

Fluvanna

REVIEW

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GENERAL

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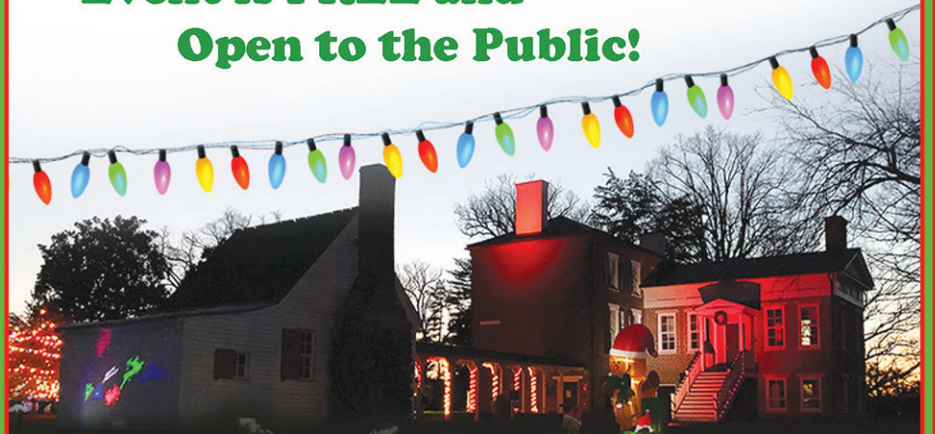
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Obituary

Doris Inez Hughes Hollis

Sister of Mozell H. Booker



Doris Inez Hughes was born on September 4, 1932 to her parents, Allen Shannon Hughes and Harriett Lee Garland Hughes, at their home in Fork Union, VA. Doris attended Dunbar Rosenwald School on Mountain Hill Road in 1941 and graduated from S.C. Abrams High School in 1950.

At a young age, because she did not like that her father did not attend church, she convinced him to come to Sunday school with her at Thessalonia Baptist Church. He continued coming to church and in his later years, he became a minister and pastored several churches.

Doris attended Virginia State College for one year. After leaving college, Doris worked for the C.F. Sauer Company's family. She had a funny story about flying to Reno Nevada with the family on a propeller plane. She did not like the high altitude and mountains. They sent her back to Richmond on the bus.

She left the Sauer job, and moved to Philadelphia. She went to Dental Hygienist School, but it was almost impossible to get a job in that field.

While living in Philadelphia, she met her husband, William Alva Hollis. They married at her home in Fork Union on August 3, 1958. Doris and Alva moved to Wilmington, Delaware and had their first child, Stacey, who was born with special needs. Her second daughter Lisa and her third child, a son Cyrus, was born.

She was the best cook, always concerned about cooking fresh and healthy food. A caravan of cars from Virginia and DC would find their way to Delaware to have our family Thanksgiving dinner at Doris' house.

Later they moved to Montgomery County in Maryland because of their outstanding reputation of caring for special needs children.

Doris departed her life at the Adventist Health Care Shady Grove Medical Center in Rockville, Maryland on November 12, 2021. She leaves her husband Alva; daughters Lisa and Stacey; son Cyrus (Ina); granddaughters Jewell, Jordyn, and Nyree; three sisters Margie, Geraldine, and Mozell and a brother Steven. She is survived by an aunt, Edith, and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins. Doris truly loved her family.

Letters to the editor

More members better

I would like to weigh in on the debate currently being discussed regarding redistricting here in Fluvanna. From my vantage point, the board would benefit from the addition of new members and give added counsel to the decisions that impact our community. There would

likely be added costs with redistricting, but I feel the expenses would be off set by the benefits these new members would provide to the board. Thank you for an opportunity to speak to issues that impact Fluvanna.

-Cole Hanner, Lake Monticello

Six districts cost taxpayers

On Nov. 17, three of the members of the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors voted to expand the number of districts in Fluvanna County from five to six. Don Weaver (Cunningham), Trish Eager (Palmyra) and Mike Sheridan (Columbia) are in favor of increasing the cost and size of government.

The Board's legal counsel, Fred Payne, advised against increasing the size of government to minimize the possibility of a lawsuit. Weaver, Sheridan and Eager should listen to their lawyer. A lawsuit will cost us, the taxpayers.

The Commonwealth of Virginia is still working on the state's redistricting, which may force Fluvanna to redraw the new district lines. The BOS should delay any decision until after the state announces its redistricting plan. The work to redraw the

lines will cost us, the taxpayers.

Six districts will cost the taxpayers an estimated \$70,000 per year. Redistricting is for ten years. Do the math. This is a significant amount to us, the taxpayers.

Six districts will inevitably lead to tie votes on important county matters with no action being taken. When Fluvanna County had six districts in the past, delays in action came at a considerable cost to us, the taxpayers.

Staying with five districts is the best option for the taxpayers of Fluvanna County. There are no significant new or ongoing costs to the taxpayers. Potential legal challenges will be minimized.

The Board of Supervisors represents us, the taxpayers. Please let your Supervisor know to stay with five districts.

-Valerie Palamountain, Palmyra

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Dr. Douglas Weiss & Dr. Victoria Molnar Weiss
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RUDY TALKS TAXES

BY RUDY GARCIA, OWNER, RIVANNA WOODS FINANCIAL / TAX SERVICES

Tax Facts - 2 Year Comparison

Here's a quick review of some of the tax changes you'll see from 2020 to 2021 as a result of inflation adjustments and new tax laws.

Provision	2021	2020	+/-
Business equipment Sec. 179 expensing deduction	\$1,050,000	\$1,040,000	+\$10,000
Total purchase limit for full Sec. 179 expensing deduction	\$2,620,000	\$2,590,000	+\$30,000
Standard mileage rate: business	56¢ per mile	57.5¢ per mile	-1.5¢
Standard mileage rate: medical/moving	16¢ per mile	17¢ per mile	-1.0¢
Mileage rate: charitable activity	14¢ per mile	14¢ per mile	nc
Maximum wages subject to social security tax	\$142,800	\$137,700	+\$5,100

Social security earnings limit

- Under full retirement age	\$18,960	\$18,240	+\$720
- Full retirement age	No limit	No limit	nc
Top estate tax rate	40%	40%	nc
Annual gift tax exclusion (per donee)	\$15,000	\$15,000	nc

Alternative minimum tax exemption

- Single	\$73,600	\$72,900	+\$700
- Married, joint	\$114,600	\$113,400	+\$1,200
- Married, separate	\$57,300	\$56,700	+\$600

Maximum retirement plan contributions

- IRA for those under age 50	\$6,000	\$6,000	nc
- IRA for those 50 and over	\$7,000	\$7,000	nc
- SIMPLE plan for those under age 50	\$13,500	\$13,500	nc
- SIMPLE plan for those 50 and over	\$16,500	\$16,500	nc
- 401(k) plan for those under age 50	\$19,500	\$19,500	nc
- 401(k) plan for those 50 and over	\$26,000	\$26,000	nc

FICA & self-employment tax

Taxable wages for Social Security/Medicare	Up to \$142,800	Up to \$137,700	+\$5,100
Social Security/Medicare tax rate			
- Employees	7.65%	7.65%	nc
- Employers	7.65%	7.65%	nc
- Self-employed	15.3%	15.3%	nc

Standard deduction

- Single	\$12,550	\$12,400	+\$150
- Joint returns & surviving spouses	\$25,100	\$24,800	+\$300
- Married filing separately	\$12,550	\$12,400	+\$150
- Head of household	\$18,800	\$18,650	+\$150
- Additional for elderly or blind (married)	\$1,350	\$1,300	+\$50
- Additional for elderly or blind (single)	\$1,700	\$1,650	+\$50

As always, if you have questions, please give us a call for a no-cost initial consultation. We love helping folks understand their tax situation better!

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Village Gardens fails to win rezoning fight

BY HEATHER MICHON
CORRESPONDENT

A long-running drama came to an end at the Planning Commission on Tuesday night (Dec. 7), as commissioners voted 5-0 to deny a rezoning request for the controversial Village Gardens housing development.

This was the third time since Sept. 14 that the commission had devoted almost a full meeting to Village Gardens. Southern Development had managed to delay the final vote -- which from the beginning seemed likely to end in defeat -- with first a 90-day deferral, then a 30-day delay.

In a dramatic twist, Tuesday's hearing opened with the news that Southern Development was no longer in charge of the project.

Jeremy Swink of Stanley Martin Homes told the commission that they were "partnering" with South-

ern Development on Village Gardens -- although the term "partnership" seemed somewhat loose.

"We've reached an agreement to purchase the property, and not only develop, but also build the homes," said Swink.

He said Stanley Martin Homes had been watching the project since it was proposed earlier this year and had been actively involved for about a month and a half.

Swink highlighted a number of changes his team had made in the effort to "make a better project than what was initially put forth," he said.

The new plan called for 325 homes, a 10 percent reduction from the original concept. At least 35 percent of units would be single-level and geared towards older, "move-down" buyers who presumably wouldn't contribute children to the county school system.

Buffers between Village Gardens and surrounding properties were made wider. Streets were made wider, and more parking areas were added.

An access point between Village Gardens and Lake Monticello was removed, and the end of Garden Lane was turned into a cul-de-sac.

With residents at the Villages at Nahor concerned new residents might detour through their neighborhood, Swink unveiled a new entrance design that would block any attempt to take that kind of shortcut.

A 9,000-square foot retail space envisioned in the original plan was largely deleted, although three acres would be available for commercial sale.

And then came what was meant to be the real sweetener.

Swink said their analysis of VDOT's recent traffic studies showed that there had been 18 accidents around Lake Monticello's nearby Monish Gate. Cars turning left into the gate are a well-known cause of traffic back-ups on Rt. 53 during peak hours.

His company was in the process of finalizing the purchase of 1.3 acres of land across from the gate and planned to invest \$1.6 million dollars to work with VDOT in the construction of a left-turn lane into Monish and other improvements on that stretch of 53.

"My approach was that maybe I would have more impact by making significant off-site improvements versus removing trips because I think the magnitude of what we're proposing offsite far exceeds the impact

of removing maybe 50 homes," Swink said.

But none of these changes assuaged the concerns of the commissioners over traffic impacts, stormwater management, and water infrastructure.

Public pressure against the project, particularly from Lake Monticello residents, has been intense. At one point, a commissioner asked that the audience be polled to see if there was anyone there in support of Village Gardens. No hands were raised. Public comments lasted for well over an hour.

At one point, Chair Barry Bibb asked Swink if he could come up with any "positive benefits" to the community from the project. Swink cited his commitment to investing in improvements at Monish Gate and the general idea that "people become friends with neighbors."

"I don't think the property is ready," said Commissioner Gequetta Murray-Key. "We have been giving and giving the opportunity to present the information that we're looking for to make an informed decision."

Murray-Key made the motion to deny the rezoning request, which passed by a vote of 5-0.

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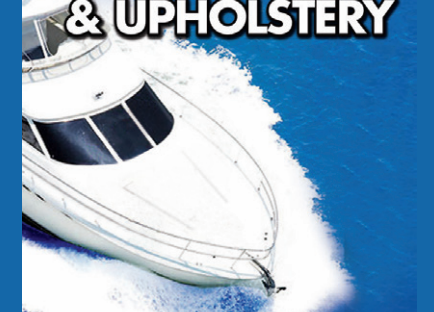
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Please know that as we join Commonwealth Dentistry, everything else remains the same. You will continue to visit the same doctor, same office, same hours, and the same staff you've enjoyed. However, if you wish to have your patient records transferred to another provider, please submit your request to email: patientcare@commonwealth-dentistry.com and copies of your records will be sent to the provider of your choice at no charge.

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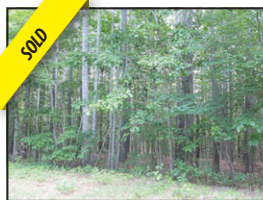
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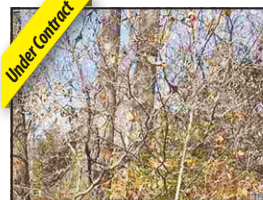
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18 Sand Trap Ter. Lot \$68,000



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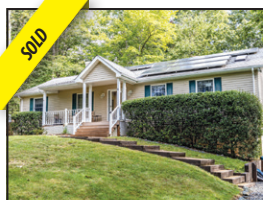
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The Fluvanna SPCA will be closed to the public until further notice. We are trying to do our part to help cut down on the spread of COVID-19, and with our animals' and employees' best interests in mind we are trying to reduce foot traffic to help keep our employees healthy. The animals at the shelter will continue to receive wonderful care just as they normally do, so no need to worry. If you are interested in adopting or if you would like to drop off donations during this time that we are closed to the public, you can make an appointment to do so by contacting our shelter manager: manager@fspca.org. We appreciate your understanding and support during this difficult time for everyone, and we will be sure to keep you updated as soon as we will be open again to the public.

THIS WEEK'S PET: TROY

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Holiday gift from school board

BY RUTHANN CARR
CORRESPONDENT

At its meeting Wednesday (Dec. 8) the Fluvanna County School Board voted to give staff and students an early Christmas gift: three days off.

Superintendent Peter Gretz said Dec. 20, 21 and 22 were scheduled as school days, but he suggested adding them to the holiday vacation.

Gretz said giving that time off to students and 10-month contract staff could be in recognition of how difficult the school year has been.

Discussing the proposal, Andrew Pullen (Columbia) said he'd like to extend it to all staff.

Board Chair Perrie Johnson (Fork Union) said staff and teachers hired under a 10-month contract don't get nearly the amount of paid holidays as year-round staff.

"But haven't 12-month employees had a difficult year?" said James Kelley (Palmyra).

Pullen said, "I agree with Dr. Kelley."

Acknowledging the rare moment of consensus, Pullen said, "Capture this moment."

The Board voted unanimously to grant all staff those three extra paid days off. Students will return from break on Jan. 5.

Charles Rittenhouse (Cunningham) did not attend the meeting.

During his superintendent's report, Gretz said more students are attending the new, after-school tutoring and remediation sessions.

Attendance is hovering around 90 percent, he said.

There is a small group of students at each grade level who are not engaging in education: either online or in-person, Gretz said. Each student's reasons are different and multi-faceted.

Gretz said administrators, teachers and staff are working together to find the best solution(s).

In other business:

An eight-hour, hunter-safety course will be offered to students Feb. 26.

Gretz said the number of COVID-19 cases is going down in the schools. He said very few of those who go into quarantine because of contact with a COVID-19 positive person actually contract the virus.

Executive Director for Instruction and Finance Brenda Gilliam said Fluvanna's Local Composite Index

rose by .0087 percent, which means about a \$600,000 decrease in state revenue for Fiscal Year 2023.

Another wrench in the process is Fluvanna must come up with a working FY2023 budget just weeks after a new administration and new legislature takes office.

The Board will meet Jan. 20 at 10 a.m. for the FY2023 budget seminar.

It was Shirley Stewart's (Rivanna) last meeting before retiring.

Johnson read and presented to Stewart a proclamation from the Board.

Gretz gave Stewart several gifts and said in the short time he worked with her, he learned much.

"From the moment I began here you've been extremely welcoming to me," Gretz said. "I appreciate your thoughtful approach to decision making. You have a great deal of judgement, discernment, wisdom, compassion and care."

Kelley thanked Stewart as well.

"You continue to have a north star that is enviable and reliable and a willingness to listen and learn," Kelley said.

Johnson thanked Stewart for her "intellect and compassion."

Pullen wished Stewart "good luck in the future and Merry Christmas."

Christmas Eve at St. Luke's Episcopal

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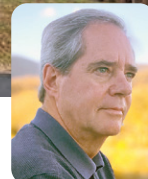


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Fluco boys' basketball off to a strong start

BY DUNCAN NIXON
CORRESPONDENT

The Fluco boy's basketball team has won its first three games, all against non-Jefferson District opponents. The team, under Coach Heath Bralley opened its regular season on the road on Dec. 1, traveling to Waynesboro High. The Flucos took a 27-17 lead at half time and won by nine, 54-45. On Dec. 3, the boys played their home opener against Chancellor High. The Flucos put up 45 points in the second half to post a 67-53 win. On Dec. 7, the Flucos traveled to Chancellor High. In the rematch, the result was very much the same, as the Flucos posted a 61-47 win.

Before the season began, Coach Bralley predicted that his team would rely heavily on its guards for scoring. So far that prediction has come true. Against Waynesboro, senior guard Kobe Edmonds led the way in scoring with 16, including two three-point shots. He also had four assists. Second in scoring was guard Bobby Gardner who contribute 13 points. Forward Kenyon Smith had eight points and 12 rebounds. Overall, the Flucos did not shoot well in the game, but they forced a remarkably high 30 turnovers.

In their first game against Chancellor High, Edmonds again led the team in scoring, with Gardner close behind. Edmonds scored 27 on a very good 10 of 18 from the field including four of six from three-point range. Gardner put up 22 points, and also had seven offensive rebounds. Smith also got into double figures with 11. The Fluco defense was strong again as it forced 23 turnovers.

In the third game of the season, a third Fluco guard jumped into the picture. Lance Bruce came through with 17 points, making all six of his shots, including two three pointers, he also had three of four from the foul line. The high scorer for the Flucos was Edmonds for the third time with 20 points. He shot eight of 15 from the field and recorded three steals. Gardner contributed 13 points, seven re-

bounds and four steals. The Flucos again led in the turnover category, forcing 19.

The Flucos hosted Charlottesville High on Dec. 14 and played Waynesboro for a second time on Dec. 15. On Dec. 17, they play at Goochland and on Dec. 18 they take a long road trip to play at Lord Botetourt. On Dec. 22, they host Spotswood High. After that, they do not return to action until Jan. 4 when they will host Monticello High as Jefferson District play gets seriously underway.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

H.U.G.S. meeting

Hands United by God's Spirit (H.U.G.S) has begun meeting again at Cuppa Joe's coffee shop near CVS/traffic light (off of Rt. 618) **every Monday** from 3 to 4 p.m. Members knit or crochet shawls and blankets for those in need or are ill and need a warm hug. Interested participants can be taught to knit/crochet. All are welcome!

Sharpe Family Singers

Sharpe Family Singers at Louisa Arts, **Dec. 18** at 7:30 p.m. Led by stars of the hit Broadway show Les Miserables, Ron and Barbra Sharpe bring "family" back to "family entertainment" with their Broadway Christmas show! Don't miss The Sharpe Family Singers. Last chance to buy tickets at LouisaArts.org or call 540-967-5200

SUDOKU

Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Medium

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	7			3			9	
						8	5	6
7	5		3	8				
			9	6				

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HOW TO SOLVE:

Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answers to Last Week's Sudoku:

3	7	1	5	8	2	6	9	4
4	8	5	6	9	1	7	3	2
6	9	2	4	7	3	1	5	8
9	5	7	8	2	4	3	6	1
8	1	6	9	3	7	4	2	5
2	4	3	1	5	6	8	7	9
1	3	4	2	6	9	5	8	7
5	6	9	7	1	8	2	4	3
7	2	8	3	4	5	9	1	6

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Spelunking site
- 5 Fine things?
- 9 One getting hailed
- 14 "Family Ties" role
- 15 Was clad in
- 16 Accustom (to)
- 17 Fruity pastry
- 18 Site of a famed library
- 20 Intestines
- 22 Wild child
- 23 Vane direction
- 24 Dog command
- 25 Poetic sphere
- 27 Diacritical mark
- 30 Track transaction
- 33 Newsstand purchase
- 35 Bequeath
- 36 Put into law
- 37 ___ and vigor
- 38 Kind of candle
- 39 Part of APR
- 40 Bird watcher's accessory
- 42 Brewed drink
- 43 Extended period of time
- 44 Sandwich bread
- 45 DeSoto's partner on "Emergency"
- 46 Staff symbol
- 48 Remove by cutting
- 51 "The Silence of the Lambs" surname
- 55 Facial mark
- 57 Ruse anagram
- 58 Flat-bottom boat
- 59 Male protagonist
- 60 Newborn's need
- 61 Venomous snake
- 62 Pitcher
- 63 More than suspect

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
17				18				19				
20				21				22				
23							24					
25	26			27		28	29			30	31	32
33			34						35			
36					37				38			
39					40				41			
42				43						44		
45							46		47			
48	49	50				51	52				53	54
55						56				57		
58						59				60		
61						62				63		

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- 2 Country crooner Jackson
- 3 Having a backbone
- 4 Background actor
- 5 Sat up for
- 6 Winning streak
- 7 Uno, dos, ___
- 8 Reason for an "R" rating
- 9 Hollywood industry
- 10 Agassi of tennis
- 11 1804 duel winner
- 12 Vivacity
- 13 Four quarters
- 19 Midway, for one
- 21 Fancy tie
- 24 Noisy ruckus
- 25 "Madame Butterfly", for one
- 26 Kidney-related
- 28 Heavenly
- 29 Cake covering
- 30 Supported by both sides, in politics
- 31 Day or thing starter
- 32 Short-winded
- 34 Curling surface
- 35 Garland/Kelly film, "For Me and My ___"
- 38 Piano technician
- 40 Par plus one
- 41 Museum official
- 43 Not the former
- 45 Measuring instrument
- 47 Made a red-faced exit
- 48 Palindromic pop group
- 49 Abacus piece
- 50 Frying medium
- 51 Spit out
- 52 Ripped
- 53 Verne's captain
- 54 Sprang up
- 56 Seashell seller

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

S	L	A	S	H	A	M	I	D	Y	A	P	S
P	I	S	T	E	P	A	C	E	A	G	I	N
A	S	S	U	M	P	T	I	O	N	C	A	P
R	A	I	D	A	L	L	N	I	G	H	T	E
S	I	S	S	Y	R	E	T	E	S	T		
P	U	T	O	U	T	A	I	O	L	I		
A	N	A	M	O	I	S	T	S	N	A	R	E
R	I	N	D	R	O	S	E	S	G	L	A	D
A	T	T	I	C	T	E	M	P	T	I	I	I
S	H	O	A	T	L	U	C	E	N	T		
H	E	A	T	E	R	T	I	T	A	N		
E	M	M	A	W	A	T	S	O	N	R	A	J
D	A	I	S	C	H	A	T	T	E	R	B	O
G	I	S	T	L	A	K	E	B	E	L	I	E
E	L	S	E	E	W	E	S	B	L	E	N	D

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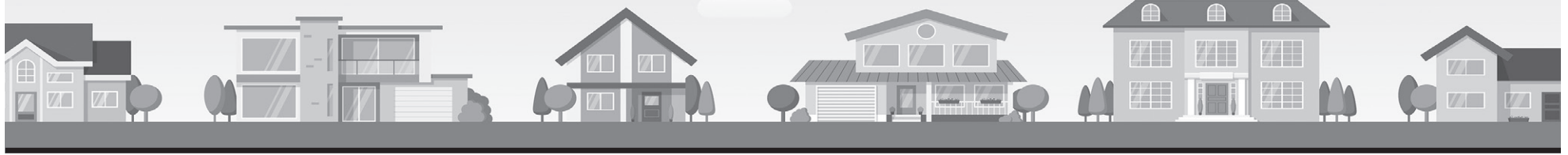
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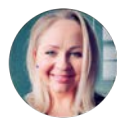
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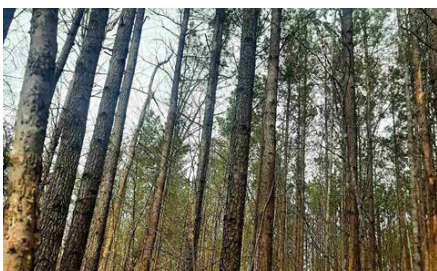
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