9th Ward E-News

From Minneapolis Council Member Gary Schiff

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Minneapolis Animal Cops: this Friday at *Breakfast with Gary*

Minneapolis Animal Care and Control officer Terry Shaw in the field handling a stray dog.

Last year Minneapolis Animal Control staff responded to over 15,000 calls for help. Most of the calls dealt with complaints like barking dogs, lost pets and pet licensing issues – but nearly 40% of the calls involved more serious cases of dog bites and animal cruelty.

Says Minneapolis Animal Care and Control director Dan Niziolek, "If you ignore animal cruelty, it's going to have an impact on violence in our community. As a city we take it seriously and we recognize the connection between animal cruelty and violence between people."

This Friday, April 29th at *Breakfast with Gary* hear from Dan Niziolek and Jeanette Wiedemeier-Bower of Minneapolis Animal Care and Control, along with Maureen Haggerty from Canine Coach.

Minneapolis Animal Care and Control staff will share what the city is doing to fight animal cruelty and increase the number of licensed animals in the city. This includes investigating home breeding and dog fighting operations – and pursuing felony cruelty cases that can take up to 100 hours each to investigate. MACC has started a number of new initiatives this year, posting pictures of adoptable animals on the city's Facebook page and providing new volunteer opportunities.

Breakfast with Gary is a monthly meeting held from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. the final Friday of the month at the Mercado Central, 1515 East Lake Street. $5 buys breakfast.

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