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 financial support of people throughout Napa County; and

WHEREAS, for more than 93 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 19 local residential fires and helped 39 displaced people with emergency food, clothing and a warm, dry bed to sleep in; and

WHEREAS, over the past year, 4,117 individuals learned lifesaving and safety skills, including First Aid, CPR and AED training, and swimming and lifeguarding, through 566 classes offered by our Chapter; and

WHEREAS, the Operation Military Support Committee (OMS) of the Napa Chapter secured a grant to fund much needed electronics for therapy programs at the Veterans Home in Yountville, as well as provide toiletries and clothing for the most needy at the facility; and

WHEREAS, OMS also conducted an employment/resume writing workshop for returning veterans, held six lunches for military families allowing them to network with each other and learn about available services, and collected, sorted and distributed over 1,800 holiday cards to the Veterans Home and residents at the Pathway Home; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 2010 the Napa Chapter began offering a Certified Nursing Assistant Certification Program using the American Red Cross curriculum providing an opportunity for qualified participants to work in a rewarding career; and

WHEREAS, our Chapter conducted 32 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 7,204 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, 2011 as American Red Cross Month. Especially during this extraordinary time for our country, we encourage all members of our community to support the Napa County Chapter of the American Red Cross and its noble humanitarian mission.

Signed and sealed, this first day of March, in the year Two Thousand and Eleven

Jack Gingles Mayor