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COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

SERVING WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDERED COMMUNITY

HARVEY GANTT CAMPAIGN RALLIES IN ASHEVILLE

LGBT SUPPORTERS QUESTION CANDIDATE ON COMMUNITY ISSUES

by Tandy Solomon

Harvey Gantt came to Asheville, Friday, September 13, to an afternoon rally in his honor, to support local Democratic candidates, and to launch the beginning of his campaign in Western North Carolina.

More grey-haired in 1990, but still hale, hearty, and in top form, Gantt easily won the applause and the apparent devotion of the approximately 400 supporters who surrounded him on the stone steps of Asheville High School. Returning often to themes of mutual respect and community responsibility, he also spoke forcefully in support of the gay community, if at times in the strategically-couched language that has evolved to contend with these 'queer' political times.



CANDIDATE HARVEY GANTT

The assembled crowd, from high school students to senior citizens, looked mostly straight and almost exclusively white. In contrast to Gantt rallies of six years ago, one could not fail to note its more conser-

vative tenor - even the bumper stickers seemed more tame: "Are you rich enough to be a Republican?" and "Pro-Choice" stickers were among the most clearly partisan.

And yet, the mostly sedate crowd broke into several bursts of prolonged yelling and hollering when Gantt expressed support of stronger environmental regulations, financial equality for women in the work force, and the "diversity" of our communities.

But, by far, the loudest and longest eruptions of screaming applause were reserved for Gantt's championing of diversity, and an end to divisive hatemongering based on fear.

Michael Harney and Marty Prarie were among those from the LGBT community who came to support Gantt. Both men are members of

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LAKE LURE HOSTS LGBT PEACE MARCH

On October 27, the LGBT community and their supporters will march in Lake Lure to protest the Anti-Gay Resolution passed in Rutherford County. The march, which is being organized by Charles Merrill, begins at 2pm at Lake Lure City Hall.

"It is of the utmost importance that all people who believe that hate and discrimination are not 'family values', come out and stand together, strong in the beauty of a diverse, just, and inclusive community."

Please help by being there. For further information call 704.685.7666. We will return your call.

National
Coming Out
Day
October 11



**LAST DAY TO REGISTER IS
OCTOBER 11, 1996
VOTE
NOVEMBER 5TH**



LGBT SUPPORTERS COME OUT FOR GANTT.