Police seek information on 'pigeon drop' suspects

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A 79-year-old, Farmington
Hills man believed he was
helping a gentleman who
wanted to return to Africa
this weekend, but ended up
losing \$3,000.
Crime Prevention Administrative Lt. Jim Whitcomb
said the victim was
sappronched by a man who
wanted a ride to a local
church. There, they met a
second man, who said he was
trying to get back to Africa.
With only a few varintions,
Whitcomb said, it was a class
ic pigeon drop scam.

Whitcomb said, it was a classic "pigeon drop" scam.

"Pigeon drops always involved two people," he said.

"Working in concert, they swindle the victim to get whatever they can."

Such incidents usually

Such incidents usually happen in a store where someone will "find" a bag filled with money, which generally shows some sign of being ill-gotten booty. The

first person will show the bag to the victim and a second person will come upon the scene soon afterwards.

The scend person will say he has a friend whe's a lawyer, and they will call that person, "Wiltcomb said. That's person to with more than the wittin. Once, his ar, her with the found, sush, the victim. Once, his ar, her with the found, sush, the scam artists will ask to be scam artists will ask to be said that the found, sush, the scam artists will ask to be said that the found, sush, the scam artists will ask to be said that the found, sush, the victim holding the bag.

At some point, they switch the bag with the money for a bag full of cut paper, Whitcomb said, and literally leave the victim holding the bag.

At some point, they switch the bag with the money for a bag full of cut paper, Whitcomb said, and literally leave the victim holding the bag.

People full for the soundston-good-to-be-true deal for a variety of reasons, but a ourged everyone and particularly senior citizens to never expect something for nothing. The crooks generally offer a

Costick to speak at breakfast

A decade of tradition will meet the future of diversity Tuesday morning in the fifth annual Rainbow Recognition Awards

morning in the fitth annual Rainbow Recognition Awards Breakfast.

Sponsored by the Farmington/Firmington Hills Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council, the event will feature guest speaker former Farmington Hills City Manager Bill Coatick, who helped found the council 10 years ago. The council initiated the event five years ago to honer 30 people who have lived the council's vision for awareness and acceptance of diversity in the community event chair Suzane Paul said. "These individuals are singled out for their work in the community and their work in the community and thing the principles of the Multicultural/Multiracial Council," Paul said. "They were nominated by their peers."

A council subcommittee reviewed the nominations early this month and selected sward winners. In addition, co-chairs Karen Bolson and Jim Hall selected a "Chair Award" winner, former Hills Mayor Aldo Vagnozzi.

The council formed 10 years ago, following alleged racial incidents between high school students, said Bolson.

"Some parents, city officials and people from the school district decided to get together and talk about the issues," she explained. "Five years ago, we developed our guiding principles."

developed our guiding principles.*
The list, composed and
approved after extensive community meetings, is a simple one:
1) Racial, religious, cultural
and ethnic diversity in our community will be respected, nurtured and celebrated.
2! We believe that healthy
communities maintain a compro-

hensive and balanced program of services which are open and accessible to all citizens.

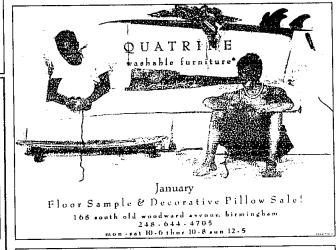
3) We believe in equal educa-tional opportunities.

4) We believe in equal employ-ment opportunities.

5) We believe in equal access to housing.

5) We believe in equal access to housing.
6) We believe in equally safe neighborhoods.
Since formulating those goals.
Since formulating those goals, Bolson said, the council has worked toward achieving them, through activities, formus, workshops and programs like the cannual Rainbow Recognition Awards Breakfost.

Awards Breakfast.
For more information or to reserve a seat at that event, cull (248) 421-8174, it begins ut 7:30 a.m. at the William Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. Tickets may be purchased at the door.



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Wednesday, January 26, 2000
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m./evening)
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312 Woodward 6

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LIVONIA
Thursday, January 27th, 2000
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.(afternoon)
Etyonia Civic Center Library
32777 5 Mile Rd. (E. of Farmlogton Rd.)

WATERFORD
Thursday, February 3, 2000
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.(afternoo
Waterford Senior Cente
6455 Haper Wednesday, February 2, 2000 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Afternoon) Northville Public Library 212 W. Cady (Downtown Northville)

All seminars free of charge. No reservations necessary. For information, call (248) 540-8710.

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