

## Baines Expresses Concern On County Budget

Describing the county budget surplus as "too large," Dr. Tyrone Baines, candidate for county commissioner said Durham County homeowners could realize a tax savings of \$26.00 on a \$20,000 home if the county employed a different budget surplus policy.

The democratic candidate expressed his concerns about the operation of county government and the results of his examination of county budget documents during a news conference

in the park at Main and Mangum Sts. on July 16.

During a 30 minute presentation and question and answer period, Dr. Baines made these proposals.

- \*evening county commission meetings to allow great citizen participation in government and the budget process;
- \*a simplified budget document for better understandings;
- \*countywide sharing of

## Rocky Mt.

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and me, if we but trust Him.

Mrs. Lee was introduced by Mrs. Erma Dudley, wife of the pastor of the church. Miss Linda Hargrove, chairman of the Woman's Day program, presided. Her co-chairman was Miss Kathlyn Dudley.

Relatives and friends of the Reaves family gathered in Sunset Park recently for the family's reunion.

Relatives from nine states were in attendance. A buffet dinner was served and the menu consisted of the traditional summer picnic homecooking.

Representatives came from Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, and South Carolina, Virginia, Alabama and the District of Columbia.

"The Greatest Gospel Singing in the South" will return to Municipal Stadium Sunday, August 15. Fifteen outstanding gospel groups and the popular Clarence Fountain, will be on hand to entertain the thousands of gospel fans.

Gates to the stadium will swing open at eleven o'clock and the program will get underway promptly at one o'clock.

Tickets are on sale throughout Eastern North Carolina and will remain on sale until August 14th, according to F. J. Morton, who heads the Morton Booking Agency, sponsors of the annual gospel program.

Several thousand people attend the colorful and inspirational program each year. Morton stated last week the program will go on rain or shine. The weather man has always cooperated, Morton said, and he hopes the same will be true again this year.



DR. TYRONE BAINES

equipment and facilities for added savings;

- \*a countywide bus system for transport citizens to hospitals, free to senior citizens; and
- \*equal county employment opportunities for all citizens.

Dr. Baines told a small gathering of members of the press and the public that at the end of 1974 and 1975 the county budget surplus was \$3.5 million each year. "This is a larger cushion than we need," he said.

One of the factors which helps to produce the surpluses was the projection of the amount of uncollectable taxes. In 1974 and 1975 the projection of uncollectable taxes by the previous administration and commissioners was off by 100% and 130% from the actual amount of taxes not collected.

Expressing his concern about citizen participation in the budget process, Baines said, "Those of us who pay

the bills must play a more effective role in setting budget priorities."

The major budget expenditures, according to the candidate's analyses, were education, social services and the operation of county offices.

During the press conference Dr. Baines was asked to comment on the present disposition of children who are classified as special education students.

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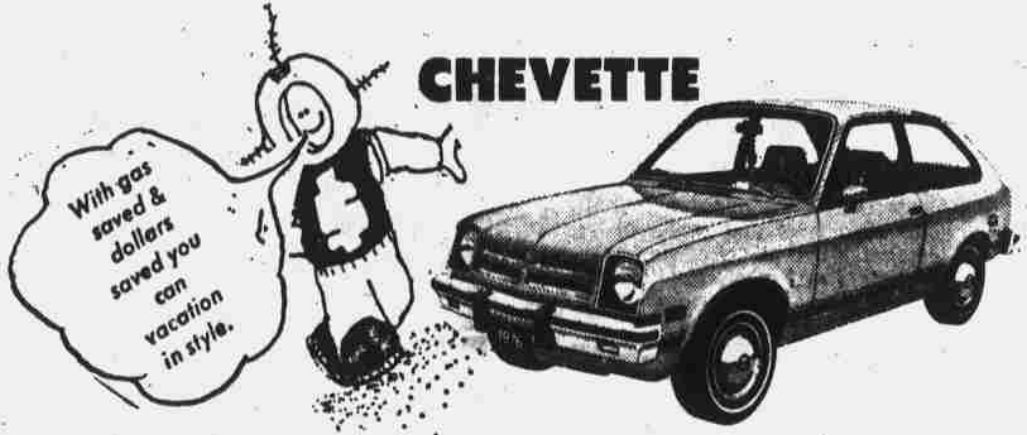
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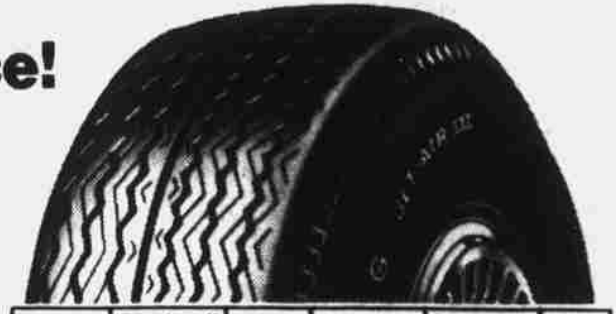
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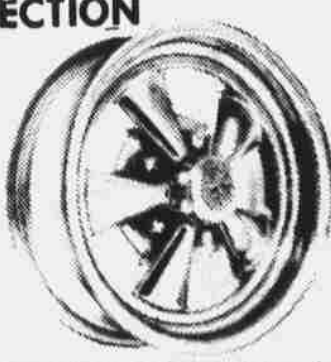
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