

# Chesterfield Observer

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## Porn & Pancakes

Ash Daniel/Chesterfield Observer

### Forum goes under the sheets to look at pornography

By Donna C. Gregory  
NEWS EDITOR

Sex is everywhere these days – primetime television, the Internet, on magazine covers at the grocery store checkout, even in the veiled innuendos of Disney movies – and now it's headed for previously taboo territory: church.

This weekend, men from across the Richmond metro are invited to merge two of their biggest turn-ons – sex and food – during Porn & Pancakes, a breakfast-time forum that will look at the impact of pornography on society and male-female relationships. The event is sponsored by New Venture Christian Church, also known as relaxedchurch.com, and will bring in speakers from XXXchurch.com, billed as the “No. 1 Christian porn site.” Created in 2002 in Grand

Rapids, Mich., XXXchurch.com is a national nonprofit that's trying to bring awareness to the high financial, emotional and spiritual costs of porn.

“[Porn & Pancakes] is kind of a cutting-edge terminology that to some people brings a bit of shock and awe that the church has the audacity to deal with pornography. In Christianity, sometimes the things we don't talk about the most are the things we struggle with the most,” explained Jason Harper from XXXchurch.com.

Harper will be one of the key speakers at Porn & Pancakes, which will be held this Saturday at Midlothian Middle School, beginning with breakfast at 8 a.m. He will be joined by Donny Pauling, a former porn producer who will reveal a behind-the-scenes look at the adult film industry.

According to Family Safe Media, pornography generated \$97 billion in worldwide revenues last year. More interesting statistics: more than 28,000 Internet users are viewing pornography every second, and a new adult video is created in the U.S. every 39 minutes.

“[The effect of pornography] is such an epidemic, and it's an epidemic people don't want to talk about. For too long we've been willing to just hide our head in the sand and not tackle the issue that there's an elephant in the room,” continued Steve Thornton, New Venture's lead pastor.

In decades past, people had to drive to their neighborhood convenience store to purchase adult magazines hidden in blacked-out

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### Fewer students leads to funding shortfall



Lisa Billings/Chesterfield Observer

Students file into Grange Hall Elementary School for another day of classes.

By Donna C. Gregory  
NEWS EDITOR

Chesterfield County Public Schools (CCPS) could lose millions of dollars in state funding, based on its latest enrollment figures. According to data recently submitted to the Virginia Department of Education, county classrooms grew by another 487 students this year, but that's al-

most 600 students less than what the school system had predicted. As of Sept. 30, there are 58,415 students attending county schools including 352 governor's school students.

CCPS had estimated student enrollment to increase 1,076 students to 59,004 this year. On average, county schools typically grow by

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### County set to review growth policies in '08

By Greg Pearson  
STAFF WRITER

With Election Day just four weeks away, the county government is already anticipating possible changes in how it manages growth. Though the new board won't be seated until January, higher-ups in the county government including County Administrator Jay Stegmaier, Deputy County Administrator Pete Smith and Planning Director

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Ash Daniel/Chesterfield Observer

Superintendent Chris Fisher helps build a new home in Glenmore Village.

# County changes tune on phosphorous recommendations

By Greg Pearson  
STAFF WRITER

A proposed land use plan for the upper Swift Creek area that previously recommended phosphorous runoff be limited to .16 pounds annually for commercial development has been changed to .45 pounds, the current standard imposed in a 1997 ordinance.

The Chesterfield Board of Supervisors will consider the revised staff plan this week.

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Kirk Turner are already planning a review of Chesterfield's growth management practices next year. Stith oversees the departments of planning, transportation and environmental engineering.

"What we're hearing from the public and candidates [for the board of supervisors] is a tremendous concern about growth management," said Turner. "With a new board we expect to be asked to take a hard look at our practices and procedures. We'll be evaluating our whole approach, sitting down with board members, the school board and planning commission and the public to have a frank discussion about what this county wants to be."

"We think we have to do some things differently...including some of the things the candidates are saying about growth and infrastructure," said Stith. "It'll be a comprehensive evaluation." Stith declined to elaborate.

Growth - specifically residential growth - is not a new county issue. Citizen surveys conducted every two years have shown growth as a top issue, but citizens have also given the

The standard of .16 remains for residential development, down from .22 in the current ordinance. The .16 standard is considered to be "no net increase," meaning phosphorous runoff would be the same as if no development was on the property.

When the planning commission forwarded the plan with a negative recommendation last August to the board, the commissioners doubted .16 could be attained for commercial development due to the amount of impervious

surfaces such as rooftops and parking lots that create runoff. Experts in the field have expressed the same concerns.

In deciding the issue this week, the board will also determine where the boundaries for the deferred growth area should be. The staff's plan sets aside 4,900 acres as a deferred growth area - meaning no development can occur in that area until sometime in the future. Some property owners in that area object to the provision, saying the plan violates their

property rights.

The commission also attached a recommendation that would make rezonings more difficult by factoring in standards for roads and schools. The road standard would calculate safety based on the kind of road, traffic counts and type of road shoulders and would be overseen by the county's transportation department. The county would also be able to deny a rezoning if any of the impacted schools exceed 120 percent of student capacity.

county high marks for quality of life. What appears to be new is that more candidates for supervisor are questioning how the county is managing residential growth. The county has been increasing its population at 2.5 percent annually.

And with at least two new supervisors on next year's board, that could change the board's philosophy. Supervisors Renny Humphrey (Matoaca) and Dickie King (Bermuda) are not seeking re-election. Their votes on some rezonings have been criticized.

Residential growth has pushed its way even further ahead of other issues because of timing. There are two very large growth issues on the horizon - the rezoning of Roseland and the review of the Upper Swift Creek Plan.

On Oct. 16, the planning commission is expected to take up the Roseland rezoning, which includes 5,140 new homes at the intersection of Route 288 and Woolridge Road.

This week, the supervisors could decide what to do about the Upper Swift Creek Plan, effectively determining how many homes can

be built in the area that drains to the Swift Creek Reservoir.

Late last month, Humphrey and King formed the majority vote to approve rezoning for Branner Station, a 4,998-home development located near Chester. Dale Supervisor Kelly Miller voted against it while supervisors Don Sowder (Midlothian) and Art Warren (Clover Hill) abstained. Sowder and Warren wanted the case deferred for more study. If either had voted against it, the vote would have been 2-2 with one abstention, putting off another vote until this month.

"These matters, coming when they do, are bad timing," said one county staffer who declined to be named. "Branner Station and Roseland are good cases when some of the earlier, smaller rezonings were not, but [to the citizens], it's cumulative."

Both Stith and Turner were guarded in their responses about next year's review. Asked if it would be focused on roads and schools, "We'll look at all the issues," replied Turner.

While many residents simply want to halt growth until road improvements are made and

classroom trailers disappear, several county leaders, including the county attorney, have said state law doesn't allow a moratorium on residential rezonings.

By a 3-1 vote last July, the commission added language to the Upper Swift Creek Plan that would make rezonings more difficult by factoring in standards for roads and schools. The road standards, which would be overseen by the county's transportation department, would calculate safety based on the kind of road, traffic counts and type of road shoulders. The Adequate School Facility standard would authorize the county to deny a rezoning if any of the impacted schools would exceed 120 percent of student capacity. A rezoning would pass this test if the impacted school fell below 120 percent because of a school addition or redistricting (including a new school) within one year of the rezoning.

Planning Commission Chairman Dan Gecker said then these plan additions were modeled after language in ordinances now in use in Virginia Beach and Chesapeake with the "state Attorney General's opinion that they were legally enforceable."

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