

Sign on....

Have you ever walked out the door of your home or a place you frequent often and park in mostly the same place and ~~didn't~~ see your vehicle? Then you remember you parked somewhere else, or for some reason you didn't park it there and your panic subsides. Well, that happened to me Christmas Eve morning-the only difference being that I didn't park it somewhere else! Someone stole my truck! At first, I thought I forgot to lock it when I brought it back from having a new battery installed, but I was sure I had. We called the police immediately and an officer responded very quickly and took the report. He said if it was found within forty-eight hours, the chances were pretty good it would be in working condition.//The next morning, Christmas Day, during our family's annual Blueberry pancake breakfast, EPD called and said they found the truck out on Redmond Road off of the old Arcata Road, but to bring jumper cables, because it wouldn't start. I had a pretty good idea why it ~~wouldn't~~ ^{wouldn't} start! We hustled right out there, and two sheriff's deputies were waiting for us.//The truck was in one piece, minus the canopy, the battery (brand new on the twenty-third) and the winch and the license plates, and some other assorted tools and equipment, stolen from the home made tool box in the back.// As a side note, when I told the dispatcher about the winch, she asked " what's a winch?" Reminded me about the ad I saw in the paper for "a pickup with a wench" like the guy wanted to get rid of his truck

and his wife at the same time.* The two deputies had all the paperwork ready for us and we called CSAA and had it towed to our house and went back and finished breakfast and opened gifts.//My neighbor has a surveillance camera that covers the whole block, but he was gone for a few days, so on Monday, we had it towed to the shop. When he got back, he checked out his system, and sure enough, it showed two guys walking up to the back of the truck, then one guy using a master key to open the door while the other guy flipped the handles on the Jeep to see if it was unlocked, which it wasn't. I was up, because the lights in the kitchen were on, but I didn't hear anything. *We can't blame the homeless for this-it was two guys who knew what they wanted and how to get it! The whole operation took less than three minutes!! At least the wheels, tires and windows were intact and it was towable!//The law enforcement personnel were thorough, polite and friendly, as were the guys from Pacific Towing! *//Law enforcement can't be everywhere, but they can be helped by ourselves watching what is going on around us and letting law enforcement know about suspicious activities in our neighborhoods.* Eureka City Police number is 441-4060 -Humboldt County Sheriff's number is 445-7251 That's EPD 441-4060 and Sheriff 445-7251.

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