

A lesson in 'cyber security'

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News Leader

Seven Yulee High School students joined with 43 other local students to attend a lecture by John C. Inglis, deputy director and senior civilian leader of the National Security Agency, at the University of North Florida Sept. 24.

The lecture titled "Cyber Security: Global Threats – The Next 20 Years," was part of the Great Decisions program sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Jacksonville.

Great Decisions is an academic extracurricular activity in 11 area high schools. Each school is assigned a professor from either Edward Waters College, Florida State College at Jacksonville, Jacksonville University or the University of North Florida who meets with their assigned school's Great Decisions students on a regular basis to discuss global issues.

The program provides great opportunities for students who are actively seeking academic and global awareness outside of school, said Yulee High School instructor Ethan Dombkowski.

"This particular lecture offered a dinner and meet and greet with the deputy director of the National Security Agency."

The NSA is an agency of the Department of Defense that analyzes foreign communications and foreign signals intelligence, and protects U.S. government communications and information through information technology, cryptanalysis and cryptography.

The presentation detailed global threats of cyber security, one of the global issues chosen by the WAC as a topic in this year's Great Decisions study guide. Inglis also spoke about the NSA's history and strategy, and highlight-



National Security Agency Deputy Director John C. Inglis addresses students from 11 area high schools Sept. 24.
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ed some of the agency's successful efforts in discovering adversaries' offensive threats and protecting internal American affairs such as cracking the German Purple Code of World War II.

Students learned how companies get hacked and about the cyber threat spectrum from low to high, from small criminals to nation-state cyber-enabled kinetic attacks.

The World Affairs Council of America describes itself as "the largest nonprofit grassroots organization in the U.S. dedicated to educating and engaging Americans on global issues with nearly 100 councils across 40 states reaching more than half a million people a year." The efforts of the non-partisan group can be traced back to 90 years ago.

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