Wayne and Connie Burkhart, Catawissa, is shown doing volunteer yard work at WRGN.

There’s no question that it takes teamwork to keep listener-supported Christian radio going. “Without the rest of the team, we would sink,” said Burl Updyke, Manager of WRGN and WIVH. Everyone knows that without the support of its listeners, the stations’ operating costs would not be met. There is even more to these ministries than meeting these bills. The work of keeping up building maintenance requires the team’s help.

“Projects like trimming bushes, weeding and sweeping the driveway, prey on our minds as we work full schedules at the projects required to keep broadcasting,” said Shirley Updyke, Program Director. “You can only imagine our delight and thankfulness when a Catawissa couple responded to a brief note in last month’s Radiogram. Wayne and Connie Burkhart came equipped with the necessary tools and transformed the plantings at the front of WRGN’s building and cleaned up the driveway,” said Shirley.
"It Takes Two Of Us!"

Shirley Updyke is host of “Shirl and You,” airing, 10:00 a.m., weekday mornings on WRGN/WIVH, but Judi May also has a big part in program preparation. She is who listeners talk to when they call-in.

Compassion Expressed By Listener

Compassion by WRGN listeners was expressed a number of times last month. The following letter is one of these examples.

“Dear Burl and Shirley: Sorry to hear you did not meet your Shar-A-Thon goal for the Virgin Islands. Perhaps our church can help by giving an additional gift this summer. I hope and pray your listening audience will step forward to help!

“It’s easy to become discouraged but judging by reading your book, “Vision to Reality,” you’ve weathered and overcome much more with God’s help! We share your goal to honor, glorify, and magnify the name of Jesus and spread His glorious Gospel in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Signed, Partners With You In His Service, Mark Whitmer, Pastor of Bethel Baptist Church.

Thanks To Our Yard Sale Contributors

Listed below are contributors to WRGN’s Yard Sale:

- Back Mountain Gas
- Bryant’s RV
- Butchko’s Garage, Inc.
- Curtis Swanson Funeral Home, Inc.
- DelKanic’s Greenhouse
- Dr. Karen Bueger-Talacka
- Edwards Landscaping
- Evans Eye Care - Dr. Dave Evans
- Lighten Up Fitness and Comfort Center for Women
- Mickey’s Truck and Equipment Sales, Sugarloaf
- Mountain Fresh Supermarket
- Lehman Nursery

Luzerne Bank
Herr’s Potato Chips
Rave’s Garden Center
Red’s Subs & Pizza
Siraks Greenhouse
Sue Hand’s Imagery
The Old Filling station
Country Side Market
Phil and Betsy Pack, Shavertown
Pennco Contracting Inc.
Price Chopper, Kingston
Longo’s Bakery & Pizza
Sweet Valley Mercantile
Wegman’s
Weis, Nanticoke
Weis, Dallas
PRAISE: At WRGN and WIVH we have learned that God does not leave us in difficult situations and in fact, He has a way of reassuring us of his presence and love for us. He’s doing that now.

PRAISE: A small prayer request in last month’s prayer list, resulted in a Catawissa couple responding to a request for someone to help with a project here. Their concern and hard work were very encouraging as we continue to deal with the electronic end of broadcasting and the problems at WIVH.

PRAY: Much wisdom is needed as we strive to get WIVH back on the air.

PRAISE: Gifts continue to come in toward the $5,000 deficit we experienced during WIVH’s Shar-a-Thon. Approximately $2500 is all that is needed to reach the goal.

PRAY: The Good News Library presents a wonderful opportunity for everyone to borrow and buy good Christian books. Pray as we consider the need to increase the costs of the sale of books.

PRAISE: Items offered by the Good News Library are the best in Christian reading and provide coverage of today’s issues and problems facing believers.

PRAISE: One of WRGN’s Press and Listen projects was recently sent to Colleen Bronson, who is sightless. “It inspired me to press on and move toward my goal of someday becoming a Braille teacher,” she said. WRGN listeners have given gifts of $40.00 to make it possible to send MP3 players to those wanting to hear Shirley Updyke’s recent book about the ministries of WRGN/WIVH.

Seven, thus far, have been supplied free of charge.

PRAISE: The “Press and Listen Project,” is allowing sightless persons and those who prefer to listen, rather than read the book, “Vision To Reality.” This project still continues.

PRAISE: WRGN’s prayer team continues to uphold the prayer requests received at the station. Last month 20 prayer requests were received and two praise items. Pray for those making this service possible here.

PRAISE: WRGN’s Yard Sale was a great success, with proceeds amounting to over $6,000. This huge project was possible only because of the many volunteers and those giving sacrificially for the good of Christian broadcasting. Much thanks goes to them.

PRAY: Continue to pray for the staff at WRGN/WIVH as they seek to resolve problems in the broadcasting of WIVH. Pray for good health, energy and the many other character traits required to keep pressing on in Christian broadcasting. Only God is capable of supplying these.

PRAY: for Jonathan and Tiffany Bowman, operators of WIVH. They need much wisdom and encouragement as they faithfully serve God there.

PRAISE: “By faith in the name of Jesus, this man (a crippled beggar) was made strong. It is Jesus’ name and the faith that comes through him that has given him complete healing.” -Acts 3:16. When we pray in Jesus’ name, we must remember that it is Christ himself, not merely the sound of His name, who gives our prayers their power.
Yard Sale 2010 - "Couldn't Have Been Better!"

Ray and Sharon Cease with Elizabeth Madeira.

Colleen Bronson and her mother, Debbie.

Barb Saxe, Aaron Freeman and Angelina Marocco.

Mary Ann Lipinski and Denise Sult, baked goods stand.

Burl Updyke and daughter, Janine Broscious.

Betsy Pack with collection of wheel chairs.
Yard Sale 2010 - "Couldn't Have Been Better!"

Christopher and Jen Stout, Berwick, with sons, Ayden, 4 and Jani 5.

Patricia Smith and Terry Murray, of Sweet Valley.
So what’s new at the studios? Many things, but the highlight of the month was the arrival of Wayne and Connie Burkhart, who traveled here from Catawissa to weed, trim, sweep and generally improve the plantings at the front of WRGN. They did a great job and tremendously encouraged everyone here.

Congratulations are offered to Scott and Joy Ryman who became the proud parents of a baby girl, Brooke Joy, born on June 3. Scott is the son of Brenda and Martin Ryman of Wapwallopen and Joy is the daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Lawrence Reed, of Harvey’s Lake.

It was “Cole Slaw Day” on Shirl and You, as Shirl sought recipes for it. She got two excellent ones. Bob Bowers, of Lehighton, told his wife, Joanne, to call in hers. We see why he insisted she do that, it’s delicious.

Marjorie Joninval, of Scranton, was born in Haiti. She admitted that she still loves Haiti. She was home and was able to call “Shirl and You”. She was to begin training for a new job with mentally challenged children. “It’s always a blessing to hear you, Shirley,” she said. “Your voice brings smiles to listeners’ faces.”.

There’s no stopping Florence Posten, of Scranton. Even her disabilities don’t stop her. “God always helps me through the day,” she said, as she told how she boards the bus in her electric “Jazzy.”

Debbie McCormick, Jenkins Township, recommends hot air balloon rides. She said she took her first one in Arizona and was amazed at the beauty of the desert and the mountains surrounding it. “It’s smoother than an elevator ride,” she said.

Vivian Wickiser, Sugar Notch, has a method that keeps her from missing any of her favorite programming on WRGN. She uses three radios, two of them are upstairs. She says Sugar Notch is a “little borough.” She remembers when Main St. had an Acme Store, clothing store, Post Office and pizza parlor.

A phone call came from Ray Riso, of Harrisburg, who was traveling through the area. He shared a touching story of how his first marriage ended in divorce and of the loneliness he was experiencing. He explained that he feels the Lord’s presence greater than ever before. “He fills in the gap and I am open to His will,” he said. He did say that as a result of that marriage he has a great daughter.

At WRGN’s Yard Sale, six wheel chairs and many canes and walkers were collected for the benefit of Joni’s “Wheels For The World Project.” For those wondering what happens to all the stuff that is left after the sale, it’s given to the local fire company, Sweet Valley Fire Company. It is sold at their next year’s event and the proceeds benefit the volunteer fire company.

We’re been looking forward to July and all the excitement that comes with giving away tickets to Knoebels Amusement Park. And we think that includes Judi, who answers the hundreds of phone calls. Visit the studios!

Praise be to God for his unfailing love.
July 2010
Dear Ones:

What an experience we’ve been going through!! As Shirl wrote her book about the 25 years of ministry here at WRGN and WIVH she relayed how getting both stations going and keeping them that way is not simply accomplished. We have experienced one development after another, but always ones we have resolved in a matter of time. We expect that will be the case with this situation also.

What’s happened? After preparing thoroughly for the move we planned to make for improvements to WIVH, we ran into an interference situation that could have been resolved had we been dealing with a reasonable person, That was not the case.

Our contract with the tower on which we constructed WIVH’s antenna and housed the new transmitter, etc. says we are responsible for any interference caused by our transmission. It did not clarify that this would be from faulty equipment, which is not so. We had no idea that another company housed in the same building was not shielded against RF (radio frequency), but that was the situation and we were willing to do all possible to resolve it, including paying for necessary changes.

Here’s where the problem came into the picture. The owner of the service to which our signal was causing interference, refuses to make the necessary tests to find where the RF is leaking into his lines. What a trial this has been for our patience and desire to set a Christian example through it all. In the meantime, WIVH has been off the air, for over a month.

Although the operator at WIVH has done the very best he can, the distance between us has made the problem very difficult. We praise God that we believe we are close to a solution. We are actually moving to another tower, one that is less desirable. This is involving a great deal of unexpected expenses. We need your prayers, and we are hoping that very soon we will be announcing that WIVH is back on the air reaching souls for Christ and providing a source of comfort and peace to those in the Virgin Islands who have come to depend on the station as their daily Christian companion.

We appreciate and covet your prayers for wisdom, energy, and patience. Dependence on God is the result of this as we keep pressing on for Him.

Needing To Know You Are Standing With Us,

Love, Burl and Shirley Updyke
Sometimes the staff here wonders if the membership fee at The Good News Library is too low? It has been kept at a very low price in order that everyone can enjoy it. But is it possible people think it can't be much, not for that price? After recently checking out a Christian Library in Lancaster, it is indeed, very much. It is a very dynamic ministry, keeping up with the latest in books, DVD’s and Audio Books.

At the beginning of this twenty-first century, evangelical Christians have an equally unsettling map and a lack of unity in regard to how they find their way through uncharted territory as they stray from core ideas and differ on key issues. Read about it in the book, “Christ Among the Dragons.”

Author, Robert Velarde unpacks the movies of Pixar and shows how they display the best of classic Christian virtues. He says their virtuous themes of hope and courage, friendship and love connect with people’s deepest human longings. Look for the book, “Wisdom of Pixar.”

In the book, “Pilgrimage of a Soul” the reader sees that contemplation is essential - not only to a life of sustained commitment to the justice and righteousness of God, but to the fully human life that the Holy Spirit beckons everyone to.

“My Heart Christ’s Home - Retold for Children,” tells Peter’s amazing story of a week spent with Jesus. Should he show Jesus the secret thing he has hidden in the closet? Now children can understand the important message of the beloved booklet, “My Heart- Christ’s Home.”

Ted Dekker’s book, “Blink,” is an intoxicating tale set amidst the shifting sands of the Middle East and the back roads of America. It engages issues as ancient as the earth itself, and as current as today’s headlines.

The Good News Library, located at WRGN, is open 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Membership is $5.00 per year. It’s open to the public.