

NEWSLETTER



LPPA EVENTS

- Information Services | Workshop – Regular Meeting 6/7 @ 10am
- Information Services | Office Hours 6/7 @ 11am
- Affiliate Support Committee | Regular Meeting 6/8 @ 6pm
- Bradford County LP – Libertarian Social 6/9 @ 6pm
- Bucks County LP - Libertarian Social 6/9 @ 6pm
- Capital Area Libertarian Party Monthly Meeting 6/10 @ 7pm
- Monroe County LP – Regular Meeting 6/12 @ 7pm
- Delaware County LP – Regular Meeting 6/18 @ 7pm
- Schuylkill County LP – Regular Meeting 6/18 @ 7pm
- Adams County Liberty Social 6/19 @ 7pm
- LPPA Board meeting 6/21 @ 5pm
- LPPA Altoona Curve Baseball & Buffet 6/21 @ 5pm
- Affiliate Support Committee | Regular Meeting 6/22 @ 6pm
- Erie County LP – Regular Meetup 6/23 @ 7pm
- Fundraising Committee Meeting – Regular Meetup 6/23 @ 8pm
- York County LP – Regular Meeting 6/24 @ 7pm
- Armstrong County LP – Regular Meeting 6/29 @ 6:30pm

Event locations can be found at:
lppa.org/get-involved/events/

THE TRUMP-MUSK FEUD: A MONUMENT TO THE ABSURDITY OF STATISM

TJ KOSIN

In a spectacle worthy of late-stage empire, President Donald Trump and technocrat-turned-visionary Elon Musk have taken their public alliance and lit it ablaze over the latest orgy of state largesse: the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBA). This bloated leviathan of a bill — packed with vote-buying gimmicks and military pork — has sparked an intraparty firestorm and exposed, yet again, the utter bankruptcy of the ruling duopoly.

This bill, narrowly forced through the House by statist masquerading as reformers, extends the illusion of prosperity created by the 2017 tax manipulations, all while unleashing a flood of coercively extracted funds toward militarism and bureaucratic expansion. In true government fashion, it promises utopia, delivers debt, and condemns future generations to economic servitude.

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THE TRUMP-MUSK FEUD: A MONUMENT TO THE ABSURDITY OF STATISM (CONTINUED)

TJ KOSIN

Even the Congressional Budget Office — no enemy of central planning — estimates the bill will inflate the national debt by \$2.4 to \$5 trillion over the next decade. This isn't fiscal responsibility — it's the worship of Leviathan dressed in populist rhetoric.

Elon Musk, once a court-favored innovator and czar of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), has now cast off his MAGA-red cloak and declared the bill a “disgusting abomination.” His fury, fueled in part by the bill's removal of electric vehicle subsidies, reveals a deeper discomfort with the expanding reach of federal power and the state's bottomless appetite for plunder. While Musk's objections may stem from self-interest, his words have nonetheless struck a chord with those disillusioned by the big-government cosplay dominating both parties.

Joining the chorus is Representative Thomas Massie (R-KY), one of the few voices in Washington who still speaks the language of liberty. Massie called the OBBB “a debt bomb ticking toward generational theft” and has urged Musk to put his money where his mouth is — by bankrolling primary challengers to the GOP's spend-and-pretend brigade. It's a rare — and refreshing — moment where someone inside the belly of the beast dares to call out its parasitic nature.

In predictable fashion, Trump retaliated like any thin-skinned despot might: dismissing Musk's criticisms as “Trump Derangement Syndrome” and threatening to yank federal contracts from Musk's companies. Such threats expose Trump's true colors — not as a swamp-drainer, but as a power-drunk dealmaker who merely wants to steer the machinery of the state, not dismantle it. His America First rhetoric, it turns out, stops where corporate loyalty to his ego begins.

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THE TRUMP-MUSK FEUD: A MONUMENT TO THE ABSURDITY OF STATISM (CONTINUED)

TJ KOSIN

The fallout has been immediate. Tesla's stock took a nosedive, erasing billions in market value — a poetic reminder of what happens when your business model rests on pleasing the state instead of the market. Musk, now scorched by the very political fire he helped stoke, stands at a crossroads.

And libertarians can't help but ask: Has Elon finally taken the **yellow pill**?

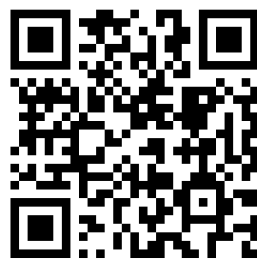
Is this the moment he realizes that the Republican and Democratic parties are two sides of the same counterfeit coin? That the national debt, the military-industrial complex, and the surveillance state are not bugs in the system — they are the system? If Musk is serious about opposing the tyranny of debt and endless spending, the answer is not better Republicans or reformed Democrats. It's Libertarians.

Only the Libertarian Party has the guts to say what no one else will: Cut the budget. End the wars. Abolish entire agencies. Shut down the Fed. The duopoly thrives on illusion, manipulation, and force. Libertarians offer a future based on voluntary exchange, sound money, and non-aggression.

If Elon Musk truly wants to make a difference, he should stop playing footsie with the power brokers and start funding freedom. Help put Libertarians in Congress and the Senate — not to manage Leviathan more “efficiently,” but to chain it down and starve it until liberty can breathe again.

Because at the end of the day, the problem isn't who controls the state.

The problem is the state.

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WHY LIBERTARIANS ACROSS PENNSYLVANIA ARE DEMANDING ACTION ON CONSTITUTIONAL CARRY RECIPROCITY

BRITTANY KOSIN



In every corner of Pennsylvania — from Bucks County to Erie — libertarians are standing up for the natural right to self-defense. We do so not because a constitution gives us that right, but because it is inherent in all people. Governments didn't create our liberty, and they have no authority to ration it out through a permit system.

That's why we reject the entire premise of concealed carry permits. You should not need government permission to carry

the tools necessary to defend your life, your family, and your property. But as we work to dismantle the unjust regulatory structure around firearms, we must also push for every incremental win that moves us closer to true liberty. One of those wins is H.R. 38 — the Constitutional Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act.

This federal bill would force states to recognize concealed carry permits issued by other states, just like driver's licenses. It's not a silver bullet — but it's a strike against the patchwork tyranny that criminalizes peaceful people for crossing state lines while armed.

24 state Attorneys General have already signed a letter of support for H.R. 38. Pennsylvania's AG, Dave Sunday, has not. That needs to change.

We're calling on all libertarians — constitutionalists, voluntarists, minarchists, agorists — to flood AG Sunday's office with letters. We know permits shouldn't exist in the first place, but we also know that if we're not the ones pushing back, no one else will.

✉ Send a message to AG Dave Sunday:

👉 <https://pennsylvania.gunowners.org/06032025>

Tell him:

Support H.R. 38

Restore reciprocity with Virginia

Stop treating liberty like a privilege

This isn't about asking for scraps. It's about taking ground in the fight to restore our rights. If we can't get our own AG to support the most basic effort to unify permit recognition, how can we expect anything better down the line?

Now is the time. Let's remind the political class that our rights are not up for debate.

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WARWICK TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS SAY NO TO MASS SURVEILLANCE

WARWICK TWP LIBERTARIAN CLUB



In Warwick Township, Bucks County, liberty is under quiet assault—not from some far-off federal agency, but from our own local government.

This year, the Township Supervisors voted to apply for a grant to fund the installation of a fixed automatic license plate reader (ALPR) system. While they claim this is to “keep the community safe,” they ignore the broader implications: mass surveillance of every vehicle that drives

through our township. This technology doesn’t discriminate. It logs your location, your time, your movement—without probable cause, without a warrant, and without your consent.

The Warwick Libertarian Club stood up.

We organized. We educated our neighbors. We dug into the case law. We explained that these systems are not just privacy-invasive—they’re unconstitutional. The Fourth Amendment guarantees us the right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures. Scanning the plates of every resident, visitor, and passerby in real-time without suspicion turns “innocent until proven guilty” into “monitored just in case.”

As a township supervisor candidate Brittany Kosin put it, “Warwick Township does not have a crime problem—it has a transparency problem. The board didn’t ask the community if they wanted this. They didn’t explain what happens to the data. They didn’t tell you that your daily commute will now be a matter of public record.”

And let’s be honest: surveillance doesn’t equal safety. It’s a false trade-off pushed by companies that profit off fear and by officials more interested in control than in liberty.

We’re proud to say that after significant public pushback—sparked in part by Brittany Kosin’s comments and support from residents across the political spectrum—the Township attempted to reassure residents by claiming the license plate readers would be funded through a grant. But let’s be clear: grants are tax dollars. Whether they come from the federal government, the state, or a local pot, they still come from you. And no matter the funding source, our civil liberties are not for sale.

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR TWO UNFORGETTABLE LPPA SUMMER EVENTS!

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Summer is heating up—and so is liberty! The Fundraising Committee is proud to announce two exciting events where you can show your support for the LPPA while having a blast with fellow freedom lovers. Whether you're a die-hard baseball fan, a family looking for a day of fun, or just someone who loves good food and liberty, we've got you covered.

🏟️ LPPA Altoona Curve Picnic Night

📅 Saturday, June 21, 2025

🕒 Game Time: 6:30 PM | Buffet: 5:00 – 7:00 PM

📍 Stuckey Automotive Picnic Pavilion, Peoples Natural Gas Field, Altoona, PA

Join us for an evening of baseball, liberty, and fireworks as the Altoona Curve take on the Richmond Flying Squirrels!

Your ticket includes:

- 🎫 Field-level reserved seating in our exclusive pavilion
- 🍴 A 2-hour all-you-can-eat buffet featuring BBQ ribs, grilled chicken, burgers, hot dogs, sides, cookies, soda, and water
- 🍺 Beer available for purchase—or open a tab with fellow Libertarians
- 🎆 Cap it all off with the Weird-Themed Fireworks Show presented by local sponsors

Strange Albert might be there, but you don't have to be strange to enjoy this Liberty Night Out. Come hang out, bring a friend, and help us raise funds while we build community.

🎪 LPPA Annual Family Fun Day at Knoebels Amusement Park

📅 Saturday, July 5, 2025

🕒 Time: 12:00 PM – 9:00 PM (Picnic at 1:00 PM)

📍 Knoebels Amusement Park – Pavilion R, 391 Knoebels Blvd, Elysburg, PA 17824

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EVENTS



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR TWO UNFORGETTABLE LPPA SUMMER EVENTS! (CONTINUED)

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Get ready for a day of laughter, rides, and celebration of our most treasured value—freedom. Bring your family and friends to one of Pennsylvania’s most loved parks for a day full of liberty and fun.

What to expect:

🎉 A picnic with liberty-minded families starting at 1 PM

🎡 Full access to rides and games all day

🍴 Discounted ride books and meal packages available here:

<https://givebutter.com/Familyfunday2025>

🚗 Free admission and parking—because we don’t believe in nickel-and-diming you for your freedom

These events aren’t just about fun—they’re about fueling the fight for liberty. All proceeds go toward helping LPPA candidates and causes take bold steps forward.

✅ Don’t wait—tickets are limited!

📣 Help us make these events a success by spreading the word, bringing guests, and showing up in force.

Let’s build liberty, one event at a time.

LOCALISM MATTERS: START SHOWING UP

LUKE ENSOR



All politics starts local, and the world is run by those who show up.

Much of what consumes our political discourse centers on federal, state, and global issues. There are many reasons for this, but the end result is to keep our focus & energy away from where we have the most power: our own local communities.

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LOCALISM MATTERS: START SHOWING UP (CONTINUED)

LUKE ENSOR

One reason that Libertarians especially should be mindful of is a subconscious avoidance of responsibility; it's comfortable to focus on issues so far beyond our control that we'll never have to take ownership for the results of policies we're certain will work.

We must consciously reject the comfort of irrelevance, the temptation of clean isolation. If we both truly believe in our ideas and want to see them implemented in the real world, we must be active in pushing them in the real world. We must, if you will, Take Human Action. And as previously stated, for almost everyone reading this, it's at the local level where we have the most potential power and ability to impact policy.

The best way to get started is to learn your local municipality meeting schedule, and begin attending regularly. Learn how your local government works, where the local politicians stand, what topics are important to them, and where you can start pushing libertarian ideas. Every locality is different, so there's no substitute to showing up, observing, and learning.

If you're not showing up in the real world at the level where you can have the most potential impact, how much do you really believe in the ideas you claim to love? How much do you value achieving real-world liberty compared to feeling personally superior to everyone else?

Start Showing Up.

LIBERTARIAN BOOK CLUB BRINGS WESTERN PA READERS TOGETHER

JOHN THOMAS



Ben Heilman from the Armstrong County Affiliate started the Liberty Minded Book Club of Western Pennsylvania in July 2024. His goal was to create a space where Libertarians across the region could connect and grow together.

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LIBERTARIAN BOOK CLUB BRINGS WESTERN PA READERS TOGETHER

JOHN THOMAS

“The book club came about from a desire to have intellectually stimulating conversations with others who placed great importance on individual liberty and to prepare people for conversations which would hopefully win over the hearts and minds of people possibly otherwise fond of the idea of government interventions to value voluntary interactions and see the unintended consequences of interference,” Heilman said.

He continued, “In the aftermath of Covid, the book club remained dormant until its recent, stronger iteration with a few core members who look optimistically forward to new voices participating.”

The club held the first meeting of its current iteration in August 2024 and discussed Murray Rothbard’s *What Has Government Done to Our Money?* Since then, members have talked about several books, including *Economics in One Lesson* by Henry Hazlitt, *Freedom First* by John Thomas (the Libertarian Party of PA’s 2024 U.S. Senate candidate), *The Cult of the Presidency* by Gene Healy, *The Third Temptation* by Austin Rogers, and *Open* by Johan Norberg.

The next meeting is set for June 19, 2025 at 6:00 PM. The group will discuss *Modern Libertarianism: A Brief History of Classical Liberalism in the United States* by Brian Doherty.

“We’ve covered a wide range of books—economics, politics, even culture,” said John Thomas. “But they all tie back to the idea of limited government.”

While the club encourages members to read the books beforehand, it’s not required. “Even if you haven’t finished the book, you’ll still get a lot from the conversation,” Thomas said.

These meetings give Libertarians a chance to share their ideas—and they’re open to the public. “Too often, political talk only happens online,” Thomas said. “We’re changing that. We want people to feel comfortable having real discussions about limited government in public places. The American Revolution began with everyday people talking in pubs and taverns. If we want a peaceful Libertarian Revolution, we need to bring those conversations into the open.”

Heilman said, “In a world of short form communication it is good to strengthen reasoning by focusing on and discussing long form communication.”

The June 19 meeting will take place at 6:00 PM at Panera Bread in the Waterworks Mall, 942 Freeport Rd, Pittsburgh.

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WESTMORELAND COUNTY UPDATE:

NICK CIESIELSKI

The Libertarian Party of Westmoreland County held its Annual Meeting on April 28, 2025. At the meeting, Nick Ciesielski was re-elected chair, Jamie Smith was re-elected secretary, and Michael Matovcik was re-elected as treasurer. Also at the meeting, Nick Ciesielski was nominated as the candidate for Hempfield Township's Board of Auditors. The meeting also had a few changes to the bylaws, mostly just adding in some clarifications and some best practices, but nothing really substantive with the structure. We will be looking to have a social event in June, so keep an eye out at the LPPA or LPWC websites for updates. We are also looking to develop a hyper-local scheme and increase engagement down to the precinct level. Finally, we still have plenty of races that could use Libertarian candidates, reach out if interested in running. We will be reaching out far and wide to fill those positions. If you would like to be involved, please reach out at Westmoreland@lppa.org.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

NICK CIESIELSKI

The Public Relations Committee has been hard at work trying to put out content and reach out both internally and externally. Following the last state convention, one of our press releases which condemned Josh Shapiro and others for their bomb signing trip to Scranton last fall, was picked up by a local Scranton radio station, which requested somebody come on to talk about it. We have been trying to increase the amount of short form video content created, as that still has some of the most organic reach but also takes a lot more time than just typing up a few words. If you would like to contribute to this effort, we could always use contributors. Also, we could always use contributors for this newsletter. We are considering trying to offer this newsletter in print form. If you would like to be able to receive this in print through the mail, please reach out. The committee can be reached at publicrelations@lppa.org.

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THE OPOSSUM'S ODE TO FREEDOM IN PENNSYLVANIA

POSSUM MITCH



Dear Readers,

When we think of freedom and liberty, our minds often soar to grand ideals - self-determination, the pursuit of happiness, or the right to chart one's own course. Yet, in the rolling hills and dense forests of Pennsylvania, a humble creature embodies these principles in its quiet, unassuming way: the opossum. This marsupial, often misunderstood, is a living testament to the spirit of independence and resilience that defines both the Keystone State and the broader American ethos.

Opossums are the ultimate rugged individualists. With their nomadic lifestyle, they roam Pennsylvania's woodlands, suburbs, and even urban alleys, unbound by rigid territories or societal expectations. They don't ask for permission to scavenge a meal from a compost bin or to take shelter beneath a porch. They simply "do". This self-reliance mirrors the libertarian streak that runs through Pennsylvania's history - from the state's role in drafting the U.S. Constitution to its fierce defense of individual rights during the Whiskey Rebellion.

Unlike more social animals, opossums don't depend on packs or hierarchies. They thrive solo, raising their young with minimal fuss and moving on when the time comes. In a world that often demands conformity, the opossum's solitary hustle is a reminder that true freedom means living on your own terms, even if that path is unconventional.

Pennsylvania's opossums also teach us about liberty through resilience. These creatures face predators, harsh winters, and the ever-encroaching sprawl of human development, yet they persist. Their famous "playing possum" defense - feigning death to outwit danger - isn't just survival; it's a strategic assertion of control over their fate. In a sense, it's the ultimate act of defiance: "You may threaten me, but I'll decide how this ends."

This grit resonates with Pennsylvanians, who've long balanced personal freedom with collective responsibility. From the abolitionists who ran the Underground Railroad to modern communities advocating for local governance, the state has a knack for standing firm in the face of challenges. The opossum, in its quiet way, reflects this same tenacity - a liberty not just to exist, but to endure and adapt.

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THE OPOSSUM'S ODE TO FREEDOM IN PENNSYLVANIA (CONTINUED)

POSSUM MITCH

In 2025, as debates about freedom and autonomy swirl across the nation, the opossum offers a grounded perspective. It doesn't grandstand or demand attention; it simply lives its truth. In Pennsylvania, where urban Pittsburgh and rural Appalachia coexist, the opossum bridges divides. It's as comfortable dodging traffic in Philly as it is foraging in the Alleghenies. Its adaptability reminds us that liberty isn't about imposing one way of life but about creating space for all to thrive.

So, the next time you spot an opossum waddling through your backyard or hear its rustle in the underbrush, pause and reflect. This unassuming creature is more than a scavenger - it's a symbol of freedom, quietly carving its path through Pennsylvania's tapestry of liberty.

Let's celebrate the opossum's spirit! Share your opossum sightings or stories with us at LPOpossum@gmail.com. And if you're feeling inspired, join a local Pennsylvania wildlife group to protect the habitats that let these furry libertarians roam free.

Let's celebrate the opossum's spirit! Share your opossum sightings or stories with us at LPOpossum@gmail.com. And if you're feeling inspired, join a local Pennsylvania wildlife group to protect the habitats that let these furry libertarians roam free.

Yours in Liberty,

Possum Mitch

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HAVE A STORY TO SHARE? HERE'S HOW TO GET IT IN THE NEWSLETTER! (CONTINUED)

There's no need to be a professional writer — if you have an update or an idea you'd like to share, we'll work with you to make sure it's newsletter-ready. Whether it's a short event recap, a personal story about your path to liberty, or a big win for your local affiliate, we want to help amplify your voice.



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