



# Free New York

Vol. 52, No. 7

The Official Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New York

July 2023

## LPNY CONDEMNS GOVERNMENT'S WASTEFUL EXCELSIOR PASS PROGRAM

by Libertarian Party of New York

Albany, New York, July 10, 2023 - The Libertarian Party of New York (LPNY) strongly denounces the wastefulness and authoritarian overreach demonstrated by the government's Excelsior Pass program. It is with great relief that we announce the discontinuation of the program, slated for July 28, 2023. However, irreparable damage has already been done, with a staggering \$250 million squandered from taxpayers' pockets. This immense financial burden, coupled with the erosion of personal liberties, underscores the government's misplaced priorities and disregard for fiscal responsibility.

The Excelsior Pass system, with its discriminatory nature, effectively established a caste system within New York. It segregated individuals based on their vaccination status, pitting the vaccinated against the unvaccinated. This divisive approach contradicts the principles of inclusivity and unity that should be fundamental to our society.

The Excelsior Pass program also grossly violated the right to medical privacy, a fundamental tenet of personal freedom. New York-

ers were coerced into revealing their personal health information, compelling them to divulge sensitive medical details to gain access to certain businesses and services. Such infringement on individual privacy undermines the very essence of personal autonomy and the right to make informed decisions regarding one's own health.

Throughout the existence of the Excelsior Pass system, libertarians and medical freedom activists voiced their opposition to this intrusive program. Despite freezing cold winter months in 2021, restaurants in New York City refused indoor dining to unvaccinated individuals, effectively punishing those who exercised their freedom of choice. Many businesses and individuals felt compelled to comply with the Excelsior Pass requirements out of fear of retribution by the government, facing the threat of closure or exclusion from essential services.

"Another example of failed secu-

rity theater," said Duane Whitmer, Libertarian Party of New York 1st Vice-Chair and Communications Director. "The average person should always question whenever any governmental entity wants to collect data or build lists of individuals. If you read the fine print, they openly admit they can share the data with other organizations, including law enforcement, without the consent of the individual. Knowing the political class of New York, it won't be long until the next crisis comes along for the next database."

The Libertarian Party of New York calls upon all liberty-minded individuals and concerned citizens to remain vigilant in safeguarding our constitutional rights and to resist any future encroachments on personal freedoms. We will continue to advocate for a government that respects the autonomy of its citizens and upholds the principles of individual liberty, limited government, and free markets.

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# **HELP US PASS A3312**

**This bill will lower the ballot access thresholds back to the previous standards: the number of votes needed to get ballot access to 50,000 (from 130,000 or 2%), and lower the petition signature requirement for a statewide office to 15,000 (from 45,000). Contact your representatives in the New York State Legislature and ask them to support this bill!**

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# 2023 CANDIDATES LIST

**There are 19 Libertarian candidates running throughout New York this year:**

Ryan Sanders for Sherman Village Trustee (Chautauqua County)

Thomas Quiter for Guilford Town Supervisor (Chenango County)

Craig Colwell for Elmira City Council District 6 (Chemung County)

Duane Whitmer for Erie County Executive (Erie County)

Earl A. Gingerich, Jr. for Marilla Town Supervisor (Erie County)

Sharon Lee Forersch for Marilla Town Clerk (Erie County)

Wendy Schoenwetter for Marilla Town Council (Erie County)

Mark Braiman for Cazenovia Town Council (Madison County)

Wendi Szabo for Royalton Town Council (Niagara County)

Keith Redhead for Ava Town Supervisor (Oneida County)

Kathleen Redhead for Town of Ava Tax Collector (Oneida County)

Craig Shute for Lafayette Town Supervisor (Onondaga County)

Angela Einwachter for Prattsburgh Town Council (Steuben County)

Jeff Bradley for Yates County Legislature District 3 (Yates County)

Janice Enos for County Legislature District 3 (Yates County)

Phillip Rahr for County Legislature District 3 (Yates County)

Suzanne Timbrouck for Ulster County Legislature District 6 (Ulster County)

Chris Madden for Ulster County Legislature District 19 (Ulster County)

Michael J. Kavanagh for Ulster County District Attorney (Ulster County)

# COUNTY AFFILIATE NEWS

## ALBANY

**CONTACT:**

**Justin Carman, Chair**  
jcarman@lpny.org

## ALLEGANY

**CONTACT:**

**Jame VanDewalker,**  
**Acting County Chair/  
County Liasion**  
jvandewalker@lpny.org

**LEARN MORE:**

fb.com/AlleganyCountyLP

## CHAUTAUQUA

**NEXT MEETING:**

Thurs., Aug. 3, 2023 @ 6:30 PM  
Lakeview Hotel & Resturant  
Mayville, NY and Zoom  
(first Thursdays)

**CONTACT:**

**Len Morlock, Chair**  
lmorlock@lpny.org  
**Andrew Kolstee, Secretary**  
akolstee@lpny.org

**LEARN MORE:**

www.chautauquaLP.org  
fb.com/chautauquaLP

## CHEMUNG

**TRIVIA NIGHT:**

Wed., July 26, 2023 at 6:30 PM  
at Ill Eagle Taphouse  
(4th Wednesdays)

## CHEMUNG, cont.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Tues., Aug. 8, 2023 at 6 PM  
at Ill Eagle Taphouse  
(2nd Tuesdays)

**BBQ/PICNIC:**

Sun., Aug. 13, 2023 at 4 PM  
at Sperr Park, Big Flats, NY

**CONTACT:**

**Craig Colwell, Chair**  
ccolwell@lpny.org

**LEARN MORE:**

lpchemung.org

## CHENANGO

Tom Quiter is running for Guilford Town Supervisor. Contact him to get involved.

**CONTACT:**

**Tom Quiter, County Liasion**  
tquiter@lpny.org

## COLUMBIA

**NEXT MEETING:**

Wed., Aug. 16, 2023 @ 7 PM  
Claverack Free Library  
and Google Meet  
(third Wednesdays)

**CONTACT:**

**Scott Hoskins, Chair**  
scottdhoskins@gmail.com

## CLINTON

**CONTACT:**

**Zachary Remian,**  
**County Liaison**  
zremian@lpny.org  
(518) 310-6664

## DUTCHESS

**NEXT MEETING:**

Held 3rd Saturdays  
Time/Location Varies

**CONTACT:**

**Catrina Rocco, Chair**  
DCLPChair@outlook.com

## ERIE

**PICNIC:**

Sun., Aug. 6, 2023 at 1 PM  
Akron Falls Park

**NEXT MEETING:**

Held Monthly via Zoom

**CONTACT:**

**Duane Whitmer, Chair**  
chairman@eriecountylp.org

## FULTON

**NEXT MEETING:**

TBD via Google Meet

**CONTACT:**

**Michael Long,**  
**Acting Chair/Secretary**  
mlong@lpny.org

## KINGS (BROOKLYN)

### NEXT MEETING:

Tues., Aug. 15, 2023 at 3 PM  
@ Fourth Avenue Pub  
76 4th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11217  
(third Tuesdays)

### CONTACT:

**Matthew Morgan, Chair**  
matthewisaiahmorgan@gmail.com

## LEWIS

### CONTACT:

**Christopher Lyndaker,**  
Acting County Chair  
lyndaker2020@gmail.com

## MADISON

### CONTACT:

**Mark Braiman, Chair**  
mbraiman@lpny.org

## MONROE

Contact the Monroe County Libertarian Party for meeting link. We also have monthly social meetings that you don't want to miss. There is also Google Group for announcements.

### NEXT MEETING:

Thurs., Aug. 3, 2023 @ 7 PM  
(first Thursdays)

### CONTACT:

**Steve Becker, Chair**  
drsbecker@aol.com

### LEARN MORE:

monroecountylp.org

## NASSAU

### NEXT MEETING:

Thurs., Aug. 10, 2023 at 7 PM  
@ Landmark Diner  
(2nd Thursdays)

### CONTACT:

**Jon Gunther,**  
Executive Committee Chair  
jonguntherlibertarian@gmail.com  
**Blay Tarnoff,**  
County Committee Chair  
LPNY@eblay.com

## NEW YORK (MANHATTAN)

### CONTACT:

**Rebecca Lau, Chair**  
laurebeccas@gmail.com

## ONEIDA

### CONTACT:

**Adam Magoon, Chair**  
amagoon@lpny.org  
**Keith Redhead, Vice-Chair**  
kredhead@lpny.org

## ONONDAGA

### NEXT MEETING:

Wed., Aug. 16, 2023 at 6 PM  
@ Rail Line  
530 S. Clinton St., Syracuse  
(third Wednesdays)

### CONTACT:

**Shawn Hannon, Chair**  
hannon.shawn@gmail.com

## ORANGE

### CONTACT:

**Juan Ayala, Chair**  
livefree@juanrayala.com

## PUTNAM

### NEXT MEETING:

Thurs., Aug. 10, 2023 at 7 PM  
at McCarthy's  
374 Route 52, Carmel, NY 10512  
(2nd Thursdays)

### CONTACT:

**Bill O'Donnell, Chair**  
billod10704@gmail.com

## QUEENS

### CONTACT:

**John Clifton, Chair**  
mrjclifton@yahoo.com

### NEXT MEETING:

Sat., Aug. 12, 2023  
OBA Grill  
104-02 Metropolitan Ave.,  
Forest Hills, Queens, NY  
(2nd Saturdays)

## RENSSELAER

Since October 2022, the Rensselaer County Libertarian Party has been collecting food items and monetary donations to give monthly to StreetSoldiers Rensselaer.

### NEXT MEETING:

Wed., Aug. 2, 2023 at 6:30 PM  
Alexis Diner, North Greenbush  
(first Wednesdays)

### CONTACT:

**Jennifer O'Connor,**  
County Contact  
joconnor@lpny.org

## RICHMOND (STATEN ISLAND)

**CONTACT:**

**Susan Overeem Cummings,  
Chair**

susanovereem@gmail.com

## SARATOGA

**CONTACT:**

**Naz Garabedian, Chair**

nazareth.garabedian  
@lawsonproducts.com

## SCHOHARIE

**CONTACT:**

**Lora Newell, Chair**

lnewell@lpny.org

## SUFFOLK

**CONTACT:**

**George Ostrowski, Chair**

gtostrowski@msn.com

## TIOGA

**CONTACT:**

**Sara Price, Chair**

sprice@lpny.org

**Rich Purtell, Vice-Chair**

rpurtell@lpny.org

## ULSTER

**NEXT MEETING:**

Mon., Aug. 14, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Hickory BBQ, Kingston, NY  
(second Mondays)

**CONTACT:**

**Cipriana Costello, Chair**

ciprianacostello@gmail.com

**LEARN MORE:**

www.UlsterLP.org

## WASHINGTON

**CONTACT:**

**Brian Wells,**

**Acting County Chair/  
County Liaison**

blwells45@gmail.com

## WAYNE

**NEXT MEETING:**

Sat., July 23, 2023 at 11 AM  
at Yellow Mills Diner  
in Palmyra, NY  
(fourth Saturdays)

**CONTACT:**

**Jim Dayton, Chair**

jdayton@lpny.org

**LEARN MORE:**

lpwaynecounty.org

## WESTCHESTER

**CONTACT:**

**Rajib Maitra**

**Acting County Chair/  
County Liaison**

rajib.maitra1@gmail.com

## YATES

**CONTACT:**

**Jeff Bradley, Chair**

jbradley@lpny.org



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**LPNY.ORG/DONATE**

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Unisex Zip Hoodie

**\$34.99**



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Mug

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LPNY Logo Store  
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LPNY Logo Store  
Classic Tee

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LPNY New Logo Store  
Classic Long Sleeve Tee

**\$22.99**



LPNY New Logo Store  
Classic Tee

**\$19.99**



LPNY New Logo Store  
Unisex Zip Hoodie

**\$34.99**



LPNY New Logo Store  
Mug

**\$12.99**



LPNY New Logo Store  
Classic Pullover Hoodie

**\$34.99**



LPNY New Logo Store  
Classic Crewneck  
Sweatshirt

**\$26.99**



LPNY New Logo Store  
Die Cut Sticker

**\$7.99**

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# LPNYSTORE.COM

# LPNY DIRECTORY

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