

WEEKLY WORLD CHEESE

*Special antimicrobial and
socially distanced issue*



December 2020 • Calgaro edition

Calgaros bravely return to dangerous area of the world

Early in 2020, the Calgaros eagerly awaited a second trip to Vietnam to visit their generous friends Yasha and Grazi. This time, they'd be visiting the oceanfront city of Da Nang after an overnight layover in Hong Kong.

"We certainly enjoy both traveling and spending time with people outside our immediate household and look forward to doing a lot of that this year!" they said.

However, many friends and family voiced their concern that the Calgaros were heading to Asia, since a new virus was spreading in China. Áine searched for protective masks to wear on the flight. Drugstores were sold out, so she visited the hardware store since that was the only other place one could possibly expect to find such a thing.

During their layover, the Calgaros weren't allowed into the airport hotel

until they had a temperature check, and the airport had screening stations throughout.

"Boy, is that ever strange!" they observed.

The virus seemed to be the topic of conversation everywhere in Vietnam. Yasha, an airline pilot, regaled the Calgaros with stories about cancelled routes, mandatory health checks of both passengers and crew, and returning with an empty plane after flying a group to China.

While the four friends were enjoying the beach, mountains, the renowned dragon bridge in Da Nang, and the famous "Lady Buddha" statue overlooking the city, they noticed how careful sightseers were to wear masks and stay apart.

After a relaxing vacation with many massages and delicious vegetarian meals, Pete and Áine headed back home. A traveler on the final leg of the journey, learning they had come from Vietnam, asked them if they'd heard about the CORE-OH-nah virus over there.



Inside:

- **Pets and relationships!**
- **Our adult children!**
- **Woes and pestilence!**

↑ Not updated from 2019. Business as usual!

(continued on next page)

Woman completes full transition into “that dog lady”

Áine Calgaro, already unsettlingly enthusiastic about the canine species, became publicly known as “that dog lady” after being seen pushing a stroller occupied by two adult Pomeranians.

She purchased the specialized equipment when she realized how small her older dog Kavik’s world had become. “He can’t lift his head well and can’t stay on his feet, so all he ever saw was the floor of the house, part of our yard, and the back of the passenger seat in our car.”

The 11-year-old with neurological issues of unknown origin was immediately at home in the stroller, and made his presence known by barking from his perch as if he were an elderly curmudgeon ordering trespassers to get off his lawn.

A fuzzy & dynamic duo!



Although Trax is a year younger and perfectly fit to walk, he has decided that he also enjoys the view and insists on being allowed to ride along.

Áine looks forward to spending her old age carrying a purse with a small spoiled dog inside. 🐶



More photos at bit.ly/danang2020

Brave return

(Continued from previous page with surprise twist ending)

The Calgaros had indeed entered a dangerous place.... **when they returned to their home country.**

(Cue Twilight Zone theme music.) 🐶

Links

calgaros.com - enjoy a trip down memory lane and peruse past issues of the Weekly World Cheese

petecalgaro.com - listen to and order original music, including Pete’s latest CD!

tinyletter.com/dainec - subscribe to Áine’s random blatherings!

Minneapolis a lot further away than initially thought

Rachel Calgaro was never planning to stay in Madison. “We knew software development might take our daughter to the west coast,” Áine Calgaro said. “Minneapolis was a relief because it’s so much closer.”

“We’ll never need to worry about anything more serious than her getting indigestion from someone’s hotdish.”

That was before layoffs affected the gaming company where Rachel worked, before COVID-19 made the entire U.S. a hotspot, and before an important reckoning arose in the very city where Rachel lives with her partner Mitchell and dog Deadpool.

It’s been almost a year since the Calgaros last saw their daughter face-to-face, and Minneapolis seems like a distant land. But that might be helpful if Rachel

decides to live abroad in the future. (It might happen! After all, she’s available for work, and a vaccine is coming!)

In the meantime, she is doing her part as a pandemic millennial by taking up cooking and yoga, and exploring a Kickstarter for a game she and some friends are creating. 🧀



Hope we’ll see this face up close in 2021!

Not much happening, area man reports to curious public

After a hiatus of several months, Peter Calgaro IV has made a daring return to the heroic work that so many of the fine citizens of Madison, WI depend on.

“I’m done delivering to students, though, seriously,” he said. “I refuse to deal with groups of drunken partiers breathing all over each other and insisting I come to the front door so they can pay cash.”

He now delivers for a Toppers Pizza franchise away from campus, fearlessly putting in more hours than ever.



Area man (left) with parents

“I was tired of not having money,” he explained.

The 26-year-old spent most of his time this year with his two roommates and their cats, punctuated with many online gaming sessions and an occasional cautious visit to see his parents. 🧀

Pandemic graduate might as well have pandemic wedding

Gabi Medeiros Simas, an honorary Calgaro, ended her studies at the UW-Madison with weeks of remote learning followed by a cancelled graduation ceremony.

She then joined her boyfriend Zeph in Fond du Lac after several years not living in the same city. While waiting to continue post-graduate studies, she continued volunteering as an EMT in Mazomanie, making the 2+ hour commute a few times a month.

Meanwhile, COVID-19 swept the U.S. as well as Gabi's homeland of Brazil. And the Trump administration floated a policy of stripping visas from international students unless they were attending classes in person.

With Gabi's parents in Vietnam and international borders closing, her future began to look uncertain.

So Zeph and Gabi, who already planned



Socially distanced life events! (More pics at bit.ly/gzwedding)

to get married at some point, decided to take the plunge into matrimony. They announced their engagement Sept. 15 and held a pandemic wedding in Zeph's parents' backyard Oct. 17.

Áine and Pete attended the wedding, along with Zeph's immediate family and several of Gabi's friends. A contingent of international attendees gathered via livestream, because of course no event could take place in 2020 without Zoom being a component.

The Calgaros are happy to welcome a new member to the extended family, and everyone is looking forward to a party when Gabi's parents can finally visit. 🧀

Obligatory work update

Pete: Still at NBC15 after 28 years, still music director at Unity, still releasing CDs. Annual holiday concert sadly cancelled due to *waves hands vaguely in general vicinity*.

Áine: Ahead of the curve by already working fully remotely as Digital Marketing Manager at the Lung Cancer Research Foundation (LCRF). Joined in cyberspace by the rest of her colleagues when New York City shut down in March.

This issue of the *Weekly World Cheese* is dedicated to one of its most loyal readers, Norm Lorenz, AKA Stormin' Norman. We're so glad we spent time with you before you left the earth. Thank you for all the laughter.