NC State's zone 'D' worked vs. Duke ... until it didn't

SPORTS, 1B

The Gaston Gazette

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Renee Armstrong welcomes you to Brown Shugah Nail Bar 2.0 on East Garrison Boulevard. MIKE HENSDILL/THE GASTON GAZETTE

Nail salon expanding in Gaston County

Kara Fohner
Gaston Gazette | USA TODAY NETWORK

A Mount Holly nail salon opened a second location that will also offer hair and massage services.

Renee Armstrong, the owner of Brown Shugah Nail Bar, opened a new salon at 254 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia.

Armstrong said that she opened Brown Shugah Nail Bar in January 2021 after she looked for a Black-owned nail salon following the 2020 Black Lives Matter movement and couldn't find one.

"Three months later, we opened one," Armstrong said.

She said that she received an "amazing" community response.

"A lot of people are looking for Black-owned businesses," she said.

Armstrong said that over the years, her clientele at Brown Shugah Nail Bar has been diverse.

"Everyone comes – white, black, executives

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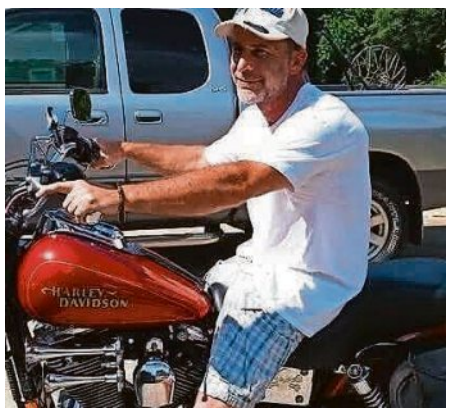
> "I love it. I pour into people. I get to interact with every level of people everywhere."
>
> **Renee Armstrong**
> Brown Shugah Nail Bar owner



Michael Falls, 52, died while incarcerated at the Gaston County Detention Center. His death is under investigation. PROVIDED BY FALLS FAMILY

Family asks for answers after inmate dies in jail

Kara Fohner
Gaston Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK

A Gaston County family has been left stunned and grieving after an inmate died in an apparent jail suicide.

On Tuesday, Feb. 24, Michael Falls' mother, Cathy Thompson, received a call from someone who identified themselves as an agent with the State Bureau of Investigation. The agent said that Falls, who was 52, hung himself while incarcerated in the Gaston County Detention Center.

"It's been a nightmare for me. I would have never dreamed that this would happen," Thompson said.

She said that Falls had no history of suicidal ideation.

"My son has been in jail. He's been in prison. He's lived on the streets. He's walked the streets along where I would never go, and he wasn't afraid. Suicide I feel like would be the last thing on his mind," she said.

Falls was arrested Oct. 14, on a variety of charges, including trafficking methamphetamine and felony

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Trump criticizes top U.S. allies over war

Michael Loria, Zac Anderson, Jeanine Santucci, Francesca Chambers, Kim Hjelmgaard, Michael Collins, Rebecca Morin and Medora Lee
USA TODAY

President Donald Trump slammed top U.S. allies, including the United Kingdom, as the war with Iran expands and warned Americans that they may have to deal with "a little high" oil prices as crude costs soared and the stock market tumbled.

"If we have a little high oil prices for a little while, but as soon as this ends those prices are gonna drop, I believe lower than even before," Trump said after taking questions from reporters in the Oval Office for the first time since the joint Israeli-U.S. strikes on Iran began.

U.S. and Israeli military forces attacked Iran on Feb. 28, killing Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Officials from the United States and Israel said they have launched more than 1,200 strikes aimed at destroying Iran's ballistic missile and nuclear

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President Donald Trump meets with German Chancellor Friedrich Merz in the Oval Office on March 3. ANDREW CABALLERO-REYNOLDS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

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