

From the Tuesday, June 11, 2002 edition of the Kankakee Journal:

'Little bitty' Floyd: A favorite of neighbors Little Floyd is a "porker," said his owner, Vicki Hensley of St. Anne. That's part of the reason why he walks with her daily in their subdivision. Floyd, a Yorkshire Terrier, came into Hensley's life at a mere one pound, eight ounces. "He was an early birthday/Christmas present from my husband," Hensley said. "I remember he was in my husband's pocket." Now 4-year-old Little Floyd weighs 13 pounds. He was named after Hensley's father who was also "a little bitty guy," Hensley said. Because of his honorary name, Hensley's mother, Geraldine Tobenski of Irwin, has fallen in love with the pooch, too. "She comes over and walks him, and sometimes Floyd stays overnight with her at her home," Hensley said. While Tobenski bribes Floyd with brushing, Hensley often resorts to doggie "Beggin Strips." "Now he's on a diet," Hensley said. He enjoys healthy treats such as carrots and celery. Every morning or after work, Hensley walks Floyd at least one mile. "He doesn't have trouble walking with me, he really likes going outside," she said. "He knows when I go out to the mailbox that he can go with me. He knows the word, 'mailbox.'" When Hensley works late, her husband, Robert, walks Floyd, too. And when they are both out of town, Tobenski babysits. Neighbors have been noted to laugh at the duo when they pass by. "He pulls me along sometimes," Hensley said. Other times Floyd wears himself out and needs to be carried home.