**Store Mission and History**

The Victory Center Military Store is a non-profit 501c(3) foundation that operates a retail military store in the Indian River Mall and sells a wide variety of military and patriotic themed items including but not limited to apparel, hats, jackets, decals, pins, flags, accessories and challenge coins. Many of the items sold in the store are from Veteran owned companies with a continuous search to add Veteran vendors.

Additionally, items can be ordered from our vendor’s catalogs and are usually delivered within two weeks to our store with no shipping charge to the customer when picked up at the store.

All profits from the store are donated annually to the Indian River Veterans Council and its members that include Veteran and Veteran Support Organizations that work in the store. As of spring 2017 over $40,000 has been donated since the store’s inception in November of 2011.

It is important to note that ALL the profits from the store remain local!

**The Bunker**

The “R & R” Bunker was created to provide veterans and their supporters a place to relax, have a free cup of coffee and meet the Veterans and volunteers of the store. The Bunker also serves as a meeting place for Veterans and Veteran support organizations such the local Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1038, Marine Corps League Detachment 058 and the Upwards America Veterans arm of the Indian River Veterans Council that has provided over $100,000 to local Veterans in need. The Bunker has an audio/video system that can facilitate educational and informational services for Veterans assistance to anyone that requests to do so. Secure WiFi is available for those who ask. There is never a charge for any of these services. Additionally direction, guidance and job opportunities can be provided via a variety of organizations that can be contacted through the store. Veteran Service Officer contact information is also provided.

Additionally, the Store from time to time is ask to participate or create uniformed patriotic programs on important holidays for ceremonies in the Mall to honor our Veterans.

**Walls of Honor**

Of particular interest are the Walls of Honor that are dedicated to Indian River County residents who have or are serving in the Armed Forces. Loved ones, relatives or the Veteran can bring in their uniformed picture and the Store will frame it and post it as a tribute to all those who have chosen to serve their country.

The store is entirely volunteer staffed and that includes sales personnel, managers and the board of directors. The Victory Center could not operate without these dedicated volunteers and the generous donations by Doris Jorgensen of Sebastian who provided the initial startup capital and a later infusion of operating capital upon her passing. She was truly the “Veteran’s Angel” and her picture graces our wall.

The Victory Center works closely with the Navy’s SEAL Museum in Ft. Pierce to raise awareness of the Treasure Coast’s military presence and contributions.

We also greatly appreciate the ongoing efforts of the County Commissioners for their continued support and especially Joe Flescher who was instrumental in getting the then Mall owners, Simon Malls and the Indian River Veterans Council together to create our Store. We continue to enjoy and appreciate support from the new Mall management Bayer Properties.