

Ron and Louise Reeve
1155 Fox Ridge Drive
Earlysville, VA
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434-978-2826

April 11, 2019

Dear Ms. Ragsdale,

We are writing in support of Elizabeth Gruss' proposal to operate a day care program in her home on Fox Ridge Drive in Earlysville Forest. We are residents of Fox Ridge Drive; in fact, we live two doors down from Ms. Gruss.

Louise has lived at our current address for 20 years and raised three of our six children in this neighborhood. Ron has lived here since our marriage five years ago. We now enjoy having our four grandchildren visit us. We have watched this multi-generational neighborhood grow and prosper, and now, we find ourselves among the oldest residents! Having a neighborhood that spans the ages has always been important to us. Although now retired, Ron is a child clinical psychologist, and Louise was a school administrator and early childhood educator.

Louise has known Elizabeth (Tizzy) since her childhood when she resided one street over on Trillium Drive with her parents John and Kathy who are business owners in Earlysville (Earlysville Animal Hospital). The Gruss family lived next door to Louise's parents-in-law, Joan and Quintin Cole. Tizzy dropped by to see the Coles often, and they spoke fondly of her. It is just part of Earlysville Forest for neighbors to take care of each other, and Tizzy has known that from an early age.

We fully support Elizabeth operating a home day care on Fox Ridge Drive. With public school unavailable until Kindergarten for most families, having reputable, affordable, private day care available in our neighborhood seems right to us. Elizabeth is not new to home day care, and our conversations with her indicate that she is in tune to the needs of young children (including her own son) and committed to providing a warm, safe, and stimulating environment for children. Earlysville Forest is a beautiful natural area, and Elizabeth plans to take full advantage of that by creating a nature playground in her backyard. Given her experience as a mother and a day care provider as well as the care she has taken to be respectful and transparent with the Fox Ridge Drive community about her plans, we fully support her plans to operate a day care program from her home.

We would be happy to speak further if we can provide additional information in support of Elizabeth.

Sincerely,

Ron and Louise Reeve

To Whom It May Concern,

As a resident of Earlysville Forest, I look forward to the opportunity of childcare that Tizzy Gruss brings to this community. On my road alone there are two, soon to be three, babies. It will be beneficial to have a daycare in our area! Personally, I am not concerned about added noise or traffic in Earlysville forest as the daycare she is proposing is small and I believe the benefits will be great.

Thank you for your time,

Tricia Pape

4255 Pine Grove

April 10, 2019

Dear Zoning Board,

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Tizzy Gruss in support of her new in-home daycare in Earlysville.

My wife and I have known Ms. Gruss and her family for the past year, ever since moving to Charlottesville to start our residency programs at UVA. When we first came here our son was just a year old and we were desperately searching for a good daycare option. After trying an institutional daycare and a couple other in-home daycares in the first months we simply did not feel like they were the right option. That all change when we met Tizzy.

The trait that caught our attention, first, was simply how thoughtful and caring Tizzy was with all of her actions around the kids. It was clear that she had put a lot of thought into how to engage with the kids, foster their problem solving/creativity/empathy. After the first week of going to Tizzy's we had already noticed positive changes in our son. He was listening more to us, he was excited to help around the house in his little ways, and he wanted to engage in conversations with us.

Additionally, Tizzy is very professional. She is organized both with the kids and with communicating to the families. She somehow always has some cool new activity to do with the kids every day. Her house is always organized and clean.

I have seen Tizzy's new home in Earlysville and I think it will be a fantastic location for an in home daycare. It is in a quiet community and the house backs up to the woods. There is plenty of area for the kids to enjoy the outdoors. The home also has a beautiful large living area with gorgeous panoramic windows and plenty of natural lighting.

I think most telling, of why I give my strongest recommendation for Tizzy is that whenever we drop our son off we never worry about how his day is going to go. With our busy jobs as residents the peace of mind that comes with knowing your child is in an absolute safe and loving environment ... is priceless.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Neil Saez, MD
(949) 910-6785

April 11, 2019

Dear Zoning Administrators,

We would like to express our full support and enthusiasm for approving Elizabeth Gruss' in-home daycare in her new home in Earlysville Forest. Our daughter, Kaia, has attended Elizabeth's current daycare location for the past two years. As we live quite far out from Charlottesville, we are so thankful to have an option for daycare close to where we live and work. (There is a critical under-supply of daycare options in our area near Free Union and Earlysville.) This has allowed us to spend significantly less time and resources on driving, and more on what we would much prefer to do – time with our kids and getting work done.

Elizabeth has provided a healthy, engaging, and fun environment for Kaia and the other kids who attend her daycare. She has operated for several years as an un-licensed daycare with only a few children, but has recently put a huge amount of work into achieving licensure in order to accept more kids into her daycare. We understand that in order for her business to be financially viable in the long-term, increasing the number of clients is an important factor. Having the daycare operate out of her home in order to minimize overhead costs, is another key element for successfully launching a small business in Albemarle County, or perhaps anywhere.

Please consider these factors as you make your decision about Elizabeth's daycare operation.

Sincerely,

Laurel & Ryan Williamson

Earlysville, VA

(434) 973-6032

To Whom it may concern;

My name is Carol Jewell. I am a retired educator with my MED from UVA. I have taught at the Middle school and Pre-school levels. I have also served as a Head Start Supervisor in Orange County. My husband and I have lived in Earlysville Forest for 33 years.

I am writing in support of Elizabeth Gruss' application for a home day care.

As an educator and a parent, I am a strong supporter of quality Early Childhood Education. Home child care fills a need for working parents in our area who are looking for affordable child care in a less institutionalized setting.

As an Earlysville Forest resident, I do not feel that a home day care would change the character of our subdivision. In fact, I think that it would enhance the subdivision for parents to have a home day care within the neighborhood. Traffic would be relatively minimal and the impact on the neighborhood would be little to none.

A precedence was set in the mid-1980's when Kathe Petchel open her home day care on Stillwater Lane in Earlysville Forest. She then went on to open 3 day care centers in the greater Charlottesville area.

I am hoping that you will see the benefits of Elizabeth Gruss' application.

Sincerely,

Carol Jewell

835 Earlysville Forest Drive