

# Davis gets Libertarian nod in 1st District

Hurlock dentist will face  
Democratic, Republican  
nominees in November

By **KRISTYN ECOCHARD**

Staff Writer

**HURLOCK** — Another candidate has entered the fray between Republican Andy Harris and Democrat Frank Kratovil — Dr. Richard Davis announced his candidacy as the Libertarian Party's nominee for Maryland's First Congressional District.

Davis said the chairman of the Libertarian Party of Maryland, Bob Johnston, asked him to run a few weeks ago and he has decided to accept after being officially nominated at the party's convention Saturday, March 1.

"I consider it my responsibility as a citizen to be involved," Davis said.

Davis said the party currently has candidates in seven of the state's eight congressional districts and is hoping to find an eighth nominee.

He has been a dentist in Hurlock for 25 years. Before that, he was in the Navy in Philadelphia and he was raised in upstate



**DR. RICHARD  
DAVIS**

**... Libertarian  
nominee  
for Congress**

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New York. He now lives in Hurlock, where he practices, with his wife and his two grown children.

Davis is a self-proclaimed Constitutionalist and supports Ron Paul in his bid for the presidency. His platform is based on supporting legislation only if it is authorized in the Constitution.

"I believe a piece of legislation should be understandable by those it applies to and should be centered around a single issue," he said.

Davis spoke during an interview about his stance on some of the issues voters are concerned about this election.

According to Davis, war has not been declared.

"Since this Congress has not declared war, I consider it illegal. In fact, everything (every military action) since 1946 has been illegal. Congress has the sole power to declare war and has abdicated that power."

He said he supports the withdrawal of troops. He said he has no problem with legal immigration, but does have concerns with illegal immigration.

"Whatever they have to do to limit it to legal, whether it be building a fence at the border or not, I think it's gotten out of control and it needs to be brought under control. Again I have no problem with legal immigration, it confuses the mix when you don't limit it to legal and it's kind of downside for the ones who do abide by the rules."

Davis said he thinks health care should be run outside of the federal government.

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**Richard Davis**

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he said. "If our health care system were run by the Postal Service or the DMV, nobody would be happy. I think between the government and the insurance companies, it's become so bureaucratized, more goes into paperwork than health care."

Along with health care, he said environmental concerns should probably be taken over by private entities as well.

"I've been hearing for the 25 years I've been here how the government is going to clean up the Chesapeake Bay and I hear the same phrases year after year, but I see nothing done," Davis said. "Maybe it's time for private groups to start taking some of the pollutants to court, be they municipalities with their sewage systems or industries or whoever."

As far as education, Davis takes the stance of his Libertarian party and believes more control should be given to local jurisdictions.

"I have not seen much coming down from state and federal levels, after years and years of rhetoric and money with very little results, maybe it's time we just left the money in the control of locals and let local communities take care of their own."

On the economy, Davis felt people in the First District would be best served by leaving money locally as well.

"Sending it to Washington and mail-

ing everybody back out a check doesn't seem like a very effective approach. I mean I've seen several recessions and usually we work through them one way or another," he said. "The last really bad one was when we spent a lot of money on a war in Vietnam and tried to keep up social programs as well. We overspent and ran up deficits and that's where you get inflation."

Davis said he will run a completely grassroots campaign and will not be accepting contributions or placing ads.

"I do not intend to 'buy' votes," Davis said. "I believe the time is coming for a change in the way we practice politics."

He believes in minimal government and would practice that approach if elected, he said.

"I don't want to run people's lives, I don't want to run other people's lives, I want to leave people alone to run their own lives as long as they don't interfere with other people. The more interference from far away and higher up, the less people are able to take care of themselves and I still think Americans are pretty well capable of taking care of themselves if given the chance.

Davis invites questions from voters, who may call 410-943-8314 if they wish to speak with him.