

The Des Moines Register

THE NEWSPAPER IOWA DEPENDS UPON • Des Moines, Iowa, Saturday Morning, April 17, 1976
Two Sections, price 20 cents

OPERATORS OF JUVENILE HOMES OUIT

State had canceled contracts with Franco

By T. J. RYDER
Staff Writer

DES MOINES, IA. — Franco, Inc., the controversial Dubuque business that treats problem juveniles at home here and in Cedar Rapids, is going out of business.

Raymond Desjardis, Franco president, said Friday Franco stockholders and directors made the decision at a meeting here Thursday.

Desjardis said the Franco-owned facilities here — Cannon Place and Cannon II — will be sold and the Dubuque and Cedar Rapids facilities will be terminated. He said new facilities Franco owns in Cedar Rapids — Cannon III and Cannon IV — will continue operations under the current manager, Bob Bantz, but will have no connection with Franco or Desjardis.



REGISTER PHOTO BY FRANK FOLWELL

Calvary pilgrims brave storm

National appraisers, lenders named in suit

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — The Justice Department Friday charged a major segment of the real estate industry with illegally discriminating against blacks by forcing property values down in recently integrated neighborhoods.

Four national trade associations representing thousands of real estate appraisers and home mortgage lenders were named defendants in the civil suit filed in U.S. District Court in Chicago, Ill.

The defendants, all based in Chicago, are the American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers, the United States League of Savings Associations and the Mortgage Bankers Association of America.

The lawsuit attacks standards allegedly established by the appraisers, and followed by the lenders, in assessing property values.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Stanley Pittman, head of the department's civil rights division, called the lawsuit "ground-breaking litigation."

He said the standards established by the appraisers' associations affect virtually all home mortgage loans made through the Veterans Administration or the Federal Housing Administration.

The department accused the defendants of using a homeworner's rate as a factor in determining the value of his property.

The appraisers' associations require appraisers automatically to reduce property values in neighborhoods that have been integrated, the department charged.

Pittman said at a news conference that appraisers and others in the industry have perpetuated a "pattern of property value decline when black families move into a white neighborhood."

When the appraised value of property drops, lenders reduce the amount of mortgage money they will provide, and this often makes it impossible for prospective purchasers to obtain necessary financing.

The American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers said in Chicago that it has no comment on this suit, but that it is in the suit could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

Pittman noted that a 1933 appraiser's manual "actually ranked people by ethnicity in terms of their desirability as property owners."

He said the manual listed homeworner's of English, German or Scandinavian stock as number one, followed by Northern Irishmen, Romanians and Czechs, Poles, Lithuanians, and Greeks. Blacks ranked next to last, and Mexicans were last.

"This ranking is no longer in effect, but the suit charged that the defendants have perpetuated discriminatory practices which have continued to cause appraisers and lenders to treat race and national origin as a negative factor in determining the soundness of dwellings and in evaluating the soundness of home loans."

The department seeks a court order forcing the defendants to end alleged discrimination. Pittman said that would include changes in the instructions to appraisers and active steps to inform appraisers that the race of homeworner should not be a factor in determining property value.

Cedar Rapids' iron watchdog

Janitor Sees, a pete the life-sized statue of a German and Hospital in Cedar Rapids. Janitor's brother, Joshua, a shepherd dog that guards the entrance to the Anthony Asylum

HEARST NAMES YOSHIMURA IN FATAL HOLLUP

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. (AP) — Patricia Hearst has named YOSHIMURA, the Japanese girl she rescued last year, as her dog's new name.

Yoshimura, who was rescued from a kidnapping last year, is now living with the Hearst family in San Francisco.

Yoshimura's name was chosen by Patricia Hearst, who said she was inspired by the girl's name.

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If only abused dog statue could talk, it would say . . .

By PATRICK LACKY
Staff Writer

CLARK, Md. — When a life-sized statue of a German shepherd dog guarding the entrance of an animal hospital was stolen last week, the dog's name was "Janitor."

"Small dogs are not as good as big dogs," said a spokesman for the hospital.

After three weeks, the dog was found in a field near the hospital. The dog was found with a collar around its neck, and a tag that read "Janitor."

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U.S. CHARGES HOME LOAN RACIAL BIAS

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Vandals add tombstones to grave

By CHUCK OFFENBARGER Staff Writer

Who was Vince Herbert and why do vandals keep moving others' tombstones to his grave?

Most in the Panama area, it seems, don't know. But a man named Herbert, who died last July at the age of 73, is the first question that bothers them.

It's the second question — the one on moving the tombstones — that's haunting and disgusting them.

Who knows what a nut will do? asks Elmer Herbert, a trustee of the Washington Township Cemetery board.

In the last two months, three stones have been moved from that cemetery to Herbert's grave, located a half-mile away in a Catholic cemetery.

It's too bad they can't find the dead man, that's what I think, says Gene Vincent, Herbert's sister-in-law in the Panama area.

Really, though, they're not hurting any one, old says. "Maybe it's some one who couldn't get at him when he was alive, but now that they know they can bother him when he's dead."

Vince was a bachelor farmer, one

Suburbs will thrive while cities struggle in 2000

By ROGER KICKLES Staff Writer

Seven years ago, the Wall Street Journal began publishing a series of articles dealing with life in the suburbs. Development in the past decade has changed the picture. The suburbs have become a new series of communities and their implications.

When a small dog belonging to Hall's secretary got cancer, "I would get the dog under anesthesia" and take it to the Margaret and Howard Hall Radiation Center at Merry Hospital here for cobalt radiation treatment.

In that manner, at the request of Hall, who had established what was here's first cobalt treatment unit, the life of the dog was extended some six months, Anthony said.

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INSIDE THE REGISTER

Italian ascends
Fate of Communists and kidnappers has prompted hundreds of Italian law enforcement in their homeland in California. . . .

Hughes death probe
Mention officials study doctor's testimony that when Howard Hughes may have been dead before he was taken from Mexico 10 days ago. . . .

Health care plan
Democratic presidential contender Jimmy Carter calls for a national health insurance program to be funded by general tax revenues and payroll taxes. . . .

What to file it
Cited as . . .