

Indian Trail Trader (Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2007)

## Homeschoolers pack shoeboxes for soldiers

**Stallings** — The students of the PATH homeschool support recently participated in a service opportunity to ship care packages to U.S. Marines serving in the Middle East.

Each family that participated in the event brought items from an approved list that included toiletries, candy, magazines and other small items. The items were then packed in shoeboxes and the students had the opportunity to include a personal note in the care package.

The group was able to prepare roughly 60 boxes, which will be taken to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve center in Charlotte and shipped to the soldiers over-seas.

“Especially at Christmas we want our children to remember those serving away from their families and to give something back to the community,” said PATH member Robin Ramirez, who coordinated the event.

PATH, which stands for Parents As Teachers at Home, is a Christian-based home school group that exists to provide encouragement, support and fellowship to those who are seeking to teach their children at home.



Photos by Ed Cottingham

**Above, Conner Beavers and sisters Leah and Alyssa Thomas make cards to go with Christmas care packages. Right, Sarah McDowell helps her children John and Elizabeth put together Christmas boxes for families**

