

WEEKLY WORLD CHEESE

Special "The Aughts are
Almost Naught" issue



December 2009 • Calgaro edition

Year 2009 Begins Awesomely for Family

The year 2009 was off to an explosive start after the Calgaro family enjoyed a multi-generational gathering with the dinner theme of: Casseroles! Upon returning home, Rachel Calgaro decided to soothe an upset stomach by getting ready for bed and watching *Lost* on DVD.

A bit later, a witness recalls, "she up and sprinted to the bathroom. Soon after, there were sounds. Sounds that didn't seem human." Family members later found Rachel prone on the bathroom floor.

"I decided... I just needed... to lie down... and take a rest," said the green-tinged teenager. But her brand-new LCD penguin PJs were certainly cheery, lighting up with her every move!

As Rachel's condition improved over the next several days, her mother noticed a strange sensation in her own stomach area. Unfortunately, she construed it as "hunger" when a more accurate interpretation would have

Editor's Note: We have graciously omitted photographs from our lead story this year. You're welcome.

been "possession by evil viral spawn." Even more unfortunately, she chose to sate this "hunger" with — wait for it! — leftover split pea soup. Also, wasabe peas and Christmas cookies.

Within the next 48 hours, the two somewhat-healthier women noticed Pete Calgaro sitting in the kitchen, doubled over, with his forehead against the table. Soon after, the 4th family member crabably reported cramps and discomfort. Happy New Year!

Neither green bean casserole nor split pea soup was allowed across the Calgaro threshold for the remainder of the year.

back issues online!

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Inside:

Teenage Activity!

Special Warnings!

Cloak and dagger stuff?

Pet Update

...and Buddy the Guinea Pig is just fine, despite not getting much attention from the press.

Teenager Exerts Self

Voluntarily Engages in Physical Activity

Peter Calgaro, 15, shocked a nation this fall by voluntarily participating in strenuous physical activity. The James Madison Memorial High School sophomore attended an open house for Camp Randall Rowing Club with a friend in September.



ABOVE: Peter uses all his major muscle groups instead of staying asleep in bed on a Sunday morning.

Upon this first exposure to the sport of rowing, he immediately joined up and began attending practice nearly every day.

Adults everywhere were astonished to hear that Peter was waking up at 6 AM on weekends in order to improve his rowing ability. "That sounds suspiciously related to 'work,'" commented one relative.

"Wait. He's choosing labor and discomfort over sprawling slumber in a warm bed?" asked another. "Have you checked to make sure he hasn't been replicated by an alien species?"

Medical personnel confirmed that Peter indeed possessed all his original DNA. Apparently, it was a simple case of changed priorities.

"We hope it carries over into a new zest for doing homework," said his parents. "But we're not holding our breath."

Citizen Alert

Madison motorists, be aware:

Peter Calgaro IV has enrolled in driver's education and will soon be issued a learner's permit. He is expected to have his license sometime after April 22.

Dentistry warning:

Owners of dental retainers should not take them off during school and then somehow break them clean in half. On the other hand, finding new ways to destroy such appliances year after year does show creativity. ("Ka-ching!" agrees Dr. Fred Zietz.)

Privacy Watch

Yeah, we're all over the Internet. After all, Aine started keeping online journals in the 1990s, and she works for the web division of Weather Central. If email is too much of a hassle, look for us on Facebook. Or....

- PeteCalgaro.com (music and art)
- AineCalgaro.com (links to Aine's various online stuff)
- HundredHats.com (you didn't think Aine stopped knitting, did you?)
- Ravelry.com, member ID iheart yarn (speaking of that sort of thing)
- iTunes or CDBaby.com (Pete's library of original music)

Oldest Child Goes Incognito

Parents Find Her Despite Changed Name, Appearance

Observers theorize that Rachel Calgaro had enough of the embarrassment caused by being the child of her parents. The now-legal adult made several attempts to go abscond into hiding in 2009, going so far as to move out of state.

Rachel went to great lengths to forge a new identity and escape years of enduring lame humor. During her senior year of high school, she became known under a new nickname: Chelly. Shortly before graduation, she began making dramatic changes to her appearance.

First she shed one of her most easily recognizable characteristics during a routine salon appointment. She emerged with a wavy new 'do, having donated more than 12" to Locks of Love. She purchased a swanky gown and high heels, and was seen attending prom with a mysterious tall gentleman.

After receiving her diploma, her plans to escape began in earnest. By early September she was in Minneapolis, MN. To further avoid detection, she shared living quarters with another Rachel. The disguise was complete when "Chelly" ditched her contacts and started wearing glasses.



She eventually reinstated contact with her parents despite their cringe-worthy behavior. For one thing, tuition at the U of M isn't cheap. And the bed at their house is a lot more comfortable than the one in her dorm room. Their food is okay, too.

"Wait, they said they couldn't find me?" asked an astonished Rachel. "Where did they think all those care packages were going? My mom wrote the address on every box she sent."

Man Continues Constant Motion

Pete Calgaro has always seemed to enjoy movement of one kind or another.

"Our brother pretty much constantly drummed his fingers, jiggled his legs, or something," agreed his four younger sisters. "It was exhausting to watch."

Pete now leads monthly drum circles, while holding down a full-time job as art director at NBC-15

(17 years now), directing the vocal and chime choirs for Unity of Madison, and providing kirtan music with MaaShakti Das as part of the Mukti Tribe. He recently released his 8th CD, *Balance*.

He also runs 4 miles a day, practices yoga faithfully, and regularly performs strengthening exercises.

In other words, he's still exhausting to watch.

Companion Animal Update

Foxxi April, corgi companion of the Calgaro family, fully embraced her role as the canine embodiment of a crabby old lady this year.

She zestfully barked the equivalent of “you kids get off my lawn” to any and all passers-by. She asserted her preference to be left alone, using her teeth to emphasize that she did NOT want to be brushed. Or messed with in any way.

In fact, even experienced veterinarians were reluctant to approach Foxxi without having sedated her first. This made it difficult to evaluate her deteriorating ability to move.

A DNA test confirmed that Foxxi had an incurable degenerative neurological condition.

As she declined, the Calgaros carried her about (the main opportunity for affection) and gave her treats. They decided to allow Foxxi to leave her body while she still had a few things left to enjoy. Namely, food. A corgi's appetite is a wonderful thing to behold.

The family spoiled her as much as possible during her final days, and she left peacefully, surrounded with love.

And hey, that's what we all hope for in the end. (P.S. Aine treasures her bite scars.)



RIP Foxxi: Born in 1997, adopted April 9, 2000 for Rachel's 9th birthday. And still smiling on her last day, June 26, 2009.

Internet matchmaking played a part in making the Calgaro animal population whole again. Aine had browsed Petfinder.org and spotted a shelter dog who made an impression: a pomerian who had been nameless



and neglected until shelter personnel gave him medical care and the moniker “Happy.” His left ear was so infected that his ear canal was surgically removed. Long story short, the Calgaros fell in love with him, dubbed him Ludwig von Happy, and spent a few thousand dollars having him treated for secondary infections and whatnot.

In September, Ludwig's good fortune took a temporary downturn... he lost his left eye after an attack by a larger dog. Despite the life of Job he's led, Ludwig remains the sweetest, most mellow dog imaginable. He even tolerated the many suggestions that he dress as a pirate for Halloween.

Pete calls Ludwig “Little Buddha.” Aine thinks Foxxi's watching, and Ludwig just might be her parting gift.