

## Lisa Caputo

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Traxler of Michigan. She then went on to direct the national issues office for the Dukakis campaign in 1988, returning to Traxler's office when her candidate lost the election. She moved to the press office of Sen. Tim Wirth, Colorado, and when Wirth decided not to seek office again, she was recommended by a friend to the Clintons.

Caputo joined up during the 1992 Democratic convention and was soon named press secretary for Mrs. Clinton, where she's remained ever since. That offers plenty of fulfillment, but hasn't erased her fondness for the Back Mountain. The daughter of A. Richard Caputo and Rosemary Shea Caputo of Druid Hills in Shavertown, Lisa grew up with a brother, A. Richard Jr., and sister Christina. They're no slouches in the achievement department either; he's an investment banker in New York and she's a teacher and budding children's book author living in Denver.

Holidays usually bring a visit home, and a new attraction — the Huntsville Golf Club, of which her father is a founding member — feeds her love for golf. "I miss the wonderful quality of life in Dallas," Caputo said, partly because outdoor activities are a passion. A field hockey player at Wyoming Seminary, she played that sport and lacrosse in college, and now enjoys tennis, biking and hiking the Blue Ridge mountains west of Washington.

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Lisa Caputo, on the Clintons

She credits Hillary Clinton with allowing her to have a life outside of work, no matter how important the job is. "The First Lady is really wonderful about seeing her staff has balanced lives," she said, adding that Mrs. Clinton also enjoys hearing about what's going on outside the White House. "It comes down to maintaining your priorities," Caputo said.

She lives in an apartment in Arlington, Virginia, just across the Potomac from D.C., and says she has time for personal relationships, though she didn't want to be more specific.

The European trip will highlight Mrs. Clinton's role of "good-will ambassador," Caputo said. It's meant to show support for U.S. troops and their families, and will include visits to Greece and Turkey, as an encouragement to emerging democracies. In this centennial Olympic year, she said the stop in Greece is "our way of paying tribute to the Greeks," who were the progenitors of both modern democracy and the principle of peaceful competition embodied in the games.

While the nastiness of attacks on them surprised the Clintons, Caputo said it hasn't dimmed their inherent optimism. "They see the glass half full," she said. "They're both still feeling idealistic and optimistic. That's the kind of people they are."

While it is obvious that Mrs. Clinton was especially shocked by the speed and depth of attacks on the First Family, Caputo gives the Clintons credit for protecting their daughter Chelsea from intrusions. "They've managed to do an incredible job protecting their daughter's privacy," she said.

Caputo shows some political skill of her own when asked about the Washington press corps. There are "a lot of first rate reporters," she says, declining to name names of especially good or bad ones. She still has great interest in journalism; "I still read papers and watch television with an analytical eye," she says, and believes journalists play an important role in democracy. So, would she head back in that direction some day? She's not sure.

Nor is Caputo certain she would return to her post should the Clintons remain in the White House after November, and ask her to join them. "I wanted to serve, and give back to my country," Caputo says of her years near the top of government, and feels fortunate to have done so. "It's been an incredible four years," she says.

# U.S. Army Corps of Engineers puts hold on outlet dredging

By GRACE R. DOVE  
Post Staff

**HARVEYS LAKE** — After receiving a green light to dredge Harveys Creek to alleviate flooding of nearby residents' yards and Outlet Drive, the council received word at their March 19 meeting that the federal government has done an abrupt about-face.

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore district, wrote the council that it denied the permit on the advice of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service because it isn't convinced there is a flooding problem along the creek.

The FWS is also concerned about the loss of a wetland habitat which it says is important for 50 migratory ducks.

"I don't think there are 50 ducks down there," said councilman William Wilson.

According to Tom Doughton of Michael J. Pasonick Engineering, the Corps of Engineers won't issue the dredging permit unless the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service approves it — even if the state Department of Environmental Protection okays the project.

"The state cannot override the Corps of Engineers," he said.

Doughton will contact the Corps to find out what they recommend the borough do to alleviate the flooding.

The council unanimously authorized Doughton to write the engineering studies and advertise for bids to repair the winter storm damage to Carrie, Maple, Ash, Pine, Oak, Pine and Park streets.

With Ed Kelly casting the only dissenting vote, the council also voted to hire James Klimovich as a part-time patrolman at \$7 per hour, pending his passing physical and psychological tests. He will work on a probationary status for one year, after which the borough will reimburse him for his uniform.

"I didn't meet or interview him," Kelly said. "I can't vote on someone I don't know."

Solicitor Charles McCormick reported that the borough's case against Creative Rooms, operated by Mark Sopp on Route 415, has been settled. Sopp will remove the business before July 1 and pay the borough \$2,000, approximately 95 percent of the legal fees it incurred in the suit against

him. Codes enforcement officer Paul Grimes had cited Sopp for manufacturing custom kitchen counters in a district not zoned for it.

In other business, the council unanimously voted to join the Back Mountain Road Materials Purchasing Cooperative, designated council president Francis Kopko to handle all state and federal reimbursement for flood and blizzard damages and approved the request of Betty Jane West on behalf of the GFWC Harveys Lake to use the borough building as a drop-off point for the club's collection of white socks, personal care items, baby wipes and nonperishable food for the American soldiers serving in Bosnia.

## Flooding

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The biologists also believe any insect problems which residents have complained about would become worse because many insect predators, including frogs, birds, fish and other wildlife species, could be evicted by the dredging.

"That's bull!" said Laurie Knauer, whose yard has been under water numerous times, courtesy of Harveys Creek. "All that's in my yard is water and insects. My children can't go outside and play. The beavers will never leave — the area is a natural

habitat for them." Although the Corps of Engineers claims there aren't enough residents affected by the flooding to warrant dredging the creek, Knauer reminded the council that she gave them a petition containing 65 signatures asking the borough for help with the water problem.

The Fish and Wildlife Service and the Corps of Engineers blame the bridge culvert under the Outlet Drive bridge for the flooding and suggest it be excavated instead.

## Kanjorski

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is the time to be a risk taker," he said, and listed various projects — complete or in-process — that he hopes will bring revival.

One pet project, a lake in the Wyoming Valley created by an inflatable dam across the Susquehanna River, is designed to make the region more attractive to forward-thinking companies whose workforce rates quality of life a high priority. The dam would be a signal to these companies that this area is prepared to work with them toward a brighter future.

Kanjorski said the city of Tempe, Arizona has just committed to a similar project and it has attracted \$1.3 billion in private development commitments along its shores.

On the finished side, Kanjorski points to the new Social Security building in the East Mountain Corporate Center as an example of the growth that can be spurred by government investment.

Growth must be controlled and balanced, Kanjorski said, by solid planning, and that hasn't been a strong point in this region. With hundreds of separate municipalities, anyone planning a large project must deal with an over-

## Career Network to meet March 28

St. Therese's Career Networking, a job search support group, invites those seeking employment in all job fields and levels, part- or full-time, those who are at job/career transition points in their lives and anyone wishing or needing to learn more about the current employment scene to a program March 28 at Father Sammons' Hall in the lower level of St. Therese's Church on Pioneer Ave.

Carolyn Grant, training manager at NatWest, will discuss "Employment Challenges in 1996."

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whelming number of zoning offices and other local officials. "We need to focus on a planned, controlled change," he said. The Earth Conservancy, with its 17,000 acres of open land, can help because areas of development can be limited and sensibly located within it, he said.

Ultimately, Kanjorski sees economic development transforming the region, as high-tech companies train and employ local people in good-paying jobs, while attracting thousands of new residents.

While critics complain about Kanjorski's lack of communication, he cites numerous examples of cooperation with educational

and business leaders, who share his enthusiasm for northeastern Pennsylvania's potential. He says he has a good relationship with Gov. Tom Ridge, with whom he served on a House committee, and has met with him to describe his vision and the help that will be needed from the state.

Kanjorski and others are now working on a "marketing and planning center" for communities within a 30-mile radius of Wilkes-Barre, so that developers can have a single source for all the information they need to make decisions about plant locations and living areas for employees. The Congressman expects the center to be bustling with activity soon.

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