

The heartbeat of the Back Mountain!

WEDNESDAY, September 1, 2010

# SUBURBAN NEWS

Home Of The Fabulous

Free ADS

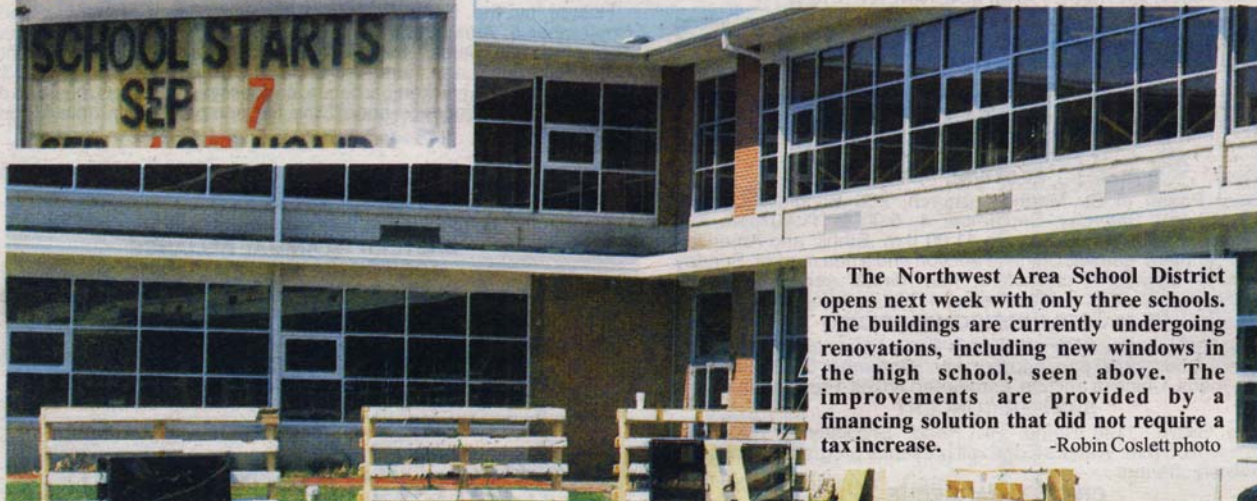
570.477.FREE 75¢

## NW Schools Repaired With No Tax Increase

### Students Will Find Many Changes

NORTHWEST AREA SENIOR HIGH AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

SCHOOL STARTS  
SEP 7



The Northwest Area School District opens next week with only three schools. The buildings are currently undergoing renovations, including new windows in the high school, seen above. The improvements are provided by a financing solution that did not require a tax increase.

-Robin Coslett photo

With the closing of the Garrison school in Shickshinny, there are lots of changes in store for Northwest students when school opens on Tuesday, September 7.

Their three schools will be used in a different way with the Huntington Mills school used as a Primary School, the Hunlock Creek school used as an Intermediate School, and the high school used as a Middle/High School.

Linc Network, LLC, reports that their funding strategy of reducing several cost centers in the district's operating budget, produced \$5 million dollars for capital improvements funded over a 15 year term, with no increase in taxes.

The project currently underway and scheduled for completion this Fall provides new comfort systems in the schools. More specifically, the Middle/High School will receive new hot water boilers, piping, new classroom unit ventilators, lighting, window replacements, new soffits and fascia, a wireless

Continued on Page 5

# Funding Solution At Northwest

Continued from page 1

building control system, re-commissioning of HVAC assets not replaced, electrical service expansion and upgrades, and a security system. The Intermediate School and the Primary School get a new wireless building control system, lighting, and re-commissioning of the HVAC systems.

"The consolidation of the elementary schools and a timely district wide energy project has allowed us to look forward to the start of a new school year with many new beginnings," said Nancy Tkatch, School Superintendent. "It will be a refreshing change for students and parents as they arrive at the Middle/High School to see new windows, a refurbished entryway, and essentially a



**Bill Davis, an employee of PJ's Window Cleaning, is busy cleaning the newly installed windows at Northwest.**

- Robin Coslett photo



**Nick Bell, above, works to install the new piping system as a part of the renovations at Northwest Area High School.**

-Robin Coslett photo

more comfortable learning environment."

Linc Mechanical worked closely with the school district through Pennsylvania Guaranteed Energy Savings Act (GESA) which provides the means to utilize savings from existing budgets to pay for facility improvements over as long as a 20 year term.

"The capital needs of the district were great, and the amount of available funding initially appeared to be too small," explained Dan Dowell, Linc's Director of Energy Solutions for the Mid-Atlantic Region. "The combined efforts of the district's staff and ours have produced a funding

solution that will enrich the learning experience for generations of students. We are also excited to work with Ms. Tkatch on a student awareness program focused on educating the students on how they can positively affect their

environment through conservation and recycling."

The Northwest district has a student population of approximately 1,400. The schools' comfort systems were in immediate need of replacement.