

## Firefighters Trade X-Mas Party to Help Neighbors

If you saw The Chenango Forks Fire Department out on the road Saturday, it wasn't on their way to put out a fire. Volunteers and Santa piled in the trucks, this time, to give residents something to keep them safe.

"If we know of anyone that's in our district that's in need of smoke detectors then we're gonna go install them" said Lew Merritt, Chenango Forks Fire Department.

For about three years the fire department has passed on a Christmas Party and used that money to donate gift baskets and turkeys to the elderly and those in need. This year, Lowes hardware store donated smoke detectors as well.

"It makes our community safer, makes it easier for us, makes it so the elderly can know if there's smoke, some of them don't have a chance to get out and get smoke detectors" said Brian Miller, a firefighter.

And for residents that may not get a visit many times per year, a visit from Santa and the Chenango Forks Fire Department, is a gift that words can't describe.

"I'm Overwhelmed, I didn't know that there were this many good people in Chenango Forks" said Ruth Wiktorek, a Chenango Forks resident.

\*\*\*FOX 40's GRACE CHARLES REPORTING\*\*\*