



**Food**  
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DENNIS MC DONALD / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

George Kyrtatas, executive chef at SweetWater Bar & Grill in Cinnaminson, will appear on an upcoming episode of the Food Network's show "Cutthroat Kitchen".

# Out Cook, Out Sabotage, Outlast

Cinnaminson chef brings his culinary and cunning skills to new Food Network show.

By CATHERINE LAUGHLIN  
 CORRESPONDENT

The chefs competing on the Food Network's "Cutthroat Kitchen" need more talents than just braising, poaching and roasting, says chef George Kyrtatas, who will appear as a contestant Sunday on the new series.

"Cutthroat Kitchen," which premiered Aug. 11, is hosted by Alton Brown, who gleefully goads four experienced chefs to beat each other in a game of trickery.

"It's unlike other cooking shows where the chefs just make food," said Kyrtatas, the co-owner of Hathaway's and the SweetWater Bar and Grill in Cinnaminson. "This one is about every man for himself."

In each of the show's 13 installments, the contestants are greeted by the diabolical Brown carrying a platinum briefcase with \$100,000 to be divided among the group for auction items.

After each cooking task is assigned, competitors have 60 seconds to gather groceries from the pantry. The chefs can then spend their cash on culinary shenanigans to sabotage their opponents' dishes and, hopefully, land them in a pickle.

On a recent episode, sour apple candies were swapped for fresh apples for a pork chops with applesauce course. Another chef lost all of her cooking instruments, including pots and pans, and had to prepare her dish by molding aluminum foil into culinary gadgets.



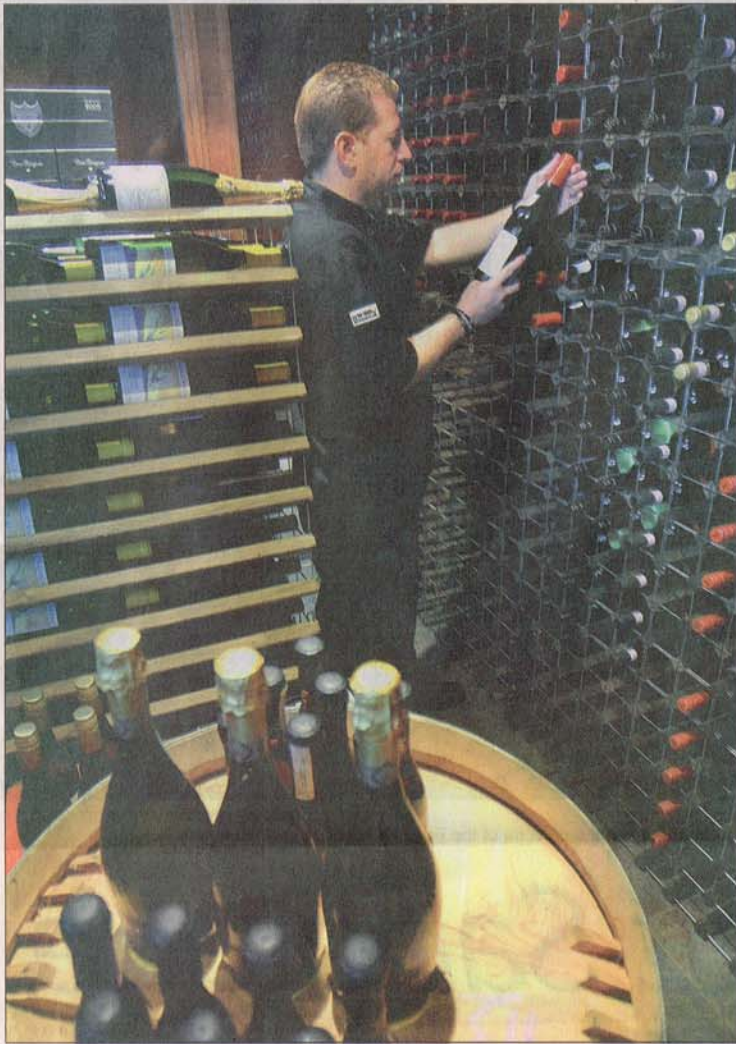
Alton Brown hosts "Cutthroat Kitchen" on the Food Network.



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Kyrtatas cuts vegetables in the kitchen at the SweetWater Bar & Grill.





George Kyratas, executive chef at SweetWater Bar & Grill in Cinnaminson, looks at a bottle in the wine cellar of the restaurant.

## Kyratas

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After each of the three rounds, a guest food critic samples the cuisine and eliminates a participant, paring down to the winner, who goes home with the money left in his/her bank.

For obvious reasons, Kyratas, 34, has been legally sworn to secrecy about the outcome of the episode. "But I can tell you, it was really wild," he said.

Kyratas filmed the show over three days in Los Angeles last June. Several casting agents that he had become familiar with recommended him for the gig. Kyratas also has appeared on "Flavors of America", "Fox & Friends" and "The 10! Show."

Foodies also will get to see the Cinnaminson-raised Kyratas — whose family started Hathaway's nearly three decades ago and added the adjacent SweetWater Bar and Grill last year — debuting as the host of the PBS TV cooking show "The Cooking Odyssey."

He found out in August that producers had chosen him for the 13-series run, with filming beginning in October. Airing in January, the show will highlight Kyratas traveling throughout 11 places in his family's homeland of Greece. Along the way, he will be blending Mediterranean cooking with indigenous ingredients, while sharing his beloved culture with the TV audience.

"At first, I was worried about being away from work for a few weeks," said Kyratas, "but my family has been very supportive. They know it's a fantastic opportunity for me."

In the meantime, Kyratas will be hosting a viewing party at SweetWater with appetizers for customers, family and friends starting at 10 p.m. Sunday during his appearance on "Cutthroat Kitchen."

"I'll be watching the show for the first time, too," he said. "It should be a great evening with a lot of the jokes at my expense. But that's OK. It'll be fun."



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Kyratas prepares a hamburger in the kitchen of his restaurant.