## bids for coun Home-grown cand



a Charlotte Democrat. After

leaving Washington for Charlotte in 2001, he started

making his name in local cir-

Foxx has campaigned pri-

marily on neighborhood revi-

talization, roads and hiring

more police and code

enforcement officers. He

insists those issues aren't

Mr. John

B. Bolling

And Others

Öpen Mon. - Sat. 9am - 6pm

Bellini

Jack McConnell

Hours: Wed. - Sat. 11AM - 5:30PM or By Appt. Parking in the rear

Anthony Foxx, meeting voters at a candidates forum Tuesday at Martin Luther King Middle School, led the Democratic primary in September's City Council primary.

Continued from page 1A me," he said. "Susan Burgess has served this community well and I think she will continue to do so.

Others are more effusive in their praise

"Michael Evans, chairman the Mecklenburg Democratic Party, met Foxx three years ago to recruit him for a seat on the county board of elections. Foxx passed on the opportunity, but left his mark.

"I was highly impressed," Evans said. "He had a good fix on the local political scene and when the time came, you knew he'd be a great candidate."

Foxx, 34, grew up on politics. His grandfather, James Foxx, was a longtime advisor to candidates of every tenor, but was especially effective in west Charlotte, the base of black political power

"One of the things I learned from him was patience," Foxx said in June when he announced his can-didacy. "When you try to pull together a group of people on an issue, you can take common ground and find issues in where there is agreement. "I want to be a consensus builder.'

A 1989 graduate of West Charlotte High School, Foxx was the first African American to win election as Davidson College's student body president in 1992, his senior year. He moved up to big-time politics in 1999 when he took a job as counsel to the U.S. House Judiciary Committee, where his boss was Rep. Mel Watt,

about party affiliation, but taking a long-term approach to Charlotte's growth

"Charlotte is in transition." he said. 'I think the city is looking for leaders who can see 20 to 30 years down the line and make sense of it. What I'm offering is an approach that you can plug in anywhere and it works."

Foxx faces a stern challenge Tuesday.

In addition to fellow Democrats Burgess, Darrell Bonapart and Erdman, the Republicans have a deep and experienced field. At-large incumbents Pat Mumford and John Lassiter will be joined by John Tabor, who now represents District 6, and Lynn Wheeler, a council veteran who was voted off the panel in 2003. Evans likes the Democrats' chances, especial-

ly Foxx. "There's question no Anthony is an excellent candidate," he said. "You wonder why he hasn't run before.

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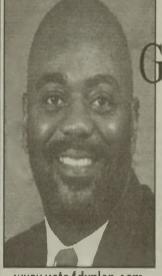
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When you talk about people like Harvey Gantt, Mel Watt Patrick

Anthony is definitely in that Says Foxx: "We'll continue

to get he word out. We're not going to take anything for granted."

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