HardisonInk.com

CEE political forum draws about 100 onlookers

State Rep. Charlie Stone (R-Ocala, Dist. 22) and his wife Marion County Commission Vice Chair Michelle Stone are seen before the start of the event. Rep. Stone is seeking reelection. He faces one Republican candidate in the primary race on Aug. 28, and then the winner of that will face the Democrat seeking the office.

HardisonInk.com

Story and Photos by Jeff M. Hardison © July 29, 2018 at 9:48 p.m.

WILLISTON – About 100 people showed up to watch 18 candidates in races for Levy County School Board, Levy County Commission, United States House of Representatives, Florida House of Representatives, Eighth Judicial Circuit, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture and Florida Governor.

Some of the many people who attended the event are seen milling about before the start of the event. Rep. Stone is among the state keaders who worked diligently to assure that Levy County had the state funding to build the current Williston Middle High School.

The Citizens for an Engaged Electorate (CEE) hosted the event at the Williston Middle High School Cafetorium on Saturday (July 28).

The format showed volunteer students from WMHS reading questions submitted by members of the audience. Candidates were limited to the same amounts of time for introductions, and then to answer each question.

The CEE invited 55 candidates from these races.

Each candidate participating was allowed to have the same space at various tables spread around the sides and back of the room.

The AARP chapter from Williston also participated as hosts, and some business interests donated to help fund the event. At the conclusion, there was an announcement that the CEE did not raise enough money to cover all of the costs of the event and donations were solicited afterward.

Levy County Supervisor of Elections Tammy Jones manned a table to provide an opportunity for people to register to vote, or to otherwise tend to any election matters where her office serves the people.