COMMUNITY

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Email announcements at least two weeks before publication to new.hanover@starnewsonline.com; brunswick@ starnewsonline.com; pender@starnewsonline.com. Questions? Call Cheryl Whitaker at 910-343-2004.

YOUR EVENTS

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Ft. Caswell Rifle Range subject of talk

Contributed Article

BOLIVIA – Dr. Norma Lee Eckard, president of the Friends of Fort Caswell Rifle Range Inc., was guest speaker at the November Brunswick County Historical Society meeting held at the Brunswick Community College. She presented an overview of the history of the 1918 Fort Caswell Rifle Range. Her presentation included pictures of the rifle range in 2011 and beyond.

The Landscape/Grounds Committee volunteers of the residential area of Caswell Dunes in Caswell Beach happened upon an overgrown mass of weeds, trees and vines that had been ignored for many years. Enter Jim McKee from Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson that began a search to identify the historical structure.

The N.C. State Historic Preservation Office visited



Dr. Norma Lee Eckard, president of the Friends of Fort Caswell Rifle Range Inc., addresses the Brunswick County Historical Society in **November.** [CONTRIBUTED]

the site later and determined that it had been an extension of Fort Caswell at the outbreak of World War I in 1918 when it was determined that marksmanship training at the Fort was too dangerous and a larger site was needed.

After a historical overview, Eckard shared a future project of the rifle range. The nonprofit group intends to "Honor A Veteran" by presenting a list of 732 World War I veterans from Brunswick County on their website. The public may select a veteran to honor by making a donation and receiving a certificate with

their name beside the veteran they selected from the list.

A historic booklet will be available next year, Veterans Day 2018, for a small fee providing the history of the rifle range and including the names of those that are honoring a veteran and the veterans' name. Everyone was encouraged to keep in touch with the website: www.caswellriflerange.com.

Any funds accrued by the project will be used for signage and continued stabilization.

The StarNews welcomes and will consider publishing Your Voice articles contributed by readers, nonprofits and clubs. Community Page submissions should be 300 words and accompanied by a good-quality photograph. Contact Community News Editor Si Cantwell at *343-2364* or si.cantwell@ starnewsonline.com.