-29.

Notter does not yet know what the national event will entail, she says. Once all the regional winner have been named, the requirements for the national competition will be announced.

However, she does know that it will be a longer competition.

"Last year it was three hours and the competitors had to make plated desserts, a showpiece and a chocolate candy item," she says.

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“If it is the same this year, I will be happy,” she adds.

The winner of the national competition will receive \$5,000.

“I would really like to buy a house this year for myself and my son, Steven,” Notter says. “So, if I do win, the money will help greatly toward a down payment.”



Lynn Schmidt is co-editor of the Lifestyle section and writes about beer in her *What Ales Ya* column. She can be reached at lschmidt@lnpnews.com or (717) 291-2995. You can also follow @Lynn_justLynn or @LancLifestyle on Twitter.

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