



Wall of Honor featuring in-state and out-of-state photos of those who served in World War I.

### Friends of the 1918 Fort Caswell Rifle Range Derby Day on May 5

The sixth Derby Day fundraiser for the 1918 Fort Caswell Rifle Range Memorial is from 2:30 to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 5, at Caswell Dunes Clubhouse in Caswell Beach. Admission is \$15 per person and includes dinner.

All funds raised will be applied to the stabilization efforts of the historical structure that will be 100 on May 3.

Derby Day will again focus on the Centennial Commemoration of World War I. The six tabletop races feature horses named after mottoes and nicknames of the units in which Brunswick County servicemen and -women served. Those who were killed in action, died of disease or died of wounds will be named along with their units. Six nurses who served at Fort Caswell will have horses named for their town of origin.

Much work has been accomplished since Veterans Day 2017. The Wall of Honor will display additional photos of World War I military submitted by the public, including in- and out-of-state family members and friends.

On the opposite side of the Wall of Honor are Brunswick County Doughboys' names from lists of those who served. Amy Eckard, using archives and other historical documents, compiled the lists. These men and women have been honored by the public with monetary contributions.

The funds from the Honoring a Brunswick County World War I Veteran project, as well as those from the Derby Day fundraiser, will be applied to the purchase of a monument to be unveiled at the rifle range site Veterans Day, Nov. 11, if funds are sufficient. Any additional funds will be used for further stabilization of the rifle range.

Another new feature of the Derby Day activities is bidding for themed baskets.

Email [ftcaswellriflerange@gmail.com](mailto:ftcaswellriflerange@gmail.com) if you plan to attend.

#### National recognition

The Friends of Fort Caswell Rifle Range have been working to save the rifle range since it was identified in a residential area in 2011. In April, the site was recognized nationally by the U.S. World War I Commission and honored as one of only 100 World War I Centennial Memorials in the country. An extensive proposal was submitted by the Friends' organization president, Norma Eckard, and daughter Amy Eckard containing the history of the historical structure, as well as the detailed efforts to qualify it as a nonprofit and eventual listing of the site on the U.S. Department of the Interior National Register of Historic Places.

"We need the assistance of the public to help us continue to recognize Brunswick County men and women who served in World War I. A published book listing all 725 honored veterans, donors, history of the 1918 Fort Caswell Rifle Range, pictures and profiles will be offered," Norma Eckard said in a news release.

For more information, go to [caswellriflerange.com](http://caswellriflerange.com).



Helen Raddiffe works on themed baskets.



Selecting a basket size.



The six-foot long Army Insignia Banner attached to the wall of the clubhouse for all to view showing where Brunswick County men served



Helen Raddiffe receives assistance from Jayne Rankin to fill a cellophane bag.



Opposite side of Wall of Honor listing World War I Doughboys from Brunswick County who have been honored by the public