



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of June 12, 2010**

DATE: May 20, 2010

SUBJECT: Proposed Renaming of Argus House to Andrew B. Ferrari Argus House

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the renaming of Argus House at 1527 Clarendon Boulevard, Arlington, VA, 22209, to the Andrew B. Ferrari Argus House, in accordance with the County's Policy on Naming County Facilities.

ISSUES: The judges of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court (JDRDC) and Circuit Court Judge Joanne Alper request the renaming of the Argus House to the Andrew B. Ferrari Argus House to honor the contributions of the late JDRDC judge who was a founder of the program. No issues have been identified.

SUMMARY: The judges of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court (JDRDC) and Circuit Court Judge Joanne Alper (who succeeded Judge Ferrari) request the renaming of the Argus House to the Andrew B. Ferrari Argus House to honor the significant contributions of the late JDRDC judge who was a founder of the program. This County-owned property was built in 1991. The program is funded by Arlington County and a funding stream from the State's Department of Juvenile Justice called the Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act. The Director of Court Services for Juvenile Court, Patricia Romano, is employed by the County to manage the program, and the group home director, Chris Edmonds, is under her supervision.

BACKGROUND: Argus House is a community-based group home for at-risk boys between the ages of 13 and 18 and their parents. These juveniles have committed delinquent offenses or need supervision, and have shown the motivation and ability to change. Judge Ferrari, who passed away on December 7, 2004, served as a JDRDC judge for 24 years (July 21, 1967, to July 1, 1991). Judge Ferrari's tireless efforts in working with State and County officials and the local community led to the creation of Argus House, which has helped thousands of young offenders and their families by providing an alternative to detention, and counseling and guidance to help secure their future.

Some of the highlights of his distinguished life and career include:

- Project Director of the Argus House Boys Group Home and Girls Outreach Program that serves Arlington County and the City of Falls Church.

County Manager: MB mms

County Attorney: SM

Staff: Paul Ferguson, Clerk of the Circuit Court

- Lecturer in law for The American University, Washington, DC, and a former adjunct professor in Juvenile Law at the Potomac School of Law, Washington, DC.
- Member of the Virginia State Bar, Washington DC Bar, New York State Bar, Arlington County Bar, National and Virginia Councils of Juvenile Court Judges, and the American Legion; and former partner of the Ferrari, Wrenn and Harrison law practice in Arlington.
- Vice Chairman of the Arlington County Advisory Committee on Youth, Vice Chairman of the Arlington County Health and Welfare Council, Chairman of the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Advisory Council, Chairman of the Arlington County Martin Luther King Teen Center Advisory Committee, and Board of Visitors of James Madison University.
- Member of the Board of Governors of the Family Law Section of the Virginia State Bar, Advisory Committee to the Committee on District Courts, Legal Affairs Subcommittee of the Virginia Military Advisory Council, Executive Council of the Association of District Court Judges of Virginia; and Vice President of Virginia Association of Juvenile Court Judges.
- Served during World War II in the U.S. Navy and in the Pacific Theater of Operations as Executive Officer of Minesweeper.

DISCUSSION: The property at 1527 Clarendon Boulevard is in the Radnor-Fort Myer Heights Civic Association. On May 12, 2010, staff contacted the President, Stan Karson, who stated that the Association had no objection to the renaming proposal.

The Historical Affairs and Landmark Review Board heard this matter at its May 19, 2010, meeting and unanimously supported the proposal. A letter of support from the HALRB dated May 20, 2010, is being forwarded to the County Board.

FISCAL IMPACT: None known.



HISTORICAL AFFAIRS AND LANDMARK REVIEW BOARD

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May 20, 2010

Mr. Jay Fisette, Chairman and
Members of the County Board
Suite 300
1 Courthouse Plaza
2100 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Dear Mr. Fisette:

At its regular public hearing on May 19, 2010, the Arlington County Historical Affairs and Landmark Review Board (HALRB) discussed the proposed renaming of the Argus House located at 1527 Clarendon Boulevard in honor of Judge Andrew B. Ferrari. The HALRB noted the tremendous benefits of the Argus House and the significant contributions Judge Ferrari made to the Arlington community. The HALRB voted unanimously in favor of the proposed name change.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this matter.

Most Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy J. Iacomini".

Nancy Iacomini
Chairman

cc. Paul Ferguson, Clerk, Circuit Court of Arlington County