



Victoria Stratton volunteers her time with one of the cats up for adoption at the Clatsop County Animal Shelter.

VOLUNTEERS

MAKE IT HAPPEN AT ANIMAL SHELTER

By COLIN MURPHEY
The Daily Astorian

They don't get paid and they spend a fair amount of time cleaning up messes left by a menagerie of cats and dogs. But from the looks on the faces of the volunteers at the Clatsop County Animal Shelter, that's OK by them. From Ashley Vanderpool playing with Mick the dog — who never seems to wear out — to Victoria Stratton scratching the head of Snowie the cat, they keep the animals comfortable and entertained while waiting for a forever home. There's also Rodney Merrill, who makes the rounds feeding some of them three times a day when he's not taking them outside for exercise. And they need all the help they can get. "It's been busy lately," said supervisor Stephen Hildreth. "But, without our volunteers we would never be able to do this." Anyone interested in adopting an animal, volunteering or helping in other ways can find information at co.clatsop.or.us/animalcontrol.



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian
Shanice Brown drove all the way from Beaverton to adopt a dog.



Rodney Merrill takes one of the dogs for a walk.



Ashley Vanderpool volunteers five days a week at the animal shelter.



A dog named Bodie waits to be adopted.



A dog waits her turn to be walked.



A dog waits to be adopted.