



Gourmet KITCHEN TOUR

SOTA Provides a Unique Taste of the Valley



MOST OF US ENJOY A voyeuristic peek into the lives of others. For those of us who like food and kitchens, SOTA (Society of the Arts) of the Allentown Art Museum came up with a great way to experience both. Join us as we step into the kitchens of six Lehigh Valley families, meet some talented area culinary experts, and raise funds for the AAM's print fund and educational programs, too!

The **Heart of the Home Gourmet Kitchen Tour** was held last spring, and featured six kitchens selected for their diversity and design merit. Guest chefs from local restaurants and caterers were cooking in each kitchen, demonstrating their culinary techniques. Tasting was available, and encouraged! Local floral designers Phoebe Floral of Allentown and Buds: Garden Places for Small Spaces of Allentown created floral arrangements

and planter gardens for each of the homes. There was a silent auction for kitchen supplies, accessories and cookbooks, and a sale of flowers and plants. More than 375 people participated in this unique taste of the Valley!

The homes were selected to reflect a broad range of styles; from an 1880s stone farmhouse, to a stone and stucco English cottage, a home built by a designer in homage to the work of architect Frank Lloyd Wright, a classic 1960s ranch house, and two former homes of Lehigh Valley notable citizens: Air Products founder Leonard Pool and merchant prince Max Hess, Jr. Every person taking the tour could identify with features found in one or more of the kitchens visited, and could incorporate the ideas seen in them into their own homes.

We hope you enjoy this first in a series of three kitchen features running through November in *Lehigh Valley Style*.

by ILENE WOOD | photography by OLAF STARORYPINSKI

Additional reporting provided by JANE MEEHAN



GUEST CHEF:

(Bottom left) Guests enjoyed a selection of scrumptious desserts created by **Laurin Fegley** of Simply Smooth Catering, Allentown at the home of Arjana and Jeff Etchason. (Bottom right) Arjana Etchason with kitchen designer, Doug MacGeorge.

