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Many heartfelt thanks to everyone (volunteers and attendees) that helped make my 3rd Annual Holiday Party for Town of Verona residents on December 9th a huge success! Great 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 facebook page and on my website: www.fritzscherz.com as well.

Thanks to the following people for taking part in the programmatic portion of the event (listed in order of appearance): Mike Jaquays (Bingo the Clown) for face painting; Trooper Knapp, K9 Kenny, and Trooper Taylor (all of the New York State Police) for interacting with the guests and showing some of K9 Kenny's abilities; Honorable Joe Griffo (New York State Senator), Honorable Ken Blankenbush (New York State Assemblyman), Honorable Patrick MacRae (New York State Supreme Court Judge), Honorable Howard Regner (Oneida County Legislator), and Honorable Rob Maciol (Oneida County Sheriff), for all being Christmas Story Tellers; Spencer Walker & Nate Angell for playing Christmas songs; Owen Walker & Alec Comfort for playing Christmas songs; Matt Episcopo (of Matt Episcopo Magic) for the family - oriented magic show; Mike Faraino (drummer for Fritz's Polka Band) for his drum workshop; Matt Chase (of Matt Chase and Thunder Canyon) for playing Christmas songs; and Santa Claus for giving gifts to the children.

Thanks to the following people for helping in a variety of ways: Barb & Steve Allen, Danette Allen, Ann Ammann, David Belvick, Megan & Jennifer Centore, Connie Collins, Captain Frank Coots (of the New York State Police), New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo (for his letter of support), Todd Emanuelli, Shirley Garcia, Martha Group, Jon Hluska, Mark Kinne, Teri Knight, Kim Koons, Chris Mariotti, Wendy McClure, Jeff Monaski, Audrey Moran, Ron Spadafora, Fred & Sue Stefanik, Walter Wahl, Russ & Mary Walker, and Tami Whooten.

Thanks to the following businesses and/or organizations for donating baked goods and/or gifts or simply helping out: Dunkin' Donuts, Hershey Ice Cream, Kenwood Kakes, KidzClub, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Nice N Easy Grocery Shoppes, Oneida County Sheriff's Office, Price Chopper (Oneida), Recovery Sports Grill, Staples (Rome), 31 Express, 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 and for helping make Santa's arrival special. Special thanks to my wife, Kathy, and daughters, Katherine and Marissa for being so supportive, encouraging, and helpful during the weeks leading up to the Holiday Party and during the event itself.

In closing, the bottom line is that so 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!!!