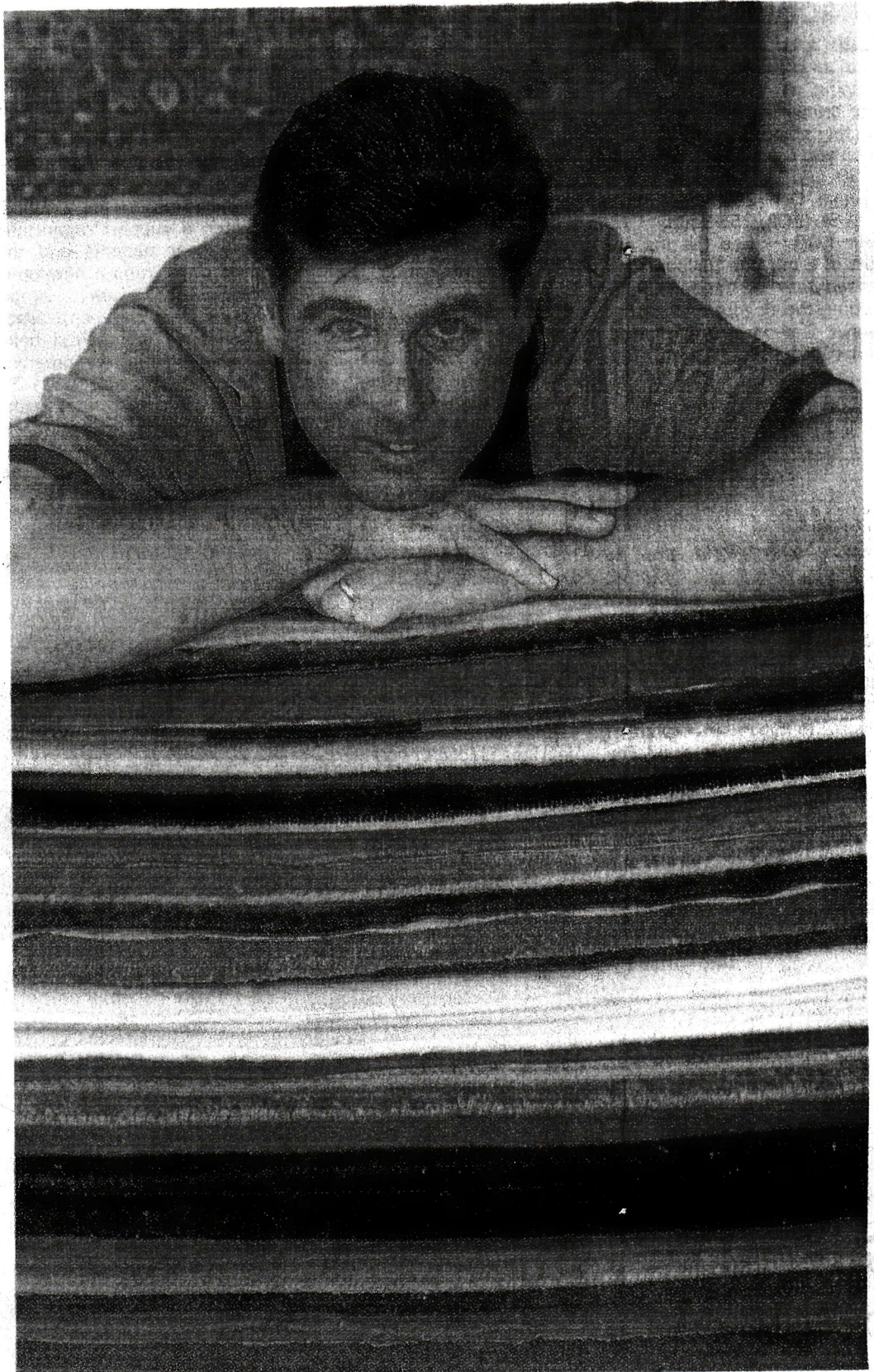


# Central Phoenix

Downtown ▪ East Phoenix ▪ North-Central Phoenix ▪ South Phoenix

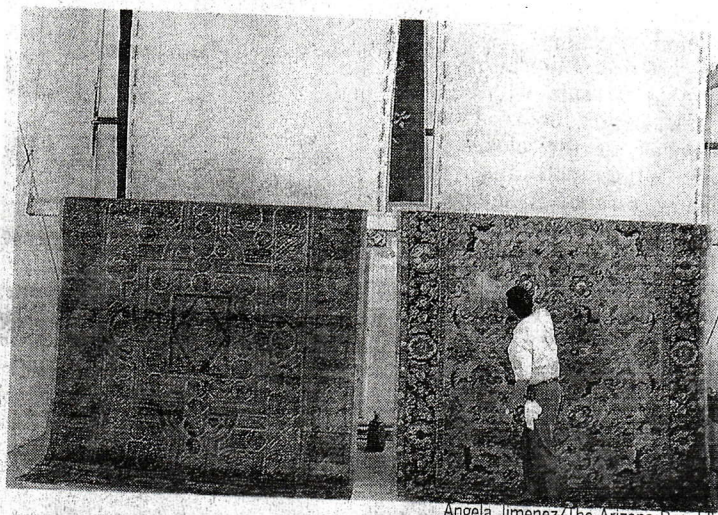
*Arizona  
Republic  
Oct. 4, 2000*



Angela Jimenez/The Arizona Republic

John Mondotte runs the family owned McFarland's Carpet Service in Phoenix. His grandfather started the company 55 years ago.





Angela Jimenez/The Arizona Republic

Eduardo Hurtado uses a hoe to squeeze water out of a rug as part of the cleaning process at McFarland's Carpet Service.

## CLEANING | Firm keeps magic in Persian rugs

From Page 1

Valley that has an in-house dryer, impact machine and a cleaning process that the family has never altered.

It starts with a little mild detergent and cold water.

"It's more or less like having your clothes cleaned, only we do it on the floor," Mondotte said.

Once the rug is washed, it goes through the impact machine, which squeezes out all the excess water. The rug is

then hung up, brushed down and left overnight to dry.

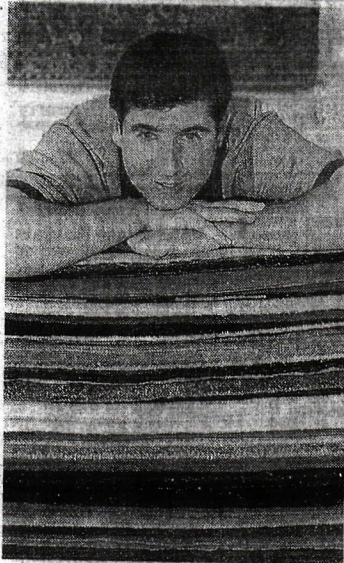
The whole family gets involved, even 78-year-old Manguso, who still goes out to do measurements.

Cleaning the intricately woven rugs is a year-round endeavor.

"We're able to fill that drying room every day," Mondotte said.

Reach the reporter at  
adam.klawonn@arizona  
republic.com or (602) 444-8155.





Photos by Angela Jimenez/The Arizona Republic

Eduardo Hurtado uses a hoe to squeeze water out of a rug as part of the cleaning process at McFarland's Carpet Service. The family-owned business is run by John Mondotte (left) whose grandfather started the firm 55 years ago.

## Phoenix carpet firm pampers your Persians

By Adam Klawonn  
The Arizona Republic

It's all in the rug — really.

At least that's what McFarland's Carpet Service, a family business in Phoenix, has been banking on for decades.

It measures, installs and cleans carpets but specializes in selling, repairing and cleaning priceless Persian rugs.

"I would say that (rug) cleaning is at least 50 percent of the business," Vice President John Mondotte said. "When it comes down to the bottom line, it's definitely our bread and butter."

It's been the main fare for the Phoenix business as long as Mike Manguso, Mondotte's grandfather has worked there.

"I guess Mr. (Mack) McFarland liked my grandfather," said Mondotte, 35. "He kind of took him under his wing and taught him the business."

Manguso bought the business, which opened in the 1930s, from the McFarland family in the late 1940s. His brother Carl oversaw cleaning operations, and when he died, Mondotte stepped up to take his place. Today, he runs the

### McFarland's Carpet Service:

■ 508 N. 24th St.: (602)

244-9329

■ 16010 N. 32nd St.: (602)

992-1390

The family now employs a rug-cleaning specialist. Sia Kalkhoran, whose brother-in-law owns a rug factory in Iran, left the Middle Eastern country for Arizona at age 27. He attended Arizona State University briefly to study computers but needed money to support himself.

So he started working at McFarland's and became Mondotte's lead consultant on how to clean, handle and repair Persian rugs, beautiful home accents that have been crafted for 800 years and can cost up to \$100,000, depending on age and quality.

Iran is known for its Persian rugs, especially those from the northwestern part of the country, Kalkhoran said. Most of them are made of wool, but they also can be made of silk and synthetics.

In general, quality depends on the knots in the fabric: the smaller and tighter, the better. Some rugs have up to

can be seen at <http://www.digitech.net.au/bignain/> — and measures 400 square meters, about the size of 1½ tennis courts, and took 13 years to weave.

McFarland's usually has several hundred Persian rugs in stock.

The central Phoenix location remains virtually unchanged from its early years, except for an alarm system and razor wire along the top of its chain-link fence.

It's the only place in the Valley that has an in-house dryer, impact machine and a cleaning process that the family has never altered.

It starts with a little mild detergent and cold water.

"It's more or less like having your clothes cleaned, only we do it on the floor," Mondotte said.

Once the rug is washed, it goes through the impact machine, which squeezes out all the excess water. The rug is then hung up, brushed down and left overnight to dry.

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