

field hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held in Twin Falls, Idaho at the College of Southern Idaho in the Fine Arts Auditorium on Monday, February 16, 1998 at 9:00 a.m. The College of Southern Idaho is located at 315 Falls Ave., Twin Falls, Idaho.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on the management of the Sawtooth National Forest Recreation Area.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. For further information, please call Bill Lange or Mark Rey at (202) 224-6170.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. KYL. Mr. President: I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that an oversight hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources to receive testimony on the implementation by the Northwest Power Planning Council of the 1996 amendment to the Northwest Power Planning Act requiring accountability in and scientific peer review of projects to be funded through the Bonneville Power Administration's annual fish and wildlife budget.

The hearing will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 17, 1998 in the Lecture Hall of Washington State University, 14204 NE Salmon Creek Avenue, Vancouver, Washington.

Persons interested in testifying or submitting material for the record should contact Betty Nevitt of the Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-0765 or write to the Subcommittee on Water and Power, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that an oversight hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Tuesday, February 24, 1998 at 2:00 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on the visitor center and museum facilities project at Gettysburg National Military Park.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony of the Sub-

committee on National Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Jim O'Toole of the Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-5161.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, the Finance Committee requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, January 28, 1998 beginning at 10:00 a.m. in room 215 Dirksen.

Also hearing on confirmation on pending nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 28, 1998, in open session, to receive testimony on the report and recommendations of the National Defense.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 28, 1998 at 9:30 a.m. to hold an open hearing and at 2:30 to hold a closed hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NOMINATION OF JUDGE ANN AIKEN FOR THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

• Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, President Clinton's nomination for the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon, Judge Ann Aiken, came before this body this afternoon. Mr. President, I was unavoidably absent for the vote, but I would like the record to reflect that I would have voted "no."

I commend my colleague from Wyoming, Senator MIKE ENZI, for closely scrutinizing this nomination and reporting to us some alarming rulings on the part of Judge Aiken which illustrate flaws in her judicial philosophy. For example, as Senator ENZI has noted, Judge Aiken, while a Oregon state court judge, sentenced a 26-year-old man convicted of the first degree rape of a 5-year-old girl to a mere ninety days in jail. Ninety days? A petty thief gets more than ninety days. This man raped a little girl. According to local papers, Judge Aiken justified her minimal sentence by citing a lack of treatment programs for sex offenders in Oregon's state prisons.

Mr. President, this case, along with a history of similar rulings, reveals a grave misunderstanding in Judge Aiken's judicial outlook and a proclivity to side with criminals. Once again, the President has offered this body a judicial nominee more interested in defending the rights of criminals than protecting those of victims. How much longer will he continue to nominate Federal judges who ignore the safety and well-being of our communities?•

IN RECOGNITION OF ART VANELSLANDER

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to commend one of Michigan's foremost business leaders, Mr. Art VanElslander, for his service as chairman of the successful Society of St. Vincent DePaul Capital Campaign.

Mr. VanElslander is well-known throughout Michigan as the Chairman and CEO of Art Van Furniture, Michigan's largest furniture retailer and the sixth largest furniture retailer in the United States. Business success has enabled Mr. VanElslander to pursue his commitment to community service and philanthropy and benefit thousands of people. His involvement with the St. Vincent DePaul Capital Campaign is a prime example of his dedication and commitment.

In 1995, just before Christmas, a fire destroyed the St. Vincent DePaul warehouse which served needy residents of the metropolitan Detroit area. The fire led to an outpouring of donations of clothing, bedding and toys from thousands of people in Metro Detroit. With those immediate needs met, thanks to the generosity of the community, the Society of St. Vincent DePaul began a fundraising campaign to meet their long-term needs—replacing the warehouse and building the St. Vincent DePaul Service Center, which would provide job training and employment placement, transitional child care for those enrolled in programs at the Center, a non-acute health care clinic, a resale thrift shop and an emergency food depot. To raise the \$3.75 million needed to fund these projects, the Society of St. Vincent DePaul asked Mr. VanElslander to chair the campaign.

Mr. VanElslander not only provided the leadership and spirit needed to successfully raise the money, but he pledged to match up to \$500,000 in donations. His commitment to this campaign is a natural expression of his desire to help the less fortunate members of his community.

Mr. President, we all benefit from the attention and energy of leaders like Mr. VanElslander. By helping those in need, they improve the strengthen the entire community. I hope my colleagues will join me in commending Mr. Art VanElslander for his generosity and for his leadership of the Society of St. Vincent DePaul Capital Campaign.•