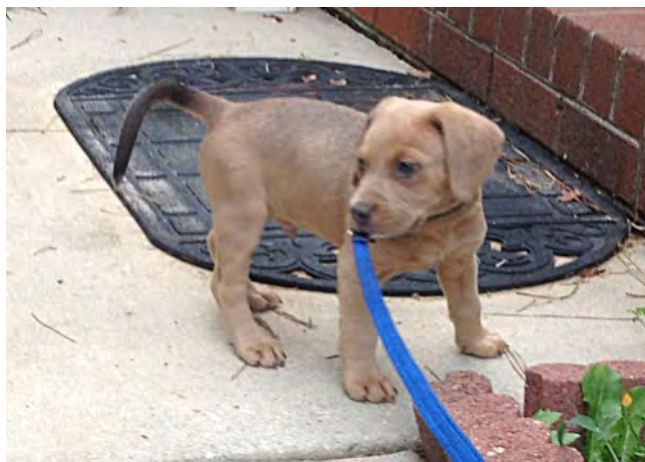


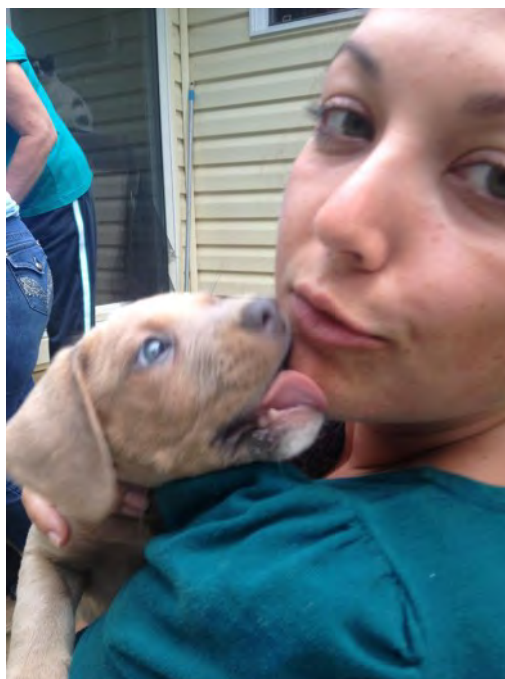
Dover

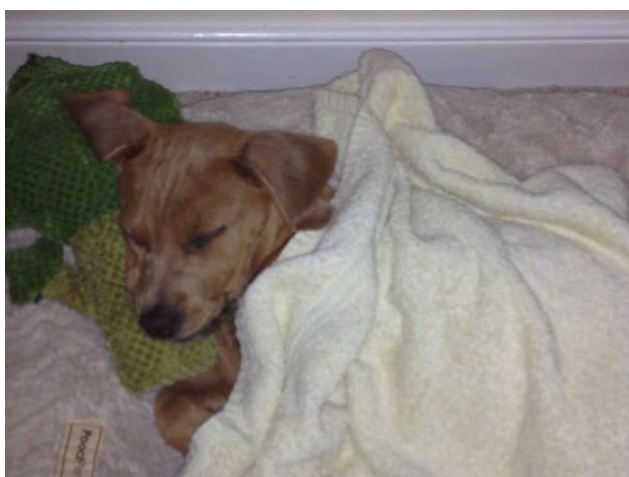


Dover came home with us when he was 9 weeks old. I was having a hard time deciding between Dover and his brother Kent - I wanted them both! But Nate was right, Dover had picked us; he gave me the biggest lick in the face when I picked him up, and he proceeded to fall asleep on Nate's feet. I actually told HSCC that we would take Kent, and the minute I did, I instantly felt so sad that I hadn't picked Dover. As it turns out, the other family didn't take Dover, so we were able to get him, after all.



From the minute he got home, he was such a sweet baby. It took some doing (and a few, expensive lessons) to get him to refrain from eating shoes. He cried through the first night, but we got him a Snuggle Puppy (the greatest invention ever!), and he was sleeping through the night in no time. He potty trained like a champ, only ever having gone number one in the house twice! Of course this is all thanks to consistency and taking him out every two hours, and rewarding him when he went potty outside. Thankfully, he likes food, so training was easy. He went to puppy socialization every Saturday, where he was the life of the party. He played hard with the bigger pups, and offered gentle, playful encouragement to the little wallflowers in the group. He also did weekly obedience training, and within 6 weeks he could sit, look, down, shake, shake other paw, high five, high five both paws, crawl, roll over and speak! To this day, he LOVES to show off his amazing tricks!





Dover loves to talk. He'll have an entire conversation with you. He also loves veggies, like his mom. He eats green beans, sweet potatoes, carrots and his absolute favorite - watermelon! He loves playing in the snow, taking long walks around the neighborhood or in the park, and digging big holes, much to his dad's chagrin. He plays fetch, but often won't release the ball unless bribed with food (he is too smart - he knows how to get food!) He also likes to go to his aunt and uncle's pool when it's warm - he'll hang out on the float, but doesn't love swimming, although he is a natural at it.





Dover loves people, children, cats, dogs and pretty much anything else that will interact with him. He goes to daycare once a week, where he wears out all the other dogs, and then comes home to collapse in a little ball of pure exhaustion. And then sometimes he runs in his sleep, and then he smiles and groans - it is beyond cute! Oh, and he'll do just about ANYTHING for peanut butter.



He currently has a foster brother, Hector, and he is amazing at sharing all his toys and letting another little boy experience the good life. They play all day and night, running and wrestling, and playing tug of war. He is very happy to have a new friend, and Hector is flourishing with his buddy to show him the ropes.

I can't say enough about HSCC. What an incredible group of selfless, admirable people. You have given us the little joy of our lives. Thank you a million times over for all that you do!

Lots of love, Nate, Mian and Dover xxx

