

## Smiles and waves fom VMU-1 Marines in Afghanistan

The Homestead Valley Community Council was delighted to receive a message from Rachel Sandlin, the Family Readiness Officer for the VMU-1 Watchdogs, the Marine unit out of Twentynine Palms that the Council has sponsored.

*"I just wanted to let you know that the HVCC care packages arrived in Afghanistan! The Marines are overjoyed and very thankful. The CO and SgtMaj have asked that I extend their sincere appreciation for the generosity of the HVCC and the surrounding community.*

*I hope to have more back from them in the near future, but wanted to let you know they arrived. Much faster than expected too!"*

We were expecting the packages to take more than 4 weeks to get to the troops in Afghanistan, so you can imagine how elated we were they arrived in just a little over 2 weeks. Some of the boxes look a little "squished", but all in all they look pretty good.

The program was a big success, and a testament to the good will of the Homestead Valley residents and businesses. We are continuing the program and hope to raise enough donations to sponsor another unit sometime late this year.

So, to everyone who pitched money into a jar, donated and purchased items, packed and mailed..... you are obviously appreciated.  
**Good job Homestead Valley!**

[www.hvccsite.org](http://www.hvccsite.org)



VMU-1 Marines check the shipment in (above), and then begin the task of opening the 60 boxes to see all the goodies, courtesy of the people of Homestead Valley.

