

(anchor)

SOME STUDENTS LIVING IN CLIFTON THOUGHT A PUPPY WOULD COMPLETE THEIR LIVES. BROOKE BETHEL SHOWS US HOW A DREAM COME TRUE TURNED INTO A NIGHTMARE FOR THE FAMILY – AND THE PUPPY.

(Take package)

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Full nat of Rachel and Murphy playing

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Picture of Murphy

RACHEL DENOME AND GUS RIZZO GOT AN AIREDALE PUPPY IN AUGUST.

(Rachel DeNome 00:05-00:14)

“I mean it started off great. He’s very playful and energetic. Once he started laying around a lot more, we knew something was wrong.”

Murphy playing with his treat puzzle

THE VET DIAGNOSED MURPHY WITH A DISEASE CALLED PARVO. A HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS ILLNESS COMMON IN UNVACCINATED PUPPIES.

Murphy going for a walk to the patch

“We were so careful; I mean we only took him to the patch outside to go to the bathroom. We wouldn’t risk our dog getting sick since he only had the first three vaccines.”

Patch of grass outside

THEY TOOK HIM TO A PATCH OF GRASS RIGHT OUTSIDE THEIR FRONT DOOR.

Video of Covedale Pet Hospital

DR. JESSICA DAVIDSON SAYS PARVO IS A VERY LIFE-THREATENING DISEASE THAT HAS ABOUT A 50-PERCENT SURVIVAL RATE.

(Jessica Davidson 01:02-01:16)

“People are getting puppies and not educating themselves before they get puppies. They take their unvaccinated puppies for walks through

Clifton like the people before them and that's what's spreading the virus."

Murphy playing with toys

AFTER THREE LONG WEEKS IN AND OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, MURPHY IS FINALLY HOME – AND FEELING BETTER.

Closeup of Murphy

"I was afraid we were going to lose him. I've never been more relieved than when I got the call saying that Murphy had done a complete 180."

Closeup of Rachel and Murphy

A SCARE THAT RACHEL AND GUS HOPEFULLY NEVER HAVE TO FACE AGAIN. BROOKE BETHEL, BEARCAST NEWS.