

# Milton • Means Business

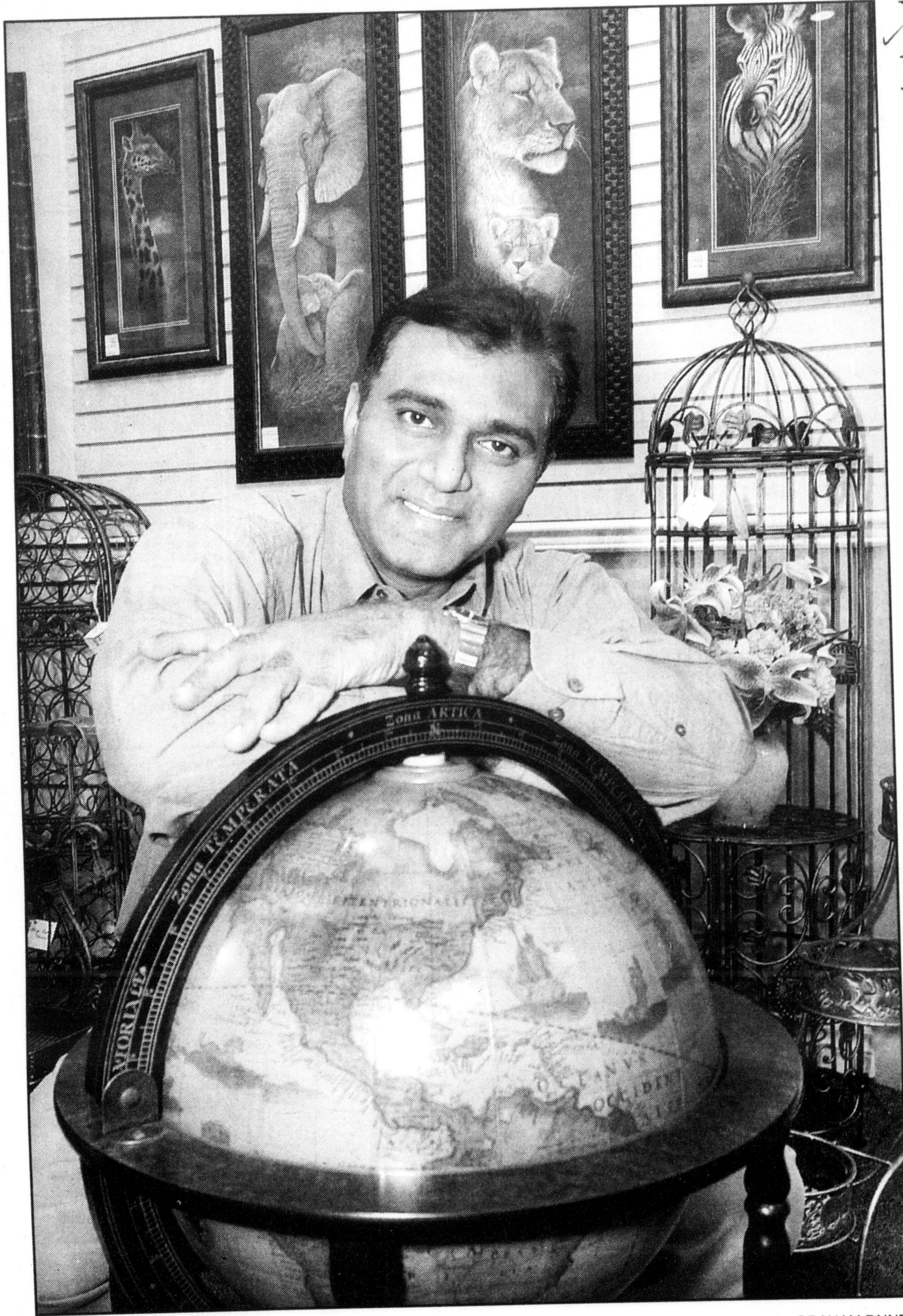


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Raj Kewalrama says he's pleased with the response to his new home furnishing business at Milton Mall.

## Home furnishing business at mall dream come true for entrepreneur

*Grand opening of Ivy Gate Decor held Friday*

By FANNIE SUNSHINE  
The Champion

**R**aj Kewalrama always wanted to operate his own business.

So when the opportunity came to open a store at Milton Mall, he jumped at the chance.

Ivy Gate Décor, a home furnishing business, opened September 1.

"I came to town last year at this time and had a small kiosk in the mall," the owner said.

"I was looking for an opportunity to have my own store in town. The people made me feel comfortable. Right now I'm still working on building relationships with Miltonians."

The store offers a little something for all decorating needs, including framed pictures, mirrors, candles, lamps, chairs and

tables.

Ivy Gate Décor also carries Indian and Egyptian style work, such as figurines and wooden boxes.

"In the short period of time that I've been open, the store has been complimented by the customers," Mr. Kewalrama said.

"They compare it to the Bombay Company."

Although he said business always has ups and down, Mr. Kewalrama said he's satisfied with how sales are doing so far.

"We offer a one-on-one customer base service. We have an interior designer who is available for consultations on the weekends," he said.

"The merchants have been coming in and checking out our prices and said we have good prices and good service."

The store held a grand opening Friday, which drew the likes of local dignitaries and customers alike, he continued.

"We had plenty of customers. I wasn't looking for business that night. For me a grand opening means showing the customers what we carry and building a relationship with them."

## Seminars to show people how to start own business

Have you always dreamed of owning your own business?

The Halton Region Business Development Centre will hold two seminars November 4 and 20 to help entrepreneurs get started on their path to prosperity.

The seminars, entitled 'Starting a Small Business', will be held at the Halton Regional Centre, 1151 Bronte Rd.

The November 4 seminar will run from 1 to 3 p.m. and the following seminar will run from 7 to 9 p.m.

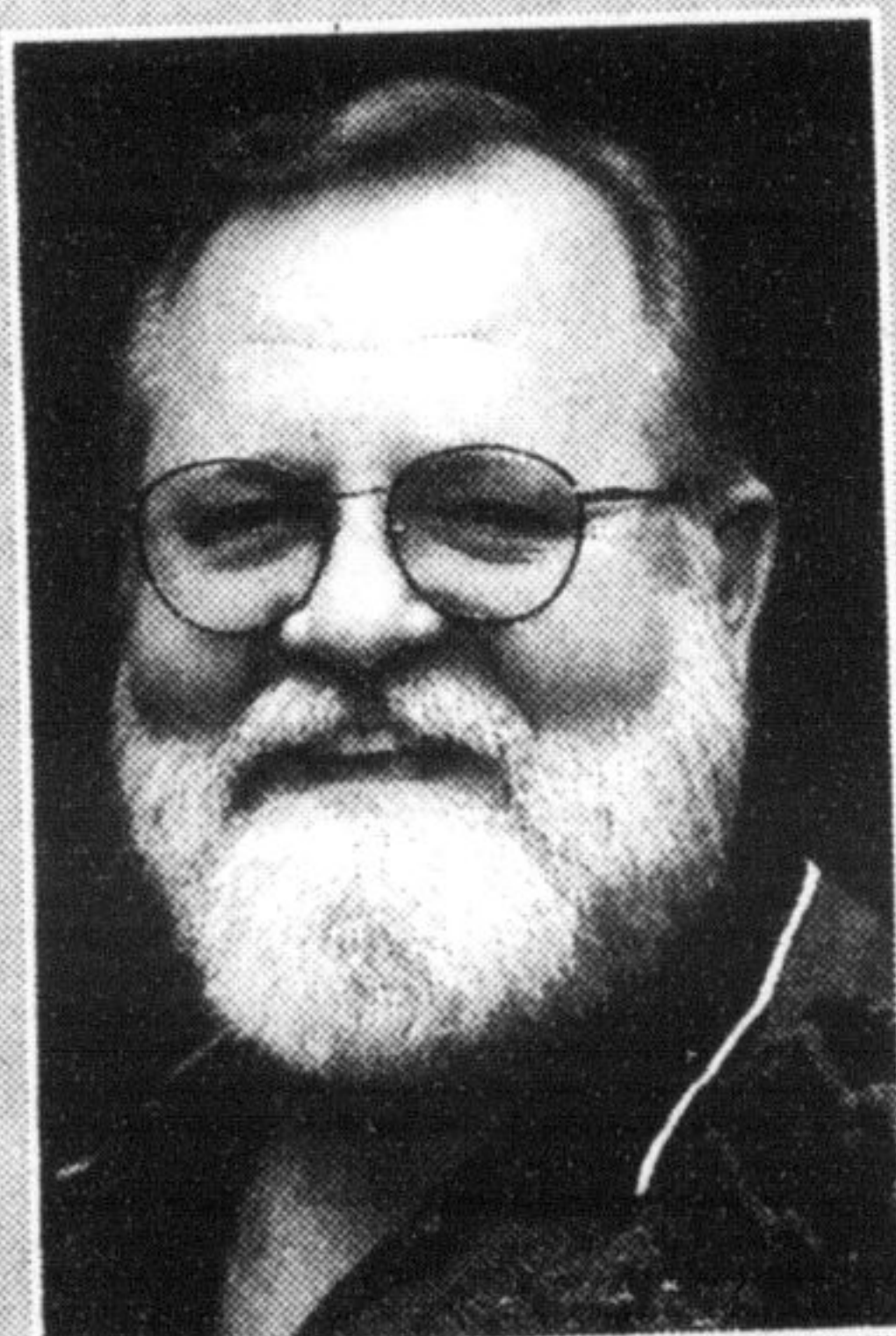
Topics will include financial considerations, registrations, regulations and licensing, marketing research and business planning.

The cost of the seminar is \$20.

To register or for more information, call (905) 825-6000.

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Last sessions  
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