

BALLARD DELIGHTS



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DINING > E5

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2017

The Seattle Times

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Inslee signs order on immigration

Governor limits state's role in enforcing Trump policies

By JOSEPH O'SULLIVAN
Seattle Times Olympia bureau

OLYMPIA — In his latest salvo against the Trump administration's policies, Gov. Jay Inslee on Thursday signed an executive order aimed at restricting state workers and agencies from helping enforce federal immigration laws.

The order is part of an effort by Inslee and other Democrats to hinder President Donald Trump's ag-

gressive moves against immigrants who entered the country illegally.

It remains to be seen if the order — which seeks to prevent the use of state resources to aid widespread deportations or the creation of a national Muslim registry — will have any concrete effects.

The order will not change current practices of the Washington State Patrol or

See > INSLEE, A10



TED S. WARREN / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gov. Jay Inslee signed an order to ensure state workers don't help carry out the president's immigration policies.

Trump, his officials give Mexico divergent messages

By JOSH LEDERMAN
The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — In the White House, President Donald Trump was telling U.S. chief executives Thursday that the days of being treated unfairly by Mexico — on trade, on immigration, on crime — were over.

"You see what's happening at the border: All of a sudden for the first time, we're getting gang members out," Trump said, referring to his instructions to step up deportations of unauthorized immigrants. "And it's a military operation."

See > TRUMP, A9

WEAKENED Dems opt for total war on Trump > A3

CONFERENCE security boots out white-nationalist leader Richard Spencer > A5

Swedish town pitches taking a paid break for sex

By DAN BILEFSKY
AND CHRISTINA ANDERSON
The New York Times

A local official in Sweden has a novel proposal to improve work-life balance and lift the local birthrate: give municipal employees an hourlong paid break each week to go home and have sex.

Sweden is already celebrated for its generous welfare state, including 480 days of paid parental leave, universal health care and a common ritual of coffee and pastry, known as fika, which is considered sacrosanct.

Per-Erik Muskos, 42, a councilman from the northern town of Overtornea, wants to add to those benefits, by offering the municipality's 550 employees the right to subsidized sex. In introducing his proposal this week, he told fellow members of the town council that it would give a nudge to the dwindling local population, add spice to aging marriages and improve employee morale.

The idea quickly got attention all over Sweden, where for at least some, it was a welcome distraction from President Donald Trump's vague reference to problems the country was having with immigration, problems strongly denied by baffled Swedes.

Noting that "sex is also a great form of exercise and has documented positive effects on well-being," Muskos suggested local municipal employees could use an hour of the workweek already allotted for fitness activities to go home and have sex with their spouses or partners instead. The motion, which is expected to be voted on in the spring, needs a simple majority to be passed by the 31-member council.

Opinion on the council is divided.

"We should encourage procreation. I believe that sex is often in short supply. Everyday life is stressful, and the children are at home," Muskos explained in his motion in Overtornea, a town of about 4,500 in the picturesque

See > SWEDEN, A7

Sewage keeps residents out of homes

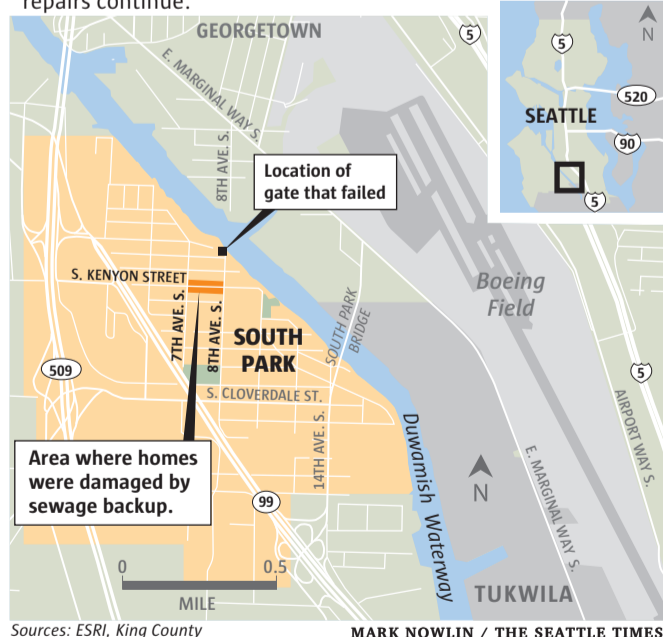


ERIKA SCHULTZ / THE SEATTLE TIMES

South Park resident Nino Cantu stands inside the basement of his home damaged by sewage. The walls had to be gutted back to the studs some 2 feet up from the floor. Cantu's 18-year-old son was about to move in downstairs.

Homes flooded with raw sewage in South Park

A gate failed in a King County sewer pipe, causing sewage to back up into 11 homes and displacing 24 residents the county put up in hotels. Only two have been able to return home as repairs continue.



Sources: ESRI, King County MARK NOWLIN / THE SEATTLE TIMES

GATE FAILS ON OVERFLOW PIPE, DISPLACING 24 PEOPLE

Heavy rain Feb. 9 also damaged West Point treatment plant

By LYNDA V. MAPES
Seattle Times environment reporter

Nino Cantu thought he was going to be putting a coat of fresh paint on the walls in his finished basement. But instead the downstairs is so damaged by raw sewage he can't stay at his house.

His was one of 11 homes swamped by a sewage backup Feb. 9 that displaced 24 residents after a gate malfunctioned on a King County sewer overflow pipe.

The gate was supposed to open to allow sewage and stormwater to overflow into the Duwamish River in South Park. But the gate didn't open, and the sewage instead backed up through drains and toilets into the homes, in some cases more than a foot up the wall.

The sewage backup was just part of the mayhem during heavy rain that day.

The West Point treatment plant in the early-morning hours also sustained catastrophic damage when

power failed to pumps carrying effluent from the plant, causing it to back up into the facility and flood the plant, damaging electric panels, pumps and other equipment.

It likely will be months before the plant is back in proper working order, said Robert Waddle, operations and maintenance section manager for King County Wastewater. Repairs and cleaning are expected to cost tens of millions of dollars.

Work is underway 24 hours a day, with dozens of specialized workers and hazardous-materials crews.

Meanwhile in South Park, residents have been put up in hotels since the

See > SOUTH PARK, A6

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