

# BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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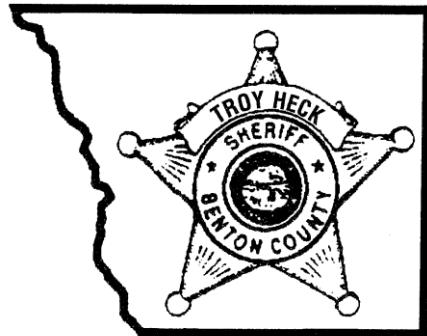
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**Troy Heck, Sheriff**  
**Neal Jacobson, Chief Deputy**

## PRESS RELEASE

**DATE: 07/28/2020**

### **AUTHORITY OF SHERIFF TROY HECK**

The Benton County Sheriff's Office is seeking the owner of a go-cart believed to have been stolen on or before July 26, 2020.

On July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at about 8:30 am the Benton County Sheriff's Office responded to the report of a theft in progress at a business in the 16400 block of Hwy 10 NW in Langola Township. A citizen noted a suspicious truck and trailer parked at this business and observed people associated with the truck loading building materials onto the trailer. When the citizen went to this business to investigate the activity, the suspects fled from the area in the truck. The citizen continued to follow the suspect vehicle and observed a male passenger climb from the cab of the pickup into the cargo area. This passenger then uncoupled the trailer from the truck as the truck was driving down the road. The citizen continued to follow the truck as it fled from the area. The male passenger and a female passenger from the suspect truck then worked to push a go-cart out of the truck's cargo area as the truck continued its efforts to elude the citizen following them. The suspects were eventually able to dislodge the go-cart from the cargo area of the truck. At this point, the citizen stopped following the suspects due to the suspects' reckless driving conduct.

Investigating deputies learned that these suspects had been engaged in stealing building materials from the business on Hwy 10 NW. The stolen building materials were recovered with the trailer the suspects dumped along the roadside. Investigating deputies learned that the trailer had been stolen earlier on July 26<sup>th</sup> from a business in the city of Rice. Investigating deputies, with the assistance of Crow Wing County deputies, were able to locate the suspect vehicle at about 1:45 pm in Crow Wing County and identify the occupants of the vehicle. The investigation into these thefts remains active and on-going.

The owner of the go-cart pushed out of the cargo bed of the truck has not yet been identified. The Benton County Sheriff's Office would like to locate the owner of this go-cart to return the vehicle to them and examine the scene of the theft for any evidence that may remain. The go-cart is a Manco brand White Fox 2 go-cart with bright green padding on the left side, front, and top of the frame. The go-cart has purple padding on the right side of the frame. The Benton County Sheriff's Office is asking the owner of this go-cart contact our office at (320) 968-7201.

Troy Heck

Benton County Sheriff