AFLM Hosts Gallagher and Andrews

by Paul deParrie

Advocates for Life Ministries hosted nationally-known rescuers Chet Gallagher and Joan Andrews as they spoke at two Portland meetings. Gallagher and Andrews' visit was part of a nationwide tour whose

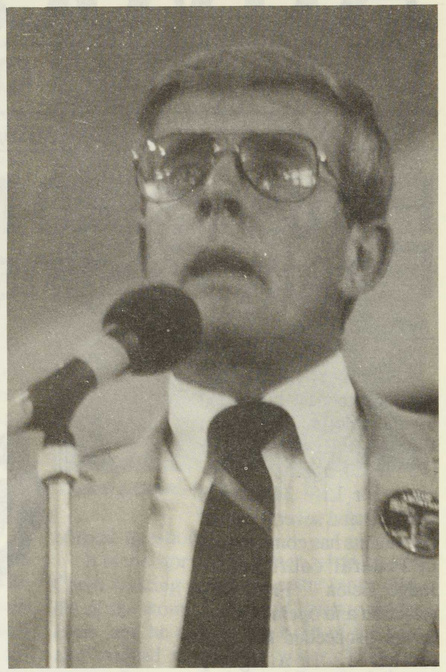
Joan Andrews

purpose is the strengthening of the local rescue communities and a call for participants in a special Houston, Texas action scheduled for December.

Both are currently on recognizance release from the Houston jail where they were formerly held on $25,000 bail on charges of "using a criminal instrument." The charge stems from a mid-July rescue where they were locked together with bicycle locks. Police declared the locks to be "criminal instruments" (see: *The Advocate*, September 1990). The December rescue in Houston is designed to challenge the misuse of this obscure statute.

Gallagher told the 250 people who attended the two meetings that they had prayed that there would be three people from each city to join them in Houston who would commit themselves to "go non-coop" for a month if need be. He also laid out a plan for each rescuer to be "sent" by a particular group of individuals who would pray and make phone calls on behalf of that individual rescuer.

Andrews admonished listeners to honestly ask God what each one should be doing to stop the baby-killing. Sign-up sheets for the Houston project were handed out and she asked people to commit themselves to support a rescuer in one of the listed manners.



Chet Gallagher. (photo: Paul deParrie)

Overall, the response was enthusiastic. Gallagher and Andrews stayed long after each of the meetings to answer questions and to greet local activists. ■

Baby Pictures Change Minds At Photo Lab

by Paul deParrie

Advocates for Life Ministries Projects Coordinator, Cathy Ramey, had a project of her own. Over the last several months she had been collecting aborted baby photos because she had received a number of requests for them. She intended to take them to a photo lab to have negatives made from the pictures. This, she reasoned, would make it simple to make up a packet of pictures whenever a request came in.

In mid-September, Cathy was convinced that she had a good variety of original photos for her project and she took them to a large chain-store's photo department. She explained to the department manager that the pictures might be difficult for some employees to work on because they were "obscene." The manager, still not comprehending the kind of "obscenity" to which Cathy referred, assured her that their department had done "all kinds of bizarre pictures." Cathy further explained the nature of the pictures and he accepted the work.The photos included two of Baby Choice, one of baby David (see September *Advocate*, p. 12), and assorted others.

The following morning, Cathy received a call at the AFLM office from the photo manager who explained that the lab people had said that they were too upset by the photos to do the job for her. He apologized for the inconvenience and said he would deliver the materials back to Cathy that day.

But after the pictures were returned another call came for Cathy—this time from a friend who is also involved in pro-life work. "Did you just get a visit from a photo store?" she asked.

"Yes," Cathy answered tentatively.

"I have a relative who is the supervisor at that photo lab," the other began as Cathy secretly hoped that she was not about to be rebuked for using "offensive" pictures in pro-life work.

"She said she has been the only pro-lifer in the whole place," the other continued, "that is, until now."

The other explained how the pictures that Cathy had sent in had been passed around to every employee in the place and all of their "pro-choice" opinions and rhetoric melted away. "They are all pro-life now," the other said.

Cathy was amazed at the unintentional education. "I plan to use a different photo lab every time I want these developed," Cathy said. "It may just be a way of educating people through the back door." ■

Advocates for Life, Oregon Update

Editor: Paul deParrie
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RICO Trial Begins

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by the onrushing crowd of escorts around the clinic's alleged customer.

"The ruling to exclude this vital fact puts Mrs. Martin in double jeopardy," said an AFLM spokesman. "When they couldn't succeed in punishing her with the criminal court, they intend to try again here with millions in civil damages."

Another plaintiff was called to the stand to relate her experience at a 1989 rescue at the abortuary. Defense attorneys objected that it was a clear violation of court rules to make claims on events that occurred later than the filing of the last complaint. Pro-abort attorney Walters said that it was proper due to the "ongoing conspiracy by the defendants." Defense counsel retorted that no evidence of conspiracy yet existed before the court. Judge Frye ruled in favor of allowing the clinic to put the later occurrences in evidence.

Defendant Priscilla Martin takes notes as plaintiffs testify.

Former clinic director Geri Craig was then called to the stand and charged that the "emotional distress" and "fear" caused her health to decline and caused her to leave her position at the clinic. She produced receipts for a medical claim in which she allegedly sought counseling because of her emotional state. Craig, a recovering addict, did not indicate whether her recovery process may

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AFLM Files Complaint with HUD

by Paul deParrie

In late June, AFLM filed an official complaint about police use of excessive force on rescuers with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Washington, D.C., pursuant to the Walker/Armstrong Amendment. The Amendment, signed into law by President Bush last December, denies HUD funding to any city or municipality "that fails to adopt and enforce a policy prohibiting the use of excessive force...against individuals engaged in nonviolent civil rights demonstrations." The AFLM complaint contained a videotape and description of Portland police at a January 13, 1990 rescue at the Downtown Women's Center where a police officer was clearly seen jumping atop a crowd of rescuers and bouncing up and down on them. Two other officers were visible jabbing nightsticks into the ribs of an elderly woman who was on her hands and knees and was not in front of the doorway.

After a month with no reply, an AFLM staffer tried to trace down the complaint which was sent to the office of Secretary Jack Kemp. After finding that it was necessary to file with the local office of HUD, the staffer filed an amended complaint with John Bonham at the Portland office. No reply has been forthcoming.

The deadline for filing complaints with HUD is December 21, 1990 when the law will either be reinstated or expire (see: *The Advocate*, p. 14). ■

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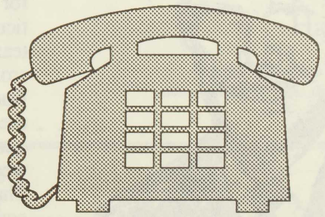

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