

in this court demanding repossession.  
**A COPY OF THE COMPLAINT IS ATTACHED TO THIS SUMMONS**

2. You are given 30 days (as an action seeking repossession) from the date the process server hands you this to deny the claim.
3. If you want to deny the claim and have the court hear your side of the case, you have to file a written Answer.
4. You should go at once to a legal counsel or advocate who will prepare the written Answer for you.
5. If you do nothing, the court may give judgment for what the Complaint demands.

Date: April 1, 2008.

Myra K. Hunt  
Clerk of the Court  
(c10:30, 11:6, 13)

(57)  
**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
Midcontinent Communications/Consolidated  
Telcom  
Interconnection Agreement  
Application  
Case No. PU-08-815  
**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE  
WRITTEN COMMENTS**  
October 22, 2008

On October 8, 2008, Midcontinent Communications filed a petition for approval of a facilities based interconnection agreement with Consolidated Telcom. The agreement sets forth rates, terms and conditions under which Consolidated Telcom will provide interconnection with designated facilities to Midcontinent Communications for the Bowman, Dodge, Halliday, Hettinger, Killdeer, Mott, Reeder, Rhome, Richardson, Scranton, and South Heart exchanges.

This agreement was filed under Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Act). The Act requires that any agreement adopted by negotiation or arbitration be submitted for approval to the Commission. Under 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A), the Commission may only reject an agreement adopted by negotiation (or a portion of the agreement) if it finds that:

1. the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier that was not a party to the agreement; or

2. implementation of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

In addition, under 47 U.S.C. Section 253 the Commission may include in its review state requirements that do not constitute barriers to entry.

The Commission will receive written comments on these agreements until November 26, 2008.

For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400; or Relay North Dakota 1-800-366-6888 TTY. If you require any auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or Braille materials please notify Darrell Nitschke, Executive Secretary.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
Tony Clark, Commissioner  
Susan E. Wefald, President  
Kevin Cramer, Commissioner  
(c10:30)

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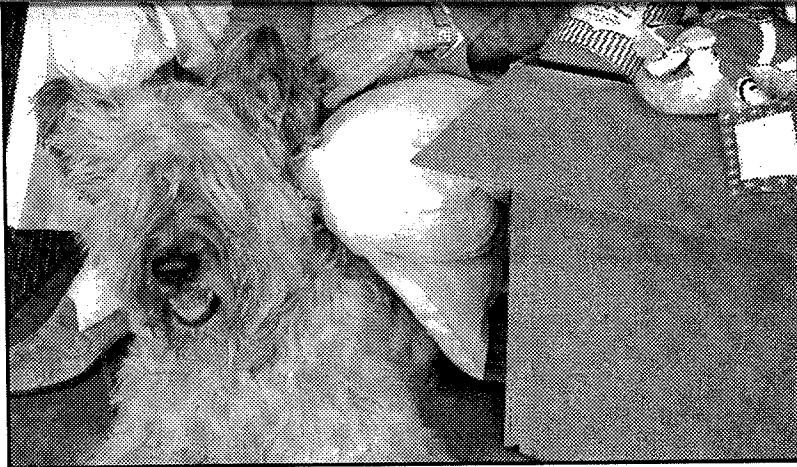
Tonie," she said.

Retailers may be worrying about the possibility of the worst fourth quarter in generations, but those in the pet products industry are finding themselves in a veritable oasis among much of the gloom of American business. Companies that sell everything from organic dog treats to couture-inspired pet toys say business is up even as economic indicators show shoppers are pinching pennies during one of the worst downturns in decades.

"I think they're buying nice dog collars instead of remodeling their kitchen," said Fiona Tavernier, whose Lollypadoodle business near San Francisco sells wool stuffed dog toys and is going strong.

It may sound counterintuitive — even to some in the pet industry who say they're surprised business is robust — but experts say many pet owners are as dedicated to their animals as parents are to children. And that means they're willing to sacrifice on themselves before trimming back on their four-legged friends.

"You know, for some families, the pet comes first," said Carol Perkins, president and co-founder of Harry Barker, a Charleston, S.C.-based pet toy company whose sales are up 40 percent this year. "The dog goes to the vet first and the dog gets



AP Photo

Carol Perkins, owner of Harry Barker, and her dog Josephine, pose with a shipment for the upcoming holiday season at Harry Barker, a pet supply company in Charleston, S.C., Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2008. Retailers may be worrying about the possibility of the worst fourth quarter in generations, but those in the pet products industry are finding themselves in a veritable oasis among much of the gloom of American business.

organic food. Maybe some people will cut back on a dog bed, but they'll still buy dog treats, toys and collars and leashes."

The American Pet Products Association estimates Americans will spend \$43.4 billion this year on their pets — a figure that includes everything from treats to training — despite the dramatic slowdown in discretionary spending. That's 26 percent higher than what U.S. consumers spent in 2004, the group said.

Market researcher Euromonitor International,

which tracks sales of pet food and accessories but excludes the cost of animals, grooming, training and other expenses, puts this year's animal expenditures at \$23.9 billion.

But the group forecasts the segment's sales are still on pace to grow more than 13 percent by 2013.

"It's definitely more resilient than most categories tied to discretionary spending," said Morningstar analyst R.J. Hottovy. "It's one of the last categories (people) cut out of their budget."

## Thousands try to douse annual Detroit arson tradition

DETROIT (AP) — Detroit, the city that used to burn on the night before the Halloween holiday as mischief-makers torched abandoned buildings, has largely ended its destructive tradition by mobilizing tens of thousands of citizens and law-enforcement personnel each year to patrol city neighborhoods.

"It's unfortunate of course that we have to do this, but this is the hand we're dealt," said Luther Keith, executive director of ARISE Detroit!, a coalition of community groups hoping to keep Detroit safe from fires and vandalism on the city's so-called Devil's Night.

At its peak in 1984, 810 fires

were reported in Detroit from Oct. 29 to 31, fueled by, among other things, Devil's Night's growing notoriety and the city's large number of abandoned buildings as many of the middle class fled the gritty city.

But the number of blazes has dropped — 147 fires were reported last year for the three days ending Oct. 31, up from the 113 reported in 2006 and 121 in 2005.

That's in part thanks to volunteers and law enforcement officials who patrol neighborhoods and monitor abandoned buildings starting the night of Oct. 29, part of what has been called Angels' Night since the 1990s.

This year, officials worry that the U.S. home mortgage foreclosure crisis, and a spate of vacant homes left in its wake, could be tempting targets for arsonists. Detroit ranked as the 14th hardest-hit U.S. metropolitan area in the third quarter of this year by foreclosure listing service RealtyTrac Inc.

About 35,000 volunteers have signed up with the city for

this year's Angels' Night, and about 50,000 people will volunteer, said Daniel Cherrin, a spokesman for Mayor Ken Cockrel Jr. The city also imposes a youth curfew and takes other preventative measures.

"It's a testament to Detroiters that we understand that we have to be proactive," Keith said. "We can't afford complacency by any means."

Personnel from the city's fire and police departments will be joined this year by state and federal agencies, as well as 25 volunteers from the Michigan Army National Guard, some of whom will patrol in uniform.

Richard Smith, 67, has participated in anti-arson patrols and other volunteer activities for more than two decades in northwest Detroit's largely middle-class Grandmont neighborhood. He said three homes on his block have been abandoned due to foreclosure in the last couple of years.

"At this point, the best that we can hope for is that someone will keep an eye on those homes and report any possible incidents," he said.

## Minnesota museum concludes painting was Nazi loot

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minneapolis Institute of Arts has sent a \$2.8 million painting back to France after concluding it had been stolen by the Nazis during World War II.

The museum had owned the 1911 Fernand Leger painting "Smoke Over Rooftops" since 1961. But after a decade of detective work, the institute decided to return it to the French heirs of a Jewish art collector who died in 1948.

"Having researched this to the end of the road, we decided we had to return the painting; it was the right thing to do," Kaywin Feldman, director of the institute, told the Star Tribune for a story published Thursday.

In 1997, the museum

received a letter claiming the painting had been taken from noted French collector Alphonse Kann, said Patrick Noon, the institute's paintings curator. Kann got much of his art back after the war, but not the Leger.

That painting was bequeathed to the institute in 1961 by Minneapolis businessman Putnam Dana McMillan, a General Mills vice president who had bought it from the Buchholz Gallery in New York in 1951.

It took years for the institute to determine if the claim was legitimate. "Smoke Over Rooftops" was a theme Leger painted at least six times, so it wasn't clear at first if it was the same one Kann had owned.

finalized. "She needed help. That was

## Doggie road tri

RACINE, Wis. (AP) — Max the Maltese is headed home to Florida after the small dog vanished several months ago and finally turned up 1,200 miles away — in Chicago.

Owner Richard Gonzalez of West Palm Beach, Fla., said Max went missing from his daughter's yard in Brandon, Fla. She had brought Max to her home for a few weeks to visit with her own dogs.

Gonzalez reported the disappearance as a pet theft.

"Even if he ran away, he wasn't going to get far. It's a subdivision," Gonzalez said. "Somebody's going to grab him."

Max was located recently in Chicago, where animal control workers identified him thanks to an implanted microchip.

Gonzalez's efforts to get the dog back were complicated by his hours on a new job and

## Japanese Hallo

TOKYO (AP) — While many anticipate the appearance of ghosts and ghouls over Halloween, police and rail authorities in Tokyo have something more frightening to worry about: naked, drunken revelers.

Extra police and security guards will be posted at nearly 30 rail stations in the Japanese capital on Friday in an effort to prevent a repeat of wild and sometimes shocking parties that took place on commuter trains in Tokyo last Halloween. Police and major train operator East Japan Railway Co. said Wednesday.

Police have been tipped off that a big party has been planned to take place Friday night at Shinjuku, one of Tokyo's largest stations, said a Tokyo police official said, requesting anonymity for security

## The melting ec

NEW YORK (AP) — The economy is melting — literally.

Two artists on Wednesday installed a 1,500-pound ice sculpture that spelled the word "Economy" in Manhattan's financial district.

The "Main Street Meltdown" was to remain in Foley Square until it melted — about 24 hours. By Wednesday evening the E and the C had already thawed and vanished.

The backdrop to the sculpture — the wide stairs and row of pillars fronting the state Supreme Court building — is instantly recognizable to millions of viewers of TV's "Law & Order."

"To see the word 'economy'

## Teacher on ice

NEW YORK (AP) — Global warming was the topic, but one eighth-grader from the U.S. posed a question that his teacher could answer with firsthand knowledge:

"Would it be easy for a kid to live in Antarctica?"

Science teacher Shakin' Petit stamped her feet for warmth in the minus 7-degree weather of her surroundings and shook her head.

"There are no children here. It's all scientists," she said during a videoconference Tuesday with her students and others participating in a program sponsored by the New York-based nonprofit Global Nomads Group.

Petit, who teaches at the Promise Academy charter school in Harlem, New York, spending two months in Antarctica to conduct climate change research with the Offshore New Harbor Project

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