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**CELEBRATE**

ADAMS COUNTY'S PREMIER  
LIFESTYLE PUBLICATION

# Gettysburg

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## Community **GO-GETTERS**

Overcoming Odds to Pursue  
Career Paths and Passions

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## LIFE ADVICE:

*“It’s never too late, it’s never too early to get a start on following that dream. Sometimes the hardest part is getting started,” says Chris. “What’s stopping you? How can you get past those things?”*

*“Find a partner or someone who’s like-minded, so you don’t have to go it alone,” Sharon advises. “We have mentors, a network of other innkeepers that we ask advice of. No matter what your industry or idea, find people who are following that path and talk to them, learn what you can, so that when you’re ready to take that leap, you know there are people rooting for you.”*



CHRIS TILLMAN WITH STUDENT INTERN JACOB HARTMAN DURING THE B&B RENOVATIONS



## Sharon & Chris Tillman: INN LOVE

A young couple from Australia were the first guests to stay at Sharon and Chris Tillman’s bed and breakfast, Georges on York, in Taneytown, Md.

“It wasn’t until after breakfast that they told us she was from a ‘hotel family,’ and they told us how well we had done—it was amazing,” Sharon recalls.

It was validation that years of planning, dreaming, and working toward opening their B&B had paid off.

The Tillmans, celebrating their 34<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this month, both come from successful careers—hers in marketing and communications, his in the construction business. They raised two children, now adults, in Baltimore County.

*“It’s been amazing to be part of people’s special times, celebrating weddings or special events. We get to be part of those memories and help them have a great time.”*

“We both love to entertain, to meet people, and we love the adventure of traveling,” says Chris, 58. “About 15 years ago my aunt and uncle bought a B&B outside Albuquerque, New Mexico, and turned it into one of the most successful in the southwest.”

“Their story inspired us,” says Sharon, 55. “Here was this opportunity to watch them create this beautiful space and welcome people from all over the world. We even got to be guest innkeepers for them. They saw the potential in us and encouraged us to follow our dream like they did.”

First, the search for the perfect property took about three years, until they discovered the “warm and welcoming” 6,000-square-foot circa 1840s and 1870s Georgian house at 10 York Street. The renovations—including adding six bathrooms to the six bedrooms—took 14 months.

“It was kind of maddening because I was still working full time,” Chris recalls. “But as crazy as it was, the year I spent renovating this house was the most fun I ever had.”

They opened Georges on York in July 2019. They chose the name because, coincidentally, four previous homeowners were named George.

“It has been so much fun. We have met people from all over the world and U.S. It’s been amazing to be part of people’s special times, celebrating weddings or special events. We get to be part of those memories and help them have a great time,” Sharon says.

Just as in marriage, their skills combine for a team approach. Chris enjoys preparing breakfast—his specialties include a “countryfied” eggs benedict or eggs rancheros with pulled pork.

“It’s been everything we hoped for,” Sharon reflects. “When you realize your dream, you realize how lucky you are to get up and do what you love.”