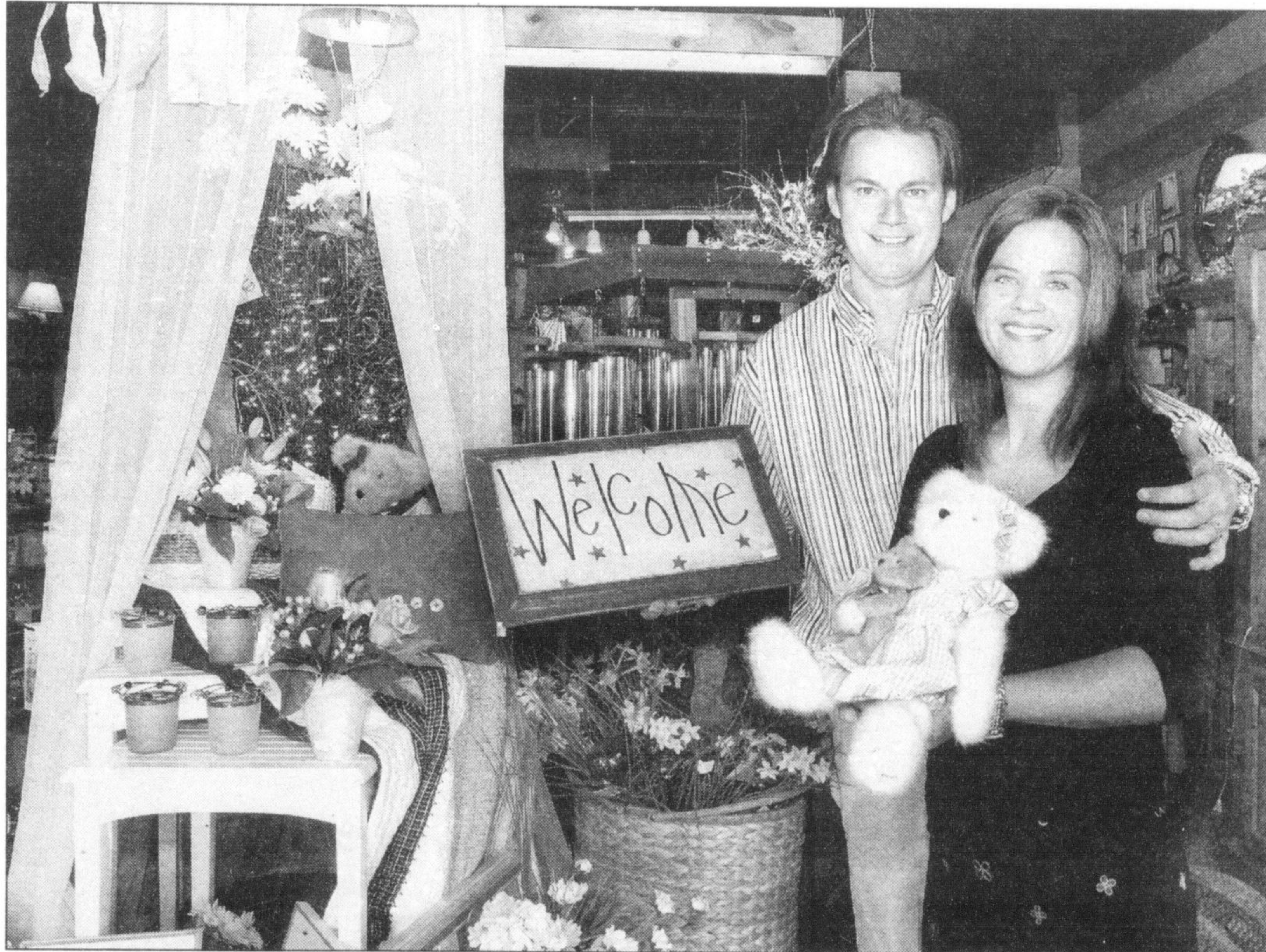


# BUSINESS

## Homey boutique celebrates 10-year milestone



GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:** A Country Mile owners Glenn and Kimberly English stand proudly in their Carriage Square store. They took over the business 10 years ago.

By Stephanie Thiessen  
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

When it comes to style and comfort, most people agree there's no place like home.

And when out shopping for this 'n that, Glenn and Kimberly English want their customers at A Country Mile to sense that same homey, cozy atmosphere.

So scented candles are lit, the lighting is adjusted just so, soft music is playing in the background and — most importantly — staff are at hand to greet customers, often by their first names.

If longevity is any indication, what they're doing seems to be working, because this month A Country Mile is celebrating its 10-year anniversary under the Englishes' ownership.

"It feels great," Glenn said. "It's quite a milestone in the retail business. I never thought when we started that we'd still be doing this 10 years down the road."

The boutique-like store in Carriage Square Plaza on Main Street celebrates upscale country living, featuring home accessories, country furniture and a

large selection of giftware.

A big change is looming ahead. In July, A Country Mile will re-locate across the street on Main Street, where the KFC used to be.

Of course, change is always a little bit nerve-wracking.

"It's obviously scary, but exciting," Kimberly said. "We've gotten good feedback from people."

For 10 years, Miltonians have depended on the store to provide everything from candles to bath products to collectible teddy bears to framed pictures — which customers buy as both gifts and treats for themselves, Glenn said.

The inventory changes quite often, which means there's always something new for customers to see, he said.

The husband and wife team travel to gift shows across Canada and the United States to find their merchandise.

"We find the smaller, unique people you're not going to find at the Hallmarks of the world," Glenn said, adding, "We choose items based on the things we like."

Throughout the past decade, the couple has opened a number of season-

• see NEW on page A10



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