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Many heartfelt thanks to everyone (volunteers and attendees) that helped make my 10th Annual Holiday Party for Town of Verona residents on December 8th a success! Fabulous volunteers worked together to make this event happen and festive attendees shared the Christmas holiday spirit. Some pictures from this event can be found on my website: www.fritzscherz.com

Thanks to the following people for taking part in the programmatic portion of the event: Bingo The Clown for face painting; Trooper Eric Knapp and K9 Scotty (both from the New York State Police) for interacting with the attendees and showing some of K9 Scotty's abilities; Caitlyn Schuler of Cornell Cooperative Extension for make & take activities; Sara Ouellette (Agriculture Educator/FFA Advisor), Rachel Champney & Rebecca Collins of VVS FFA; Santa Claus for giving gifts to the children; Frank Buda for performing songs on his accordion, Freddy Scherz & Curtis Morgan (Oneida County Sheriff's Office) for singing with me; Greg Wilson for performing songs on his guitar; Mark Bolos Sr. for performing songs on his guitar, Magician Jim Oakey sponsored by Integrated Community Alternatives Network.

Thanks to the following people for supporting this event in a variety of ways: Kevin Beecher, Gary Bissaillon, Steven Bulger, Martha Conway, Andrew Derminio, Frank Elias, Martha Group, Jeff Hull, Dan Hunt, Mike Jaquays, Bill Keeler, Samantha Madison, Mary Beth McEwen, Rachel McManus, Danielle Mullen, Mark Nell, Linda Scherz, Craig Semans, Sondra Whalen, Tami Whooten, Diana Wilson, and Mary Margaret Zehr.

Thanks to the following businesses and/or organizations for donating baked goods and/or gifts or simply helping out: Adirondack Basketry, Beecher's Gravel, Circle K, Colgate University Football, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Dunkin' Donuts (Willow Place Store), Integrated Community Alternatives Network, Katherine Dominique Fashion & Accessories, New York State Police, Nicky Doodles, Oneida County Sheriff's Office, Oneida Indian Nation SavOn, Price Chopper (Oneida), Recovery Sports Grill, Staples (New Hartford), Utica Coffee, VVS FFA, Walmart (Oneida) and the media that helped publicize the Holiday Party.

Thanks to the Verona Fire Department for providing the venue for the Holiday Party. Special thanks to my wife, Kathy, and our children, Katherine, Marissa, and Freddy for being so supportive, encouraging, and helpful during the weeks leading up to the Holiday Party and during the event itself. Thanks, too, to anyone I might've missed who played a role in the success of this event!

In closing, the bottom line is that so many people worked together to make this event happen. It is people like you that make a community great! I am so honored to call these great people my friends and Verona my hometown! Thank you!!! Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas!!!