

Good News

Area News of Churches and Related Christian Events

VOL. 1 NO. 15

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 1992

REPUBLIC NEWSPAPERS

The right thing to do - recycle

By RENEE WALSER

When people ask Cleveland County Recycling Coordinator Sam Lockridge, "Why should I recycle?" he has two reasons for them.

"It's the right thing to do," is his first answer. Environmentally speaking, it's only right not to waste and to be good stewards, he said.

But the second reason probably gets more attention: Recycling extends the life of the county's landfills and thereby controls costs. Economically, recycling is the answer to our waste treatment problem.

Cleveland County is one of the first counties in North Carolina to implement a convenience center system, abolishing the green boxes of the past. There are six centers around the county (two additional centers are being built) where residents may bring their refuse for recycling. Citizens inside municipalities are encouraged to use the centers, also.

Business has been good, said Lockridge. He did a study of the amount of recyclable materials brought to the centers in 1991, and found that in December, over 100 tons had been submitted. Over 700 tons were brought to the centers for the year.

The largest amount of materials received were classified as bulk mixed metals (scrap metal and



Neil Morris moves some scrap metal at Morris Junk Yard three miles out of Kings Mountain on Highway 74.

white goods) and newsprint.

"We feel real good in our direction," said Lockridge. "In the past it's been a fad."

Now he says there has been a state mandate that stipulates a recycling reduction goal of 25 percent of the waste stream.

"We are trying to meet

that reduction goal," he said.

"This is strictly a voluntary program," Lockridge said. "And the citizens are responding."

Lockridge stressed that the rumor that county government makes a profit from recycling is a myth. Rather, government *saves*

money.

"The less landfills we have to develop, the less fees we have to charge," he said. "It's a domino effect."

Fifty years of recycling

Nestled off Hwy. 74 business on the way to Shelby is Morris' Junk Yard. You'd

never know unless someone told you where to look for it.

It's been there for 50 years, handed down through the family from grandfather to father and now the sons are working the yard.

Recycling is not a new

See Recycle, Page 5