

English as a Second Language students from the Black Hawk College Community Education Center in Kewanee spread Christmas cheer this holiday season by caroling at Royal Oaks Care Center and Kewanee Care Home.



Residents at both facilities were very excited to see the carolers' annual visit resume after a long COVID break. They clapped along, saying "Merry Christmas" and wishing the students a happy new year.

After performing several carols in the dining hall, the students walked up and down the hallways singing to residents who were in their rooms.

"Our ESL students love giving back to the community. They are amazing to work with," said Valerie Painter, English as a Second Language (ESL) instructor and the new Community Education Center coordinator.

The students also brought gifts they had purchased on their own and distributed gifts to each of the residents.

"They look forward to seeing the residents and sharing songs and gifts with them. It's an inspiring and precious thing to witness the joy and care this day brings to so many," Painter said.

The Community Education Center is ready to embark on a fantastic year with even more

offerings to the community. For more information about ESL and GED® classes in Kewanee, visit the [Adult Education page](#) or stop by the center at 404 E. Third St.

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