

FAMILIES FIRST 21st ANNUAL 5K RACE & 1 MILE FUN WALK

By Frank Jones

SLATE BELT - Please join Families First as we celebrate our 21st year serving residents in the Pen Argyl Area School District and participate in our annual 5K Race & 1 Mile Fun Walk on Saturday, September 9, 2023. The Race and Walk will start at 9 am in the Wind Gap Borough Park. Registration the day of the Race will begin at 7:30 am.

The Race Coordinator for our race is none other than the Great Mr. Phil Giaquinto, retired Plainfield School Principal, celebrating his 21st year as our Race Coordinator.

This event is for the entire family. All proceeds will go to support the Adopt-A-Family Holiday program and activities provided by Families First. "PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE" in the Pen Argyl Area School District!

A copy of our official registration form can be downloaded from the Families First website: www.familiesfirstofpenargyl.org.



River Pointe Commerce Park's Current Focus on Norfolk-Southern's State Route 1039 (River Road) Freight Rail Overpass

By Britni Ackrivo

UPPER MOUNT BETHEL, PA - On the heels of the recent conditional preliminary plan approval for subdivision, infrastructure improvements, and land development plans for lots 1, 2, and 6, River Pointe Commerce Park's award-winning traffic engineering and planning firm McMahon Associates, Inc., reenergizes dialogue in support of transportation-related infrastructure solutions related to the Norfolk-Southern State Route 1039 (River Road) Freight Rail overpass.

This trestle canopies the portion of State Route 1039 where Portland Borough's Delaware Ave turns into River Road in Upper Mount Bethel, and is located just 200 feet north of the Portland Industrial Park and 500 feet south of the Columbia-Portland Toll Bridge and 611 off-ramp.

The underpass area on State Route 1039 (River Road) has been serving Ultra-Poly's goods movements of their 7-day a week manufacturing of green plastic renewables since their Portland opening in 2005. Additional goods movement continues to be served by this underpass, including by Air-Liquide Advanced Materials and Lamtec Corporation when they began their operations in this industrial park. Posted at 13'8", the actual measured clearance of this underpass is 14'2".

Dialogue has been initiated with Norfolk-Southern, who owns the overpass, PennDOT, and others. Recognizing this as an area to be focused on, outreach to Norfolk Southern had been initiated early on. The freight operator has been very receptive to working with River Pointe Commerce Park and is optimistic about the future increase in rail freight movement along this line.

With the most recent approvals, the ability to focus on the real solutions for the rail overpass improvements and the road it canopies is now possible.

McMahon Associates and the development team are working closely with Norfolk Southern and PennDOT on evaluating the trestle's existing conditions and development of recommended infrastructure improvements. The Norfolk-Southern rail freight overpass is located north of both the existing Portland Industrial Park and River Pointe Commerce Park.

"We are fully aware of the need to address the structure and throughput of the trestle and have been and will continue to actively work with our consultants, rail provider, and regulators to improve access to prevent bottlenecks and backups," said Lou Pektor, President of River Pointe Commerce Park. "Solutions could include expanding or lowering the roadway, a necessary step in providing efficient and safe access to I-80 via River Road."

Pektor says that all plans and solutions will need to be reviewed and approved by local and state authorities. "We are undertaking a deliberate and considered approach to improving traffic flow and access. As part of a 21st Century, state-of-the-art master planned industrial park, it is our intent to ensure access to the site is seamless and plan to work with all parties and stakeholders to ensure its appropriateness," said Pektor.



DISPOSAL PRO

JUNK REMOVAL

570-234-9678

We work with Homeowners, Renters, Estate Heirs, Business Owners, Real Estate Agents, Asset Management Companies.

FREE ESTIMATES

Our extensive list of services include clean-up and removal for:

Residential Properties • Commercial Properties

Bank-Owned Foreclosures

Rental Move-Ins and Move-Outs

Evictions • Downsizing • Hoarding

Estate Clean-Outs • Yard Debris/Brush Removal

Construction and Demolition Debris

Furniture and Mattresses

Appliances • Bagsters

Dump Trailer Drop-Off Service

CLEAN SPACE LIVING

For reliable service and exceptional results, give us a call!

Fully Licensed and Insured

ONE ITEM OR MANY

"LARGE OR SMALL, WE TAKE IT ALL"

