

Owner Spots His Stolen Truck; Suspect Arrested

Written by Steve Frank

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A West Jefferson man was arrested on Monday, charged with the Larceny of a Motor Vehicle in what was a one-day crime spree. Gregory Carl Chakmakis, 33, is accused in the theft of a 1994 Toyota pickup from Ken Furches, that after Furches spotted the vehicle on the move and checked with his wife to confirm it was missing from his driveway. Furches notified the Sheriff's Office of the larceny, and Sgt C. B. Eldreth and Deputy J. Munday soon located the stolen vehicle parked in a trailer park in the Beaver Creek area. As they surrounded the trailer waiting for the suspect to leave, he was seen exiting the rear door. Although officers identified themselves and asked suspect Chakmakis to halt, but he fled on foot. Officers Eldreth and Jordan pursued him on foot, and after a foot chase of some 200 yards, the suspect was apprehended and taken into custody, transported to the Ashe County Detention Center where he was set a \$32,000 bond. He was also arrested on charges of Resisting a Public Officer, then charged with a theft from earlier in the day from Walmart, said to have stolen a 46" TV, mag lite, and a Wii console from Walmart.