



Calgaros once again survive imminent annihilation

Readers who were paying attention in January 2018 might have noticed some tension between certain political leaders.



“That’s intense,” said Pete and Áine Calgaro. “Good thing we’re not planning on any international travel this year!”

Instead, they used their airline points to make a return trip to the big island of Hawai’i. Because they had just visited a year earlier, they remembered their way around. This time, however, they focused on activities they missed out on during their first trip.

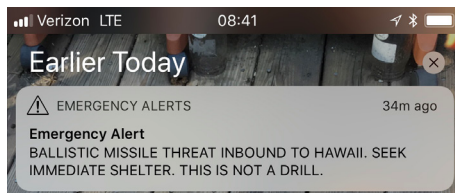
Pete bravely stood with a group of tourists in the back of a rickety pickup truck bouncing along a rocky path to see the green sand beach at the south end of the island. (The driver felt bad for Áine and let her sit with him in the cab.)

**Aged cheese can be found
online at calgaros.com**

The Calgaros spent extra time at the beach, and checked out a number of historical attractions.

And Áine convinced Pete to go on a whale watching tour. Pete loaded up with Dramamine ahead of time, they donned life jackets, and gingerly stepped aboard the boat with a half dozen other tourists.

As the captain headed out the harbor, an alert sounded out. Everyone on board received the same emergency text message:



As the shocked group prepared for their inevitable death, the captain suggested continuing toward the sea since they had no real options for taking cover. They might as well have received a second text: “LOLOL JK about seeking shelter – Hawai’i doesn’t have any. Even the airport doesn’t have walls. Good luck!”

Pete looked to the sky to see if he could spot the incoming missiles. Áine,

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Another vacation survived

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who is hyper-aware that death is a real possibility every time she leaves home, was surprised she hadn't anticipated this particular way of perishing.

Both remained surprisingly calm, and soon everyone's attention turned to the whales surfacing nearby.

About 40 minutes later, another text came through. The warning had been a false alarm, triggered by accident.

Soon after, a school of dolphins appeared and swam alongside the boat. The captain remarked that the whales had been especially active that morning.

Later that day, the Calgaros talked to various locals and discovered how panicked things had become on land.

Back in Madison, Pete's co-workers remembered that he was in Hawai'i,

Pete challenges confused sasquatch to rap battle



so the news team asked him for an interview.

Pete's file photo was slightly outdated.



The Calgaros returned home without incident and are ready for more adventure. They flew to Portland in September and drove down to see the redwoods in northern California. And in January, they're heading to Vietnam to visit their friends (and Gabi's parents) Yasha and Grazi.

Read all about it in the next issue... unless the next missile crisis turns out to be a real one.

Bad things happen... third journey is a sad one

Aine took a third trip in 2018 for unexpected, sad reasons. Her brother, Gary, died suddenly at age 64 at his home near Seattle. She and her brother Bob flew out for the memorial service several weeks later.

The upside of the journey was the time they spent together — Áine stayed with Gary's wife Kathy and enjoyed time with her two nephews Chris and Cameron and their partners, Bart and Amelia. Laughing together was the best way to keep the memories alive.

Deadpool acquires backyard

Rachel Calgaro's dog Deadpool is delighted to report that he now resides in a house with a fenced in backyard. The Swedish vallhund is also happy to share the home with Rachel and two other humans because someone has to pay the rent.

One of those humans is Mitchell, whom Rachel met online in Minnesota but is coincidentally a native Madisonian.



Rachel and Deadpool are both in love with him. So are the other Calgaro

dogs, Kavik and Trax – but Mitchell needs to dodge their face-licking affection for the time being as his nose was recently broken in a random attack at a local train stop. (He is ok!)

Rachel's face, however, is intact – and was in full glamour mode when she served as a bridesmaid in her friends' wedding several weeks ago. The groom was a close friend and co-worker at King Show Games, where Rachel works as a software engineer.

Rachel had previously enhanced her look when she and her mom were tattooed together in March. Each received their tarot card – Rachel's on her upper arm, Áine's on her lower leg.

Peter pursues new career path

Peter Calgaro IV has begun looking towards the future. Specifically, 16 months from now, when he will no longer be eligible for his parents' health insurance plan.

While Peter has enjoyed decent tips and flexible hours as a pizza distribution specialist, he acknowledges that opting for Toppers' health plan would leave little left for rent and food.

Although he is planning to apply for an apprenticeship next year, Peter accepted a construction position several months ago. The first week was grueling, and one morning his hands were so gnarled up from the repetitive work that he had to pry them open.

He gave notice soon after. As a wise family friend later noted, "There's nothing like construction work to motivate you to find something else to do."

Peter currently lives in an apartment on Madison's east side with two roommates and a laborador retriever.

His hobbies include video games, the card game *Magic: The Gathering*, and being mistaken for his dad.



Peter and his parents in front of his apartment building. Shortly after this photo was taken, Peter's parents were surprised to discover his habitat was indeed habitable.

Empty nest level achieved

The final (honorary) Calgaro child moved out in January after 4 ½ years living with them. Gabi sublet a downtown apartment near the UW.

For a while, Pete and Áine were able to pretend Gabi still lived with them because her furniture was still in her old bedroom. She took it in August, and the empty nest became a reality.

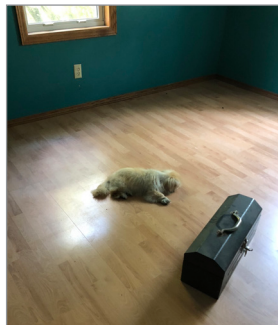
For a few weeks between rentals, however, the Calgaro home was full of activity (and stuff) because Gabi and her roommate Kara needed a place to stay.

Gabi and her dog Shigwa are now settled in to their new place, where Gabi studies for her biomedical engineering classes and Shigwa mostly sleeps.

Áine will be putting Gabi's former bedroom to use as her home office. While Áine is still working in marketing for the Lung Cancer Research Foundation, she will soon be a remote

employee. Perhaps she will toil from her desk secretly attired in the work-from-home clothing mullet: business on top, pajamas on bottom.

Gabi with her boyfriend, Zeph, who works for Ford in Michigan.



Shigwa wonders where everything went.



Alternative medical care is for dogs, too, say Calgaros while handing over credit card

Trax supports Kavik during an acupuncture session. Kavik's posture is quasimodo-like, and he has a tendency to walk sideways. In this photo, he has 18 needles inserted – they'd be easier to see if he wasn't such a huge floof.

Blessed solstice and a happy new year from all the Calgaros:
Pete, Áine, Peter, Rachel, and Gabi
Kavik, Trax, Deadpool, and Shigwa