

PRESS RELEASE

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SALVATION ARMY OF ST. PETERSBURG RECOGNIZES **LESLIE WATERS FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE**

“2008 Volunteer Awards Luncheon”

Representative Leslie Waters, who served in The Florida Legislature from 1998-2006, was recognized on March 9, 2009 for achieving the 3rd highest individual Red Kettle Income for 2008 for the Salvation Army St. Petersburg.

It has been Representative Waters tradition over the past several years to gather dozens of volunteer Bell Ringers at the Tyrone Mall Food Court entrance the Friday before Christmas and ring bells, sing Jingle Bells, and help encourage contributions to the Salvation Army Kettle.

“The experience of Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army warms your heart,” exudes Leslie Waters, “as you witness the generosity of our community, the hustle bustle of frenzied shoppers, and the goodwill it brings out in people of all ages.”

“The cutest little girl dressed for the holidays standing on her toes to put a coin in The Kettle really was sweet,” continues Representative Waters, “and to watch the teenagers dropping dollar bills in The Kettle while trying to avoid eye contact for fear of being recruited to sing Jingle Bells, was hilarious. But above all, listening to military veterans reminiscing on what the Salvation Army meant to them during WWII, Korea, and Viet Nam, really rounds out why “Doing the Most Good through Volunteer Service” means so much to the Salvation Army.

In 2006 and 2007 she targeted the funds for the disaster relief services the Salvation Army so effectively provides to hurricane victims, and in 2008 she asked for the one evening Red Kettle Income to go to the new Sallie House.

The Sallie House is a temporary emergency shelter for abused/neglected/abandoned children. With the Building Dedication/Grand Opening of the Sallie House on March 5, all volunteers could see that contributions and volunteer hours went to a good cause.