

WEEKLY WORLD CHEESE

*“Novelty new year’s glasses
make sense this year” issue*



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Calgaros travel across globe to engage in extreme sport

Soon after the start of the new year, Pete and Áine Calgaro embarked on their most daring adventure to date.

After a day-long flight with a brief stop in Tokyo, they greeted their beloved friends Yasha and Grazi in Hanoi, Vietnam. After resting in their generous hosts’ apartment, they were ready to engage in the extreme sport they had traveled across the world to experience.

They crossed the street multiple times without losing their lives.

Yasha and Grazi were well versed in this dangerous activity, having learned to navigate getting from one curb to the next without colliding with one of Hanoi’s millions of motor scooters.

These scooters are used to transport everything from furniture to trees —

especially at Tet, since kumquat trees are a traditional decoration for the new year celebration.

The trick to successfully crossing a busy street without discernable traffic signals is to walk briskly without slowing down even when it appears you are about to be smashed to bits by vehicles from all directions. Áine’s strategy was to grab Grazi’s arm, close her eyes, and pray for survival.



Yasha, Grazi, Áine & Pete

Besides walking the busy streets of Hanoi, Áine and Pete enjoyed dining on amazing vegetarian and vegan food, visiting gardens and museums, seeing a unique theater performance on a water stage, and a boat tour in Ninh Binh.

Áine appreciated Vietnam’s coffee culture, and even tried a concoction called “egg coffee.”



Not shown: us preparing mentally for the death-defying feat of courage.

Continued on next page

Son accused of stealing father's look

Peter Calgaro IV wasn't content with just having his father's name – he apparently admired his style so much that he had to make it his own.

The 25-year-old took the unusual path of willing his hair follicles to follow the same pattern his dad's had many years earlier.

Peter denies the claim, pointing out that he grew a gnarly beard over the past month or so.

The look completely suits him as he navigates



Two men named Peter.

the streets of Madison. While he works a coveted time slot for the campus Topper's location, he no longer specializes in only pizza conveyance. Peter has branched out into

delivering a wide variety of foodstuffs for Eat Street.

He shares an eastside apartment with two cats, along with two roommates to whom he has declared, "No, you may not bring home any more cats." 🍷



A more recent photo of Peter with his sister and dad.

Adventure in Vietnam

Continued from previous page

Pete was pleased to discover that Dramamine works pretty well when taken on a schedule. However, jet lag is no joke.

Yasha and Grazi's daughter Gabi had visited them a few weeks earlier, and already returned to Madison to start the semester at the University of Wisconsin.

Yasha and Grazi have since relocated to Da Nang, Vietnam. Áine would very much like to attempt a street crossing in that city as well.

View more pictures at:
<http://bit.ly/calgaro-vietnam>

(The Calgaros also visited Seattle/Victoria/Vancouver, but there's no space to talk about that.) 🍷

Women discovers truth about braces

Áine started TMJ treatment two years ago, and was thrilled when the final phase of treatment began in February.



"Getting braces can't be so bad," she said. "After all, my husband and kids all had them, and it wasn't such a big deal."

Immediately upon receiving her new hardware, she had a different response. "OhmygodTHISISTHEWORST takethemoffnow takethemoffnow TAKETHEMOFFNOW."

Fortunately, she only was required to wear them for 9 months. She would probably complain a lot more about her retainers if the memory of her braces wasn't so fresh. 🍷

Woman entirely leans into nerddom

Rachel Calgaro showed potential for becoming a giant nerd at a young age. “She was aggressively into Lord of the Rings when she was like 11 years old,” her mother remembers. (See 2002 edition of WWC.)

Now she has not only fully embraced multiple nerdy fandoms, she’s found a kindred soul with even more enthusiasm for the culture.

Rachel and Mitchell voluntarily attended a 28-hour Star Wars movie marathon capped off by a premier showing of *The Rise of Skywalker*.

The two gladly dress up as various characters, and Mitchell creates props and other costume items in his basement workshop. Other nerds pay actual money for his expertise, which is showcased on his Instagram account @radspinnercosplay.

“We love our rental house – his workshop is awesome,” Rachel explained. “Sure, we had a water leak that cost us hundreds of dollars, and



Don't be fooled by their ability to dress like regular people. (Note gaming related necklace crafted by Mitchell)

later a sewage drain backup that wasn't much fun. And then a window fell out and someone ran over our mailbox. But Mitchell taped the window back in place and we're still pretty much getting mail.”

“All in all, I’m glad we moved there so I’d be closer to work... even though I got laid off right after we signed the lease.”

Rachel wasn’t out of work long, and has put her software development skills to work in the healthcare field.

“I’m immersed enough in gaming that I don’t need for it to be part of my day job,” she said. “As long as I have enough money to support my dog and my family of Pop!Funko figures, I’m good.” 🧸

Family dog now chill as all heck

Kavik, age 10, began showing odder behavior than usual this summer. While the family was used to his crooked gait and stiff neck, they noticed he was started to become increasingly agitated at night. He also began tripping over his own feet more often.

After a wee-hours emergency visit for excess panting revealed that Kavik’s heart and other organs were perfectly fine, the family made an appointment for an evaluation at the UW Veterinary Clinic. Kavik is suspected of having

canine cognitive dysfunction.

For the time being, nighttime anxiety medication seems to help

with his worst symptoms and allows his family to sleep. Fortunately, he continues to be cute and fluffy. 🧸



Kavik engages in his longtime habit of getting assistance to hold up his head.

Host parents tearful as Brazilian student prepares to leave Madison

Pete and Áine Calgaro are trying to adjust to the news that Gabriella Medeiros Simas will be leaving Madison after 7 years there.

“Gabi and her parents have become family to us” Áine said. “I mean, we even hang out in her parents’ place and eat their food like actual relatives.” (See story on page 1.)

“Guys, it’s not like I’m going back to Brazil,” Gabi reminded them. “I’m just going to be in Fond du Lac.”

Gabi’s boyfriend Zeph is living in apartment there while working in Oshkosh, and she will join him after graduating from the UW-Madison with her degree in biomedical engineering. Eventually she hopes to enter medical



Gabi (center) with her boyfriend Zeph and friend Kara.

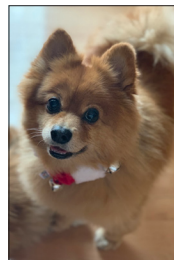
school, but in the meantime has received EMT training and will study to be a paramedic.

“It’s pretty cool to think about having someone with medical training in the family,” said Pete. “Especially since we don’t have to pay any tuition.” 🍌

Obligatory work update

Pete: Creative Services Director at NBC15, celebrating his 27th anniversary in August. Still runs to work in all kinds of weather. Music Director at Unity of Madison; performed his 10th annual holiday concert on Dec. 20. See more at petecalgaro.com.

Áine: Digital Marketing Manager at the Lung Cancer Research Foundation in NYC. Fortunately does not have to commute there – she works from her home office. Áine’s co-worker Trax (see photo) says, “I’m 9 and I’m fine!” 🍌



RIP Shigwa

Shigwa passed away quietly on Dec. 22 just a few months shy of her 16th birthday. She was an international traveler, born in Brazil and taking up residence in the United States to help her person Gabi with her schooling.

Shigwa enjoyed dominating the other household dogs, eating pão de queijo (cheese bread, appreciated in both Brazil and Wisconsin), and making comical faces.

“Shigwa always was patient with my poor Portuguese,” Áine remembers. “She never corrected me.”

She will be missed by her family, both human and canine. 🍌

