

Brownsboro women sentenced to 123 months in federal prison

Two Brownsboro women have been sentenced to a combined 123 months in federal prison and ordered to forfeit more than \$95,000 after they each pled guilty to drug charges, U.S. Attorney John M. Bales announced in a press release. Tara Jean Oney-Hicks, 49, pled guilty on Aug. 13,

2009, to possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine and was sentenced to 27 months by U.S. District Judge Leonard E. Davis. Oney-Hicks was also ordered to forfeit \$20,000. Connie Marie Payne, 32, pled guilty on July 29, 2009, to conspiracy to possess

with the intent to distribute meth and was sentenced to 96 months by Davis. She agreed to a forfeiture judgment of \$75,000. According to information presented in court, from April 2008 to April 2009, Payne and Oney-Hicks possessed meth with the intent to distribute it in

the Longview area. A federal grand jury returned indictments on May 6, 2009, charging the two women and seven others with federal drug trafficking crimes. The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Fire-

arms, and Explosives, the Texas Department of Public Safety, the Smith County Sheriff's Office, the Van Zandt County Sheriff's Office, the Canton Police Department, and the Dallas Police Department Gang Unit and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard L. Moore.

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Letters To The Editor

The Statesman welcomes and encourages letters and e-mails from readers.

Letters must include the names, addresses and telephone numbers for verification purposes. Only your name and city will be published. Anonymous letters will not be published.

All letters are subject to editing and must be limited to 400 words or less.

Letters must not be false or misleading. The paper reserves the right to authenticate any information in letters. If misleading information is printed, we will submit a retraction as the information is called to our attention.

It is our goal to give those in the community a place to voice their opinions.

Deadline:

The deadline for display advertising in The Statesman is noon on Monday.

The classified ad deadline is Monday at noon for the same week's paper.

Family News Policy:

Family news such as wedding or engagement announcements must be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday for publication on a space-available basis in the same week's newspaper. Please include a telephone number to call if questions arise about spelling, etc.

Engagement announcements must be signed by the prospective bride and groom, or other satisfactory arrangements made by which the newspaper may verify authenticity.

Birth announcements should be signed by both parents and are published free of charge.

A \$20 fee applies for engagement announcements and a \$50 fee for wedding announcements. A photo may be included at no extra cost.

Anniversary announcements with photos are published for \$5.25 per column inch and are free for couples celebrating 50 years or more of marriage.

Birth announcements for children under 6 years old and seniors 80 and above are published for free. Friends and relatives may purchase advertising space to congratulate a person on their birthday for the standard per-column/inch advertising rate.

Cornyn: Celebrating Dr. Pepper, the native Texas drink

January marked the 125th anniversary of the first refreshing sip of a native Texas drink — Dr. Pepper.

Our nation's oldest major soft drink, Dr. Pepper began its rise to the top at the Old Corner Drug in Waco in 1885.

Charles Courtice Alderton, a young pharmacist employed by Old Corner Drug proprietor Wade B. Morrison, spent his free time experimenting with combinations of sweeteners and fruit extracts to test out on the store's soda fountain patrons.

One combination in particular was a favorite of the locals and word quickly spread. The more people who tried the soft drink, the more popular it became, and soon customers were asking Morrison to christen the drink with a proper name.

It is said that Morrison named it "Dr. Pepper" after Dr. Charles T. Pepper, a physician Morrison had worked for earlier in Rural Retreat, Va. The period after "Dr." was dropped from the trademark in 1950.

As popularity grew, Morrison and his employees at Old Corner Drug were struggling to meet the consumer demand. In 1891, Morrison started the Artesian Manufacturing and Bottling Works with Robert S. Lazenby, a local beverage chemist.

Soon after, Southwestern Soda Fountain Company of Dallas bought the rights to produce and sell Dr. Pepper fountain syrups and changed its name to Dr. Pepper Company.

For several years, the company struggled under

high taxes and rising commodity prices, but began to develop a limited yet loyal fan base in the South and Southwest.

Family-owned independent bottling companies across Texas began bottling and distributing Dr. Pepper, including plants in Temple, Brownwood, and Abilene.

To this day, the Dublin Dr. Pepper plant in Dublin continues to use the original Dr. Pepper formula with Imperial Pure Cane Sugar.

In 1904, Dr. Pepper landed on the national stage, when Lazenby and his son-in-law, J.B. O'Hara, brought the small-town soft drink to the World's Fair Exposition in St. Louis.

There, Dr. Pepper debuted with a crowd of more than 20 million people in attendance. Also introduced for the first time on a large scale were hamburgers and hot dogs on buns, as well as the ice cream cone.

From 1905 to 1925, Dr. Pepper was dubbed "King of Beverages." In the 1920s and 30s, Dr. Pepper was personified in ads by a country doctor with a monocle and top hat.

During World War II, most Dr. Pepper ads featured men and women in uniform, to show solidarity behind our troops. In 1945, after the federal government reclassified soft drinks as "food," due to the energy provided by their sugar content, a popular ad campaign for Dr. Pepper



Cornyn

read "Drink a Bite To Eat at 10, 2, and 4."

The 1950s and 60s saw the popular slogans: "The friendly Pepper-Upper" and "Relax, refresh ... enjoy."

Most recently, Dr. Pepper enlisted the help of famous "doctors" like rapper Dr. Dre, basketball icon Doctor J, and KISS member Gene Simmons, known as Dr. Love, to promote the slogan, "Drink it slow. Dr.'s orders."

Today, Dr. Pepper fans can visit the original home of the King of Beverages at the Dr. Pepper Museum in downtown Waco. Founded in 1988, the museum is housed in the 1906 Artesian Manufacturing and Bottling Company, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as the "Home of Dr. Pepper."

The museum seeks to educate visitors about the process of developing, producing and marketing products using the model of the soft drink industry, and specifically, Dr. Pepper. All told, the museum houses more than 20,000 artifacts and attracts more than 60,000 visitors each year.

From small beginnings at a drug store soda fountain, Dr. Pepper has risen to international soft drink fame. For Texans, however, Dr. Pepper will always be a "local" favorite.

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) serves on the Finance, Judiciary, Agriculture, and Budget Committees.

MENUS

March 8-12 Meals on Wheels

MON — Chicken nuggets & sauce, rice, oriental vegetables, wheat bread, Mandarin oranges

TUE — Hamburger on bun, pinto beans, corn, lettuce/tomatoes/onions, banana

WED — Sliced turkey, baked sweet potato, green beans, wheat bread, peach cup

THUR — Chicken spaghetti, broccoli, wheat bread, apple cobbler

FRI — Pepper steak/gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, wheat bread, pear cup

Check us out on Facebook! Add photos, share leads, post comments.



Gene Blanton and Jill Masso

Blanton, Masso to wed

Mr. and Mrs. Joe A. Masso of Athens announce the engagement of their daughter, Jill Sawaya, to Gene Blanton, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Farris of Atkinson, N.H.

Ms. Masso is the granddaughter of Joe Fitzgerald and the late Betty Barton Fitzgerald of Brownsboro, and Joe F. Masso and the late Claire Sawaya Masso of Lubbock.

Ms. Masso, a graduate of Athens High School, Southern Methodist University and Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law, is an attorney at Jones Carr McGoldrick, LLP, in Dallas.

Mr. Blanton, a graduate of

Jesuit College Preparatory School in Dallas, the University of North Texas and Washington University in St. Louis School of Law, is an attorney at Ford Nassen & Baldwin, LLP, in Dallas.

A May wedding in Austin is planned.

LOST MARCH 1, early morning from Ingram Street, "Jack" a red roan horse - no halter. Phone 903-852-7939 Cell: 806-893-4413 Owner Martin Farr

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