



New owner Candis Roussos offers more than just the typical general store items.

# Cheltenham General Store has old flavor with modern twists

The old general store is alive and well in the tranquil village of Cheltenham, but a few up-to-date twists have been added.

It retains the graceful front verandah with the gingerbread trim and benches for just sittin' and starin', as it has since the turn of the century.

For 90 years the Cheltenham General Store has been the focal point of the village and before that in the late 1800's, it was mill, situated on the Credit River which flows peacefully behind it.

Folks from around the area come and go as they pick up their mail and chat with neighbors, just as they have since the post office was founded around 1905.

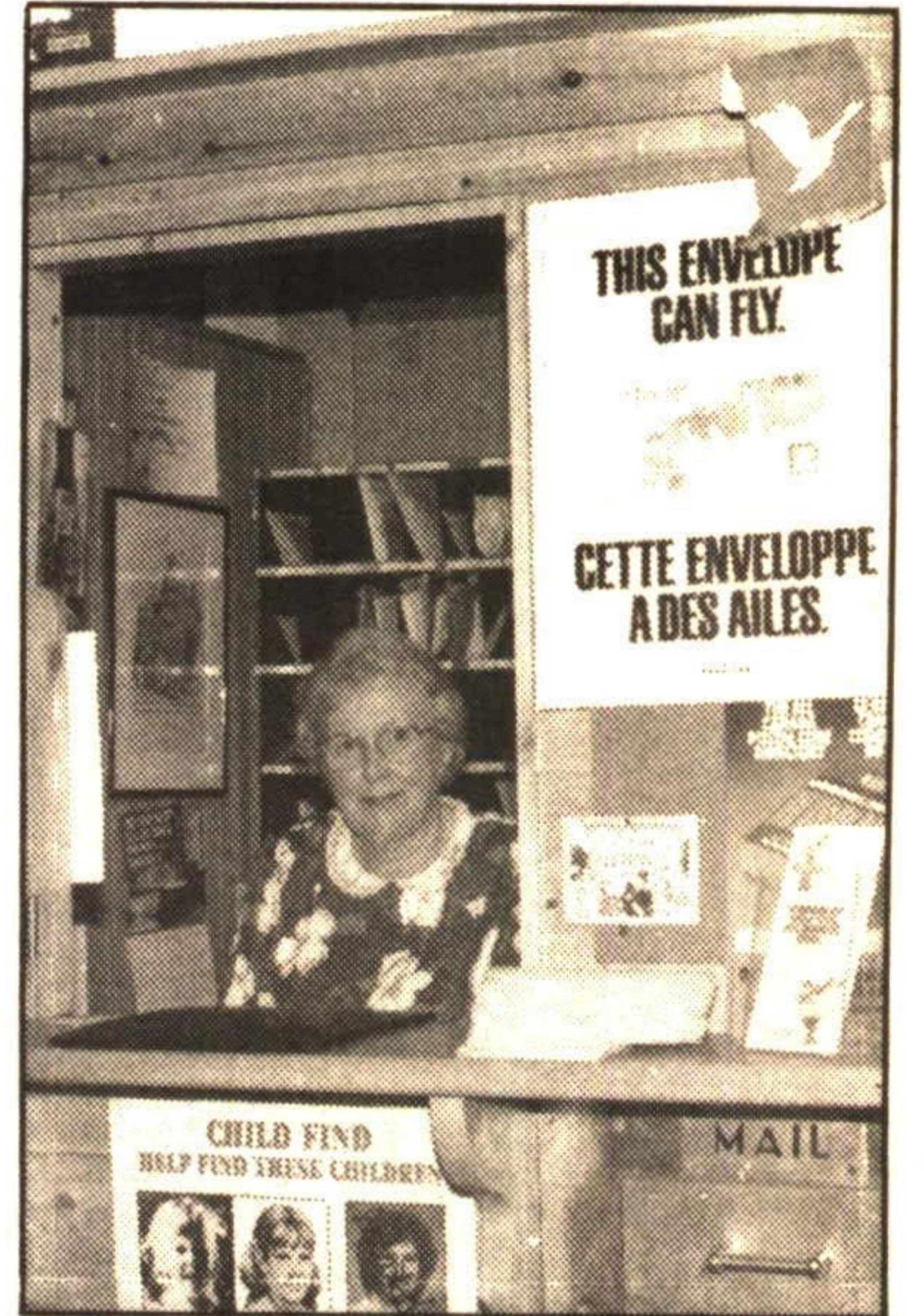
While there is no pot-bellied stove, there is a wood burning stove which glows and flickers and warms visitors in winter. Owner Candis Roussos, who took over the store a year and half ago, has added many modern touches without losing the traditional general store feeling. It is still a grocery store, and a boon to people in the area, since running out of milk or bread means a trip over to Highway 10.

One of the surprises is a tiny tearoom, with espresso and capucino coffee and a frozen yogurt machine plus delicious homemade baked goods for the visitors who drop in for a snack. They include the local people, hikers on the Bruce Trail, cyclists, skiers from Caledon Ski Club and day trippers out to view the beautiful scenery in the rolling country side.

But there's much more than a tearoom. Not only are there homemade baked goods, but a charming boutique in which to browse. The air is filled with the sweet but sharp odour of pot pourri and cinammon. Cinammon? Yes, it comes from brooms made from branches of cinnamon trees, which of course are available.

Teddy bears and stuffed toys fill an entire corner, while candles, pictures, and all kinds of whimsical gifts, abound. A teapot shaped like a racing car might intrigue Dad on Father's Day. Early settlers in the area never had choices like this in the old general store.

The store is the hub of the village in other ways as well since many of the items are made by residents of the surrounding area. In ad-



The post office has been operating since 1905.

dition to the cakes, pastries, and muffins, baked by women in the area, the dried flower arrangements are also locally crafted, as are custom made wood products such as a washstand on display.

It is really an old fashioned Mom and Pop operation since Candis has the help of her husband and son when the store gets busy on weekends. High school students, too are finding part time work in their own village store.

And in an adjoining part of the building Johnston and Daniels has a real estate office, where Candis and three other real estate agents work. They are all long-time agents who specialize in country properties, say Candis. Sometimes people come into the store asking about homes or land in the area, so the location of the real estate office next door is "nice and handy," says Candis.

A new venture has been added to the country store, Candis and Marg Ballinger are introducing custom made slipcovers, styled in the country way with chintz and ruffles. "It's cheaper than reupholstering and you can throw them in the wash machine," adds the dark haired, vibrant Candis, who is obviously enjoying her role as country store owner cum real estate agent.

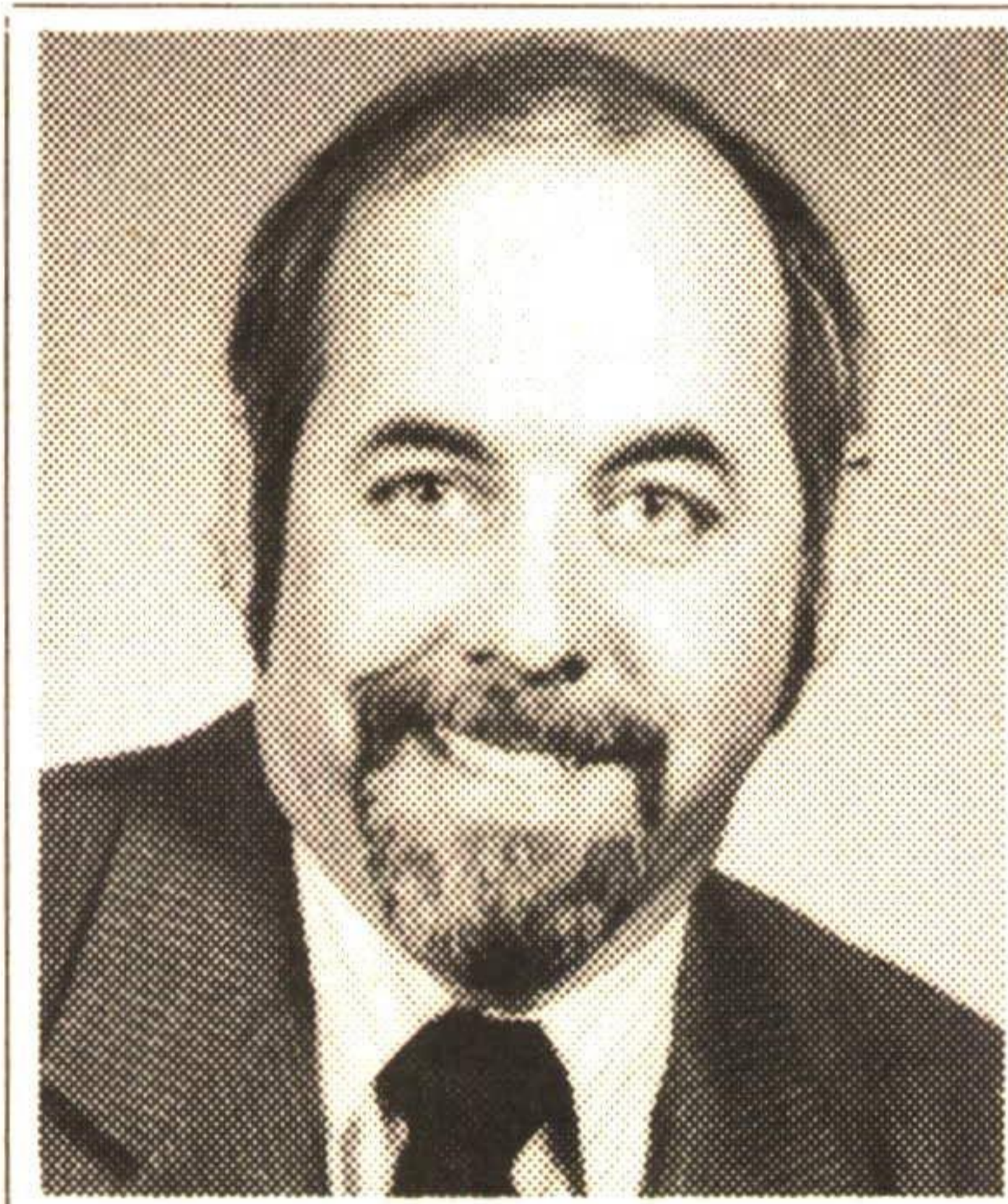
Ann-Marie McInnis, sipping coffee with friends, sums it up. She commented, "It's a nice place to come and chat, and it keeps the spirit of the village alive."



The Cheltenham General Store is a favorite stop for visitors to the village.

# GICs

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- 2 Year: 12.75%
- 3 Year: 12.50%
- 4 Year: 12.25%
- 5 Year: 12.25%



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## Open house

Halton Regional Police Staff Inspector Richard Kivell invites members of the public to attend monthly open houses at 11 Division in Georgetown. The open houses are held from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

## Toastmasters Club

We fix your knocking knees, dry mouths, sweaty palms, blank minds, so you can express yourself clearly and confidently. **Weekly meetings on Mondays at 8 p.m., Glen Williams Town Hall. Call Janet 876-2241, Henry 877-5571, Ken 873-1164.**