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CITY OF CALISTOGA PROCLAMATION Recognizing March as American Red Cross Month

WHEREAS, each March, the American Red Cross and its local community Chapters are formally recognized for their essential humanitarian role in the cities and counties they serve; and

WHEREAS, every day, Napa County Red Cross volunteers and employees provide essential services in our community to help those affected by everything from house or apartment fires to floods, earthquakes, and other natural and human caused disasters, thanks to the generous people throughout Napa County, the chapter's only source of financial support; and

WHEREAS, for more than 95 years, the citizens of all the cities and town in Napa County have relied on the Red Cross to provide disaster relief as well as training in lifesaving skills and disaster response processes and procedures; and

WHEREAS, over the past year, the Napa County Red Cross Disaster Action Team (DAT), volunteers who are "on call" 24/7/365, responded to 9 local residential fires and helped 19 displaced people with emergency food, clothing and a warm, dry bed to sleep in; and

WHEREAS, over the past year, 3,870 individuals learned lifesaving and safety skills, including First Aid, CPR and AED training, and swimming and lifeguarding, through 484 classes offered by the Chapter; and

WHEREAS, the Operation Military Support Committee (OMS) of the Napa Chapter has established a networking group of organizations and involved citizens for the purpose of ensuring that our veterans and military families are aware of and receive the benefits and support they are entitled to from federal, state, and local resources; and

WHEREAS, the OMS Committee also collected, sorted and distributed over 1500 holiday cards to the Veterans Home and residents at the Pathway Home; and

WHEREAS, the Napa Chapter offers a Nursing Assistant Certification Program at the Veterans Home in Yountville using the American Red Cross curriculum providing an opportunity for qualified participants to work in a rewarding career; and

WHEREAS, the Chapter conducted 37 disaster education presentations for the community to help attendees learn to prepare to make their families and neighborhoods safe; and

WHEREAS, Red Cross volunteers contributed 9456 hours of service to the Chapter, serving as members of the Board of Directors, Chapter committees, instructors teaching lifesaving skills, office helpers, fundraising support, DAT responders to large and small disasters and more.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that I, Jack Gingles, Mayor of Calistoga, and the Calistoga City Council do hereby proclaim March, 2012 as American Red Cross Month. Especially during this extraordinary time for our country, we encourage all citizens to support the Napa County Chapter of the American Red Cross and its noble humanitarian mission.

Signed and sealed, this sixth day of March, in the year Two Thousand and Twelve.

Jack Gingles, Mayor