

# New \$20 silver Liberty Dollar circulates

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A new Chambersburg Liberty • Dollar is making its rounds. The new \$20 silver piece features the Pennsylvania coat of arms under the word "Chambersburg."

The Liberty Dollar, an alternative currency to the U.S. dollar, has been growing in popularity locally as more businesses accept the money, said Pete Hallock, a local distributor of the Liberty Dollar.

"There are probably 40 merchants in the Chambersburg area and over 60 in south central Pennsylvania. It's catching on," he said. "I'm very excited about what's happening locally."

Reed Hunk of KFB Jewelers on South Main Street in Chambersburg said this week his decision to begin accepting the Liberty Dollar was primarily out of curiosity but added it is a decision he is glad he made. "It has brought in some business," Runk said.

The new, one-ounce silver Chambersburg Liberty Dollar is similar to other \$20 pieces, only it is customized for Chambersburg.

The Liberty Dollar was introduced in 1998 by Bernard von NotHaus as an alternative to U.S. currency. Since its inception, \$20 million Liberty Dollars have been distributed to 100,000 people.

Hallock hopes that locally Liberty Dollar will particularly help the businesses in downtown regions.

"Local currencies are becoming the rage. Up in New England, one is being introduced. There's also a region of Germany where so many were disenchanting with the Euro they developed their own. It's all about keeping money in the local community," Hallock said.

The Liberty Dollar comes in four silver denominations — \$1, \$5, \$10 and \$20 T-one troy ounce gold denomination of \$1,000, and paper currency

In March, von NotHaus filed a lawsuit against three government officials in a U.S. District Court in Indiana after the U.S. Mint warned consumers that using the Liberty Dollars is illegal. He is seeking a permanent injunction to rescind the warning.

**PHOTO CAPTION)** Local currency: Pete Hallock displays the new Liberty Dollar, a \$20 coin.