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CHRISTMAS CHEER: Students from the St. Bruno's sixth grade choir, above, sing Christmas carols during a performance at the Whittier Hills Health Care Center on Wednesday. Below, Anna Giaquinto, a resident at Whittier Hills Health Care Center plays along with the students.

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Student choir lifts holiday spirits

BY TRACY GARCIA
STAFF WRITER

WHITTIER — St. Bruno Parish School sixth-grader Alanna Tarengo just couldn't stop smiling Wednesday as she belted out Christmas carols with her class at Whittier Hills Health Care Center nursing home.

"This was really fun," said Tarengo, 11, one of 34 students who serenaded nursing home residents with "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Silent Night," and other Christmas favorites they've been rehearsing since October for the holiday season.

"I liked it best when we passed out some of the instruments — and just seeing the smiles on their faces was great,"

she added. "That's what made it so much fun."

The caroling is an annual event for St. Bruno School's parent volunteer/choir director Rosemary Circo, who began the tradition a few years ago when her grandmother was living at that nursing home.

Circo's grandmother has since passed away, but she continued organizing the event because the students "seem to just be delighted that they're coming here. It lifts everybody's spirits.

"Just watching these young kids sing brings so much joy," Circo added.

Ligaya Devera, the nursing home's director, agreed: "It really entertains them, and they look forward to this every year."

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