



## Catherine Goodwin Honored

in "A Salute to Woman of Our Region"

By Marie Sweney

The late Catherine Goodwin was a prominent member of the local arts and history community as well as a longtime active member of the Lowell Historical Society and its Board of Directors. Catherine was recently honored as part of the 2015 "A Salute to Women of Our Region" event. This recognition of Catherine Goodwin was a wonderful tribute to her place as a role model and a "Lowell Treasure." Each honoree was given a framed award depicting the Mico Kaufman's "Homage to Women" public art sculpture, a book by a woman author and a citation from the Governor of the Commonwealth. Her daughter Jeannie Demitracopoulos accepted the honor on her mother's behalf.



She was honored as noted: "Catherine Goodwin had a great love of the arts and history. She made history come alive with her walking tours of the Lowell Cemetery. She was a lifelong supporter of the Whistler House. Catherine was the author of the book *Mourning Glory* where she wrote many of the stories she shared with people on the walking tours. She had a sense that women played a much bigger role in the development of America than the history books indicate. She once did a lecture series on "Ladies of Lowell" and was the first woman appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Lowell Cemetery. Catherine and her husband John were recognized in 2007 for their contributions and service to the community when they were honored as Local Heroes."

**We too salute Catherine Goodwin!**

## LHS/Wahlgren History Prize Awarded to Daniel McDermott

Since 1976 the Lowell Historical Society has awarded the LHS/Wahlgren History prize and gift of money annually to the student enrolled at Lowell High School who is judged to be outstanding in the study of history during their high school career. It is presented at Honor Day Ceremonies at Lowell High School. This award is given by the Society in the name of Mildred E.

Wahlgren who was a highly respected member of the Society. Mrs. Wahlgren selflessly dedicated her time and energies to the goals of the Society. She was particularly inspirational to young people who had an interest and concern for the preservation and promotion of the History of the City of Lowell. We in the Society are proud of Mildred Wahlgren and very pleased to give this award.

This year's awardee is Daniel McDermott - LHS Class of 2015. Daniel plans to get a degree in history and education with the goal to become a high school history teacher. As an intern with the Lowell National Historical Park, working under the Cultural Resources and Education departments, and with his position teaching in the school program at the Tsongas Industrial Historic Center he will gain the knowledge and experience to help him on the pathway to his future as a teacher. Perhaps he'll return to Lowell High School to teach a History of Lowell class!

It is clear that Daniel McDermott was an excellent choice and representative of the values honored by the Society. Congratulations to Daniel McDermott!



LHS Board member and Award Coordinator Stephanie Donahue with the winner Daniel McDermott.

# LOWELL CEMETERY DEDICATES COLUMBARIUM

By Lew Karabatsos

In anticipation of its 175th anniversary, the historic Lowell Cemetery has built the architecturally distinctive O. M. Whipple Columbarium and Garden of Remembrance, named for the donor of the land on which the cemetery is situated. According to Cemetery president, James Latham, the columbarium will "provide a new service to the Lowell community and create an architecturally significant project that will enhance the existing beauty of the cemetery."

The columbarium's unique design features three curved columbarium walls with niches for urns containing cremated remains, a pavilion under which people can gather, natural walkways and plantings and benches for contemplation. Designed by Walsh Engineering Associates, Inc. of Westbrook Maine and Richardson & Associates, Landscape Architects, of Saco, Maine, it is located on a beautifully landscaped hill with expansive views of the cemetery, blending into both the existing Cemetery landscape and its significant historical heritage. It will be dedicated on Saturday October 17, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. .

The Lowell Cemetery, founded in 1841, is one of the first garden cemeteries in America and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is renowned for its beautifully landscaped rolling hills and gardens, historic monuments and sculptures and the many notable people who are buried there. Notwithstanding its long and rich history, the cemetery is still expanding its capacity and expects to serve the community for generations to come.

The Cemetery Trustees invite Historical Society members to visit the cemetery and the new columbarium at any time. For more information on rs and directions call 978-454-5191 or visit LowellCemetery.com.

## Growing Up In Lowell XXI

Mary Ellen Fitzpatrick [nee Pollard]

*[In May 2013, Mehmed Ali interviewed Mary Ellen Fitzpatrick as part of the Oral History Collection created as a joint project between the University of Massachusetts Lowell, and the Lowell National Historical Park. The following article represents a small segment of the information on Mary Ellen Fitzpatrick as edited by Cliff Hoyt. The full text is on the website for the Center for Lowell History, University of Massachusetts (<http://library.uml.edu/clh>). It can be found under "Oral History" then "Eastern National Oral History Projects" and then "Lowell National Park – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary."*

My name is Mary Ellen Fitzpatrick and I was born in Lowell on October 15, 1948. I went to school at Notre Dame Academy in Tyngsboro. I was born on High Street, and later moved to Fairmount Street, I grew up in Belvidere and have lived there most of my life.

Belvidere was a tremendous place to be a kid. It was a wonderfully warm community. Everyone seemed to know each other. Even today I frequently walk with my friends and I still remember the names of all the folks that owned the homes there in the 50s and 60s. I can do the same on Andover Street. I enjoyed the neighborhood, which included Shedd Park. I associate many wonderful times with Shedd Park: tennis lessons, baseball games, and basketball games, and things like that took place in the



Photo courtesy of  
Matthew Coggins,  
Enterprise Bank



Lowell Cemetery's New Columbarium



park. Most of the kids in Belvidere seemed to congregate there, particularly on the summer nights. I was also able to go to the Vesper country club. My family was not a member of Vesper, but many of my friends were. They had a swimming pool at Vesper and one of the lifeguards was Paul Tsongas. He was seven or eight years older than I was. He might have been seventeen, or eighteen, and I might have been ten or eleven. I had met Paul even earlier when he gave me swimming lessons for a short period of time. I worked with Paul Tsongas later when he was a U.S. Representative on the project to get a national park here in Lowell.

All my life my family was a big deal. My father was one of thirteen children and my mother one of seven children. The whole family lived in Lowell with the exception of one uncle who went to Worcester. Living in Lowell meant to be part of an extended family. It seemed like in so many instances not only were you friends of folks, but you really found in a way you were related. I found myself related to many, many people, and many, many cousins and second cousins, and whatever. We were constantly bumping into folks to whom we were related. I think at one point I had four Aunt Marys and three Uncle Johns, because aunts marry Johns and uncles marry Marys. It was a fun way to grow up and I sometimes regret that my children don't have that type of experience. It was really a great experience and one I get to cherish.

In addition to family, much of my youth revolved around politics. My father's (Samuel S. Pollard) life in politics started innocently. From family tales, my father used to serve as a driver/chauffeur, when he was in law school, for Daniel O'Dea. Mr. O'Dea was on the periphery of politics all of his life. He was basically a Joe Kennedy contemporary, and a very strong early Kennedy supporter. At one point, if I'm not mistaken, my father would drive O'Dea back and forth to political gatherings in Boston. This would have been around 1936-1938. In 1939, father decided to go into politics on his own by running to represent Ward I. With such a large extended family he won. All the cousins and aunts and everyone campaigned for him. He served from 1939 to 1941. At that point he resigned and went into the service for World War II. When he returned from the war, he went back into politics and served on the city council. I was born about a year after he returned.

Later in my life father's time in the service provided me with one of my most cherished moments. One day, Clemie Costello, of the Sun, asked me to come the Sun building. Clemie was somewhat of a reclusive guy, but he always seemed to have a soft spot for me. I think because I grew up as one of his daughter's very close friends on Fairmount Street. When I arrived, he handed me a folder containing cartoons that the SUN ran on their editorial page in 1942 and 1943. My father had sent Christmas greetings from France and from Normandy which had been published in the SUN.

Clemie had the originals that my father had drawn. He said that he had found them in drawer and asked if I would like to have them. It was really, really nice. This was long after my father had passed away and a lot of people were amazed that Clemie was actually a sensitive man. Folks that didn't know him didn't see that side. He disguised it well, but it was awfully nice of him to provide me with my father's artwork.

When my father returned from the War he became a city councilor and served as mayor between 1956 and 1959. One of the early things that I remember him talking about was establishing an industrial park. He felt that Lowell needed to take a lead in technology which at the time (1955-1956) really didn't have a great definition. But really, at its very roots Lowell was a technology leader. The mills were filled with technological innovation as well as the hydro power that, ran the mills. Matching Lowell's technology background was its university and state college. They were diamonds in the community. Educational institutions could be fuel to an Industrial Park. For a long time Dr. Martin Lydon, president of Lowell Tech was our next door neighbor. I remember he and my father talking at great lengths about what a resource the university could be, and has become to the city.

My most personal memory of his commitment and his interest in the city probably would be some of the Friday mornings I spent with him at the railroad station. My father had a tremendous interest in veterans' issues. He was a double purple heart winner himself. On Friday mornings, I would sometimes get up with him at four in the morning. We would go down to the old depot at the Lord Overpass to see the guys going off to the service during the 50s. This would have been the Korean War. He would go down in the morning and say good-bye to them, and give them a key to the city in recognition of their service to the city. He would proudly salute and wish the guys well and "God's speed." I remember the keys, and it has astounded me how many people in my adult life would say to me, "Oh your father saw me off. When I went into the service, your father saw me off."

Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers was a tremendous lady. When my father was mayor, he and Mrs. Rogers would ride in parades together. Corinne Barrett, daughter of Mr. Barrett the city manager, my sister and I would be three little girls riding in the open car with Mrs. Rogers and my father. Mrs. Rogers always was given a bouquet of flowers to hold while she was in these open car parades and many a day Corinne Barrett, my sister, or myself, brought a bunch of flowers home, because Mrs. Rogers would give it to us. She was a true institution and a great lady. I enjoyed the time I spent with her.

In 1966 I got my first job when I was sixteen. I worked for Homer Bourgeois at the Union National Bank. How I got the job is a funny story. My father's entrenchment in the politics of the city certainly didn't hurt my chances of getting this very sought-after

summer job. But in reality, help came from a sister of Notre Dame, at my high school. At that time you had no idea who a sister had been in her past life. They had sacrificed that part of their lives. They just didn't have family identity anymore. So to us students, nuns kind of fell from the trees, you never knew their names, or their families, or whatever. I had told this sister that I was looking for a summer job. Set told me that if I went down to the Union National Bank and saw Miss Labrie, Lucille Labrie, that she thought maybe that there could be a summer job. I went to the bank and Miss Labrie asked me to come back at 9:00 on Monday morning. That Monday morning, I had an interview with Mr. Bourgeois. It turned out that the sister at Notre Dame who referred me to the bank was in fact Mr. Bourgeois own real sister. He was most responsive to the recommendation and one or more students from the academy were hired each year by Union National Bank. I actually worked there for three summers.

Fidel Castro came to Lowell and I think my father was mayor This was before Castro took control of Cuba. He came as a guest of Howard Fitzpatrick then Sheriff of Middlesex County. My father had his picture taken with Castro while he was in Lowell. It always intrigues me when you hear Castro interviewed. He gives you the idea that he doesn't always understand. But Castro went to a Jesuit high school in the Bronx for his freshman year. So Fidel has two sides, the side where he doesn't pretend to know much about the English language, and the other side when he's as sharp as a tack and doesn't miss a word. After Fidel got in, people really saw him for what he was worth and those pictures vanished. No one was at the party. But they did exist but now they're gone! But I think everyone was just horrified by what ensued after Castro gained power.

After high school, I went to Emanuel College for my BA Degree. While in college, I interned in both the House and Senate side of Congress. I was in Senator Kennedy's office on the Senate side, and later worked for about a year and a half in Senator Kennedy's Boston office. On the house side I was with Congressman Philip Philbin. Senator Kennedy had hundreds of interns in his office. Interns out the kazoo. Philbin, on the other hand, was an older gentleman, and there were not a lot of interns. He was on the House Services Committee during Vietnam. Working for Philbin, I had a very in-depth, and hands-on look at the legislative process. I wrote my senior thesis on the legislative process. I certainly didn't agree with all that was going on, but I was really learning. Sometimes it is good to learn not only from the side you agree with, but to learn from the side with which you disagree. I was blessed because he helped me in so many ways. Once I was doing a paper on the FTC and the FCC dispute on the Cigarette Labeling Advertising Act. The issue was whether it was a federal communications issue, or if it was a trade issue. It was quite a heavy political debate in 1969 and 1970. Phil called and told me "Well, I have

somebody you should meet to talk about this issue." So one morning I went to the Metropolitan Club to meet with Representative Emmanuel Celler (D-NY). He was a very powerful ranking member of Congress. He was probably eighty years old. Celler was someone who controlled a good deal of floor legislation and was very influential. That morning Celler provided me information on the Cigarette Labeling dispute and also reminisced back before Franklin Delano Roosevelt. It was really an extremely interesting morning. He had a wonderful perspective of pre-World War II. And when I came back to school and I mentioned that I had talked with Celler, the professor said, "How the hell did you get to interview him?" He just hadn't interviewed with anyone for a couple of years. He was just inaccessible. I told him that Philbin just had me meet the guy for breakfast.

I finished my Masters of Business Administration and Masters of Political Science at Boston College in 1973. After I finished my Masters Degree, I went to work as part of Tom O'Neill's campaign staff in the Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor race. When he was elected in November 1974, I started working full time as an administrative assistant. Tom O'Neill III was the son of U.S. Representative Tip O'Neill. The freshly elected Lieutenant Governor was assigned to Federal State Relations by Governor Dukakis.

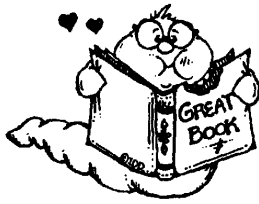
Around that time my uncle Patrick Mogan was promoting his vision of a Lowell Urban National Park. He could envision what could happen if we all worked together putting aside our differences to come up with a plan. He understood that we needed not only a physical park, but we needed the cultural aspect, which was so critical, and the heritage aspects. He felt that they were so interwoven they couldn't be separated. Uncle Pat then found a partner in U.S. Representative Paul Tsongas. Paul understood Mogan's ideas and could in fact implement the idea of a National Park. Tsongas was single minded when he decided that something was very important to his city. Tsongas took Mogan's thoughts, and put these concepts into something he could sell to the rest of the country. Paul had a great charm in being able to convince people that Lowell was different. Lowell was the birthplace of the industrial revolution and a great historical asset to the nation.

I became a small part of this project because Tsongas coordinated the project with Tom O'Neill III as the Massachusetts point-person for Federal-State Relations. It was also fortunate that Tom's father was Majority Leader (Tip O'Neill) in the U.S. Congress. All these things came together under a real push by Paul Tsongas in Congress. I particularly enjoyed it because it was my hometown, it was fun to be assigned tasks in your professional career that you had such a personal interest. That was certainly the Lowell Park story for me. Then when it was funded I enjoyed working in the Congressional Office and later the Senate Office in development of the park.

## FROM THE BOOKSHELF

by Pauline M. Golec

It is gratifying to know that the Society's publications continue to have impact. This past year, I attended two of the UMass Lowell Libraries discussion series featuring books about local history. Two of the books discussed were the Society's own history postcard Books, *Lowell: the Mill City* and *Lowell: the River City* (full disclosure, I along with Lew Karabatsos, Tom Langan, and Martha Mayo wrote these books which were published by Arcadia). Martha Mayo led the first discussion group. Stimulated by the text and images in *Lowell: the Mill City*, attendees shared information about their favorite buildings in Lowell. Carol Drapeau mentioned that she enjoyed the view from the third floor ladies rest room in the Bon Marche in the 50s., as it provided a good look at patrons going into the old Dutch Tea Room on Merrimack Street. Jane Duffley's comments about the Pollard Memorial Library had folks nodding in agreement. Tony Sampas, at a later date, led the discussion about *Lowell: the River City* and added a few humorous touches to Mary Ann Szufnarowski's recollections of the Strand Theater. Each person who attended the series (Dave Paquin, Dracut Historical Society stalwart attended both sessions) offered something and often added to the comments of others.



This past summer, some of our publications were on display at the cultural section of the Lowell Folk Festival. Some lucky festival goers even bought a few at bargain prices.

Finally, in September, *MOURNING GLORY*, Catherine Goodwin's labor of love published by the Society was mentioned in a brief biography about Catherine as she was posthumously honored in the SUN's "Salute to Women" event. Society members may purchase the above books, as well as other publications, at a 10% discount.

## Lowell Trivia

By Martha Mayo

1. Where was the first Greek coffeehouse in Lowell?
2. Which cemetery opened in 1850?
3. What was the name of the first Lowell made airplane?"
4. Nancy Zaroulis wrote what popular novel about Lowell' history?

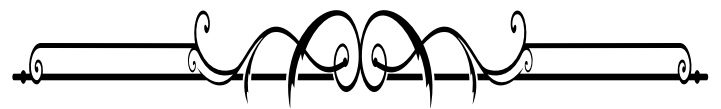
Answers on page 8.

## LHS Corporate Memberships

The Lowell Historical Society proudly acknowledge our 2015 Corporate members who demonstrated their organization's commitment to the preservation of Lowell's past and the dissemination of information to keep Lowell's heritage alive in the future. The following organizations have made this commitment:

**Blue Taleh Restaurant**  
**CARSTAR Atlantic Collision Ctr.**  
**Dr. Evan Coravos, DMD**  
**Enterprise Bank & Trust Co.**  
**Fred C. Church Insurance**  
**Fuse Bistro**  
**Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union**  
**Lowell Five Cent Savings Bank**  
**Lowell Sun Charities, Inc**  
**Morse-Bayliss Funeral Home**  
**Richard Donahue**  
**Washington Savings Bank**  
**Watermark**

We would like to add the listing of your company here in the future.



## Lowell Historical Society Board Members

The current members of the Lowell Historical Society's Board Includes:

Kim Zuniino, Pres.  
 VP vacant  
 Lewis Karabatsos, Treas.  
 Marie Sweeney, Clerk  
 Martha Mayo, Librarian  
 Anthony Sampas, Archivist  
 Walter Hickey, Genealogist  
 Stephanie Donahue

Phil Belanger  
 Pauline Golec  
 Eileen Loucraft  
 Ryan Owen  
 Kathleen Ralls  
 Corey Scuito  
 Cliff Hoyt  
 Gray Fitzsimons



The preservation of Lowell history depends heavily on your membership. If you have not yet sent in your membership renewal, please do so as soon as possible.

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## Lowell Historical Society

The Lowell Historical Society's Mission is to collect, preserve and publish materials related to Lowell and to promote the study of the history of the City. We are located at the Boott Cotton Mills Museum, 115 John Street, Fourth Floor, Downtown Lowell Massachusetts 01852.

The office is open 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Monday. The site telephone number is 978- 970-5180 or on the Web at:

<http://www.lowellhistoricalsociety.org>.

## Center for Lowell History

The Center for Lowell History, 40 French Street, currently is open on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 9-5.

The contact point for information is Martha Mayo, 978-934-4998. The Center's web address is:

<http://library.uml.edu/clh/>.

## Calendar of Events

**Program:** Dedication of the O. M. Whipple Columbarium and Garden of Remembrance. Additionally, the Historical Society will host an exhibition of Lowell Cemetery-related artifacts and ephemera onsite in the Talbot Chapel.

**Date:** Dedication is Saturday October 17, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. (Access to the artifacts and ephemera will be one hour before and after the dedication.)

**Location:** Lowell Cemetery, 77 Knapp Ave, Lowell, MA 01852

### Answers to Trivia Questions

1) Market St., 2) Lowell Cemetery, 3) "The City of Lowell", and *Call The Darkness Light*

