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# The Countywide

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 2008

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KARNES COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

WEEKLY - 75¢

## Local historian honored with living memorial dedication



PHOTOS BY JOE BAKER

Karnes City resident Judge Robert H. Thonhoff (right photo) stands with family members at the conclusion of a special ceremony dedicating a living memorial in his honor. Thonhoff was surprised by the event which was hosted by the Texas Connection to the American Revolution Association on Saturday morning at the Karnes County Courthouse in Karnes City. A tree and plaque were dedicated with hundreds of visitors in attendance including many guest speakers who honored Thonhoff with words of appreciation for his work in keeping Texas history alive through the writing and research of many books and articles documenting Texas history. See page 12 for more photos from this event. "It was a complete surprise," Thonhoff said. He thought he was on his way to brunch at the Menger Hotel in San Antonio when his car was suddenly diverted to the front of the Karnes County Courthouse. Thonhoff said he wasn't sure what was going on, but he saw many familiar faces. He said he was indeed honored by the special event. The Granaderos de Galvez Fife and Drum group (upper left photo) performed at the start of the ceremony. The Living Memorial Plaque (bottom left photo) stands before the tree in front of the courthouse reading, "This tree dedicated to Judge Robert H. Thonhoff, savior of Texan and American history. Author of the Texas Connection with the American Revolution and numerous books on Texas history, educator, judge and veteran of the U. S. Army Air Corps. A true Texas and American patriot. July, 2008, The Texas Connection to the American Revolution Association (TCARA)."

## Burglars hit Kenedy Farmers Co-op

By Joe Baker

Kenedy Farmers Co-op was victimized by burglars who apparently broke in and stole merchandise with a monetary value of approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000.

General Manager Patsy Kroll told The Countywide that she arrived at the Co-op store Friday morning (July 25) at about 6:40 a.m. and when she began to unlock the administration office front door she immediately noticed something was wrong.

"We have three individual offices," Kroll said. "Those doors are always locked every night and they were all open. I stepped into the first office to the right, which was mine, and (saw) that it was ransacked."

Kroll immediately called police who quickly arrived at the scene.

Together they walked through the premises and saw that a window was broken on the scale side of the administration building. They also saw fresh tire tracks in the yard. It had rained recently and the tire tracks were clearly visible.

Two office doors were pried open as was the door to the seed room.

Kroll said it appeared that the perpetrators drove a vehicle into the tire bay and cut off the electrical breaker that controls power to the security lights and other lights.

At least 20 tires are missing, according to Kroll. Small hand tools are missing as well as ratchet straps, jacks, electric fence chargers, electrical fence wire and other items.

Kroll said that the store's animal health vaccines were spoiled when the power was cut off, because the refrigerator lost power and the vaccines warmed to 90 degrees and were therefore ruined.

Sergeant Jeremy Stevens and other Kenedy police officers continue to investigate the crime. The Countywide tried to contact police for comment, but the officers were unavailable for comment early this week.

Kroll said that police suspect that there were three or four people involved and two vehicles used in the burglary.

Tires were found stacked near a door. It appears that there wasn't enough room in the vehicles for the tires and so they were left behind.

"I am extremely pleased with the