Abdalla’s era nearing end

Store set to close after 110 years

What is your favorite memory of shopping at Abdalla? Do you have pictures to share of you or the store with favorite items bought from Abdalla? Send us an email at news@thetimesherald.com or send a letter to The Advertiser/Abdalla’s Memories, 221 Jefferson St., Lafayette, LA 70501. Please include your full name and telephone number.

City’s ‘cultural icon’ tied to single family

The Abdalla family opened its first store in 1868 in Washington in St. Landry Parish. Over the decades, the family business began by George Abdalla grew to include a store on Main Street in Opelousas in 1883, stores in Lafayette on Jefferson Street and the Oil Center, 1601 and 1606. In 1937, the family bought the Oil Center location, which remains a single store.

Abdalla’s in the Oil Center in Lafayette announced it is closing its doors.

The store is an institution in Lafayette,” said Donley Ryan, who worked as the store’s marketing director for the past 37 years. “In August, Ryan, a family-owned and decades-long shop, decided to close for business — Prescription Market.

“We’re just one of the last of the independent drugstores. I trust it’s a sign of the times — why the big chains are taking over,” Ryan said.

The store’s employees are like one big family, she said.

The story also part of Ryan. Family Her grandmother or sister sometimes helped out at the store, Ryan said. Families

It’s a lot of families, especially for those employees, starting their first job or internship there. There are young families in Acadiana for 110 years,’ Ryan said.”

Henry Phifer, vice president of the Lafayette Economic Development Authority, said the biggest impact of the closure will be the loss of a “cultural icon” in Lafayette.

“Throughout the years, I’ve seen a lot of changes, both in the city and in the market. It’s not just about the store, but also about the people who work there. This is a competitive market, and small businesses need to be mindful of their competition. People have more options to spend money than they used to,” he said.

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