council for life long engagement Students hear firsthand accounts of World War II

Recently, the Council for Life Long Engagement (CLLE) hosted a panel discussion in the 8th grade class of Mr. Nick Voss. The students were beginning their study of World War II and what better way to begin than to hear the firsthand accounts of an Army nurse and a naval fighter pilot. Deupree House residents, Mrs. Ann Marie Zinga and Mr. David Campbell didn't disappoint.

Mrs. Zinga shared her excitement of joining the military. She knew she wanted to serve her country in the war effort and nursing was just the avenue to do so. She had recently graduation with her nursing degree. Even though she entered service close to the end of the war, her sacrifice was no less meaningful. She shared how very exciting it was for a train, the Silver Zephyr to stop in her little home town of Logan, Iowa population 2,000 to pick her up and take her to training. "Half of the town showed up to see me off." She told the students she felt like a real star. Her specialty in optics was put to good use. Mrs. Zinga shared fond memories of helping the young men who had shrapnel in their eyes. The students were particularly impressed with her story of hanging from the ceiling holding a giant magnet used to help extract shrapnel from soldier's eyes.

Serving as a fighter pilot Mr. David Campbell saw a different side of the war. He spent a period of time in Tunisia helping to free the country from the grip of Italy and Mussolini. Being a part of this winning campaign was very meaningful to him. He recounted to the students about spending many days in the hot dessert sun while there. Mr. Campbell shared important and prized wintergreen mints were. Responding to some inquisitive faces he told of how everyone carried their own water canteen and the hot became quite hot in the sun. "You pop a wintergreen mint in your mouth and it cooled the water and allowed you to drink it." With this explanation the students understood what he meant. Mr. Campbell went on to train soldiers from all over the world how to fly planes. When they came to the United States he learned and shared his important lesson that we as humans have much more in common than we have differences.



Are You Interested?

If you would like to be apart of the CLLE programs in the classroom, please contact Laura Lamb at llamb@erhinc.com or at 272.5555 ext. 6606. Visit www.clle.org

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