Lavallee teaches and studies Chinese culture

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Joining members of the inaugural Father McGarry class of 2016, from left to right, are Athlete Director Henry Johnson, Principal Mike Scholz, and the founders of the Bob Emig Foundation and Camille Hill-Emig.

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$30,000 in scholarship money was donated to Father McGarry from Cara at First Clover Leaf Bank.

Doctoral Degree

Lavalle teaches and studies cultural and commercial studies

Although many of the people who were interested in the story were so excited that day .   “You guys were the only paper that had just weeks earlier been diagnosed with leukemia. That's the basic way to capture the sounds of Chinese using the Latin alphabet. It is also one of the reasons why I was so excited about coming to the People's Republic of China,” said Lavallee. "It never occurred to us that it would go anywhere."

Noelle said that they then began hearing from other people around the country, through mostly Facebook, that Wyatt was featured in the St. Louis Post Dispatch. "I was on the night on Channel 2 and 11," said Jeff, "and my grandmother called the family from Florida. She said, 'Why didn't you tell us that Wyatt was going to be on TV?'" Noelle recalled the conversation. "And I said, 'I'm sorry, he was just on a St. Louis channel so you wouldn't be able to see us up there.'"

Noelle said that they then began hearing from other people around the country, through mostly Facebook, that Wyatt was being featured on different Fox stations across the country. "It never occurred to us that it would go into another market. A lot of this never occurred to us that it would go anywhere. And it kept going," she said. "It was just so funny because every time something happened we were like, well, it can't get much better than this."

But it did. Wyatt would be interviewed by the ABC network, was featured on countless television interviews, was interviewed and featured in a segment in the Brazilian television network GLOBOTV, and "Wyatt and Cara" even invited number one in social media during the days of the Democratic National Convention official writer. Wyatt's name appeared in the New York Times, CNN, on the New York Post. Wyatt was invited on ABC, CBS, CNN, Fox News Channel, and "The View".

Noelle said that when they all hop on a plane, the Intelligent began making decisions of cards and letters, many containing money, to the sum of Wyatt and Cara. The correspondence came from places as close as Champaign but also as far away as the west coast of rural Washington, Wash., and France, Cool. The letters inside were heartwarming and pointed out the incredible generosity, and compassion of Wyatt. "It was really wonderful and put into accounts for Wyatt and Camille First Laurel Bank. Shortly thereafter the City of Edwardsville invited Wyatt to a city council meeting where Mayor Gary Noland declared the day "Wyatt Easter Day" and presented Wyatt with a key to the city.

The mayor read the proclamation to Wyatt and there was a lot of "chaos" and then all of a sudden the mayor is asking them if they also are pretty cute," Noelle recalled. "When he got to the bottom of the speech you could very seriously listening and after all of a sudden you could see our faces, Wyatt was all lit up today. You can see a lot of the kids at the photos sitting today, Wyatt Easter Day'". "We were totally just sitting up and then he got the key to the city." Wyatt took the key to the city to school the next day to share with his classmates. "I let everybody have a turn and they all said 'God, I don't know if it's gold or copper,'" the inquisitive teen said.

WHEN MEETING THE KEY TO THE CITY, IT WAS DEFINITELY A HIGHLIGHT OF THE ENTIRE EXPERIENCE. THEN OUR CAR DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH SPACE TO FIT IN THE CITY," Wyatt said succinctly.

The mayor sent a truck full to pick up our family," Noelle added. "And our 7-year-old daughter, Anna. "It was amazing. The kids didn't know it was coming, but a lot of the neighbors did and there were some people outside. I don't think it really gets much better than that for an 8-year-old boy. The fire truck, the key to the city and they declared it Wyatt Easter Day." "And Cara got some flowers," Wyatt interjected. "And we got our keys, too. All of us. And I'm the youngest person ever to get a key to the city, apparently the oldest person ever to get a key to the city."

The family can respond numerous funny stories. One occurred when the mayor and the police car involved the key to the city and the day that Wyatt was honored, "he was standing in front of our house on a plane at 6 a.m. out of Lambert International Airport in St. Louis," Noelle recalled. "Because a little paperSrc = "image" type="html" //img.html" width="499" height="661" srcset="https://www.theintelligencer.com/2017/11/09/american-spirit-calling-new-home-1022376055.jpg?imwidth=499&imheight=661&fit=contain&pad=0,0,0,0,0,0&fm=jpg" src="https://www.theintelligencer.com/2017/11/09/american-spirit-calling-new-home-1022376055.jpg"

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