PROCLAMATION

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING MARCH 2013 AS

AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross has touched many lives in San Mateo County, as well as across the country and around the world; and

WHEREAS, during American Red Cross Month, we thank those who contribute to the mission of the Red Cross, whether through time, money or blood, and we invite others to support the Red Cross in helping people in need down the street, across the country, and around the world; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross is synonymous with helping people, and has been doing so for more than 130 years, and throughout the past year, the American Red Cross launched hundreds of disaster relief operations in the United States to help people affected by fires, floods, hurricanes, and tornadoes, and the American Red Cross Bay Area Chapter deployed more than 300 disaster workers to the relief effort following Superstorm Sandy, which is the most deployments sent from a non-affected region; and

WHEREAS, in San Mateo County, the American Red Cross Bay Area Chapter works tirelessly through its nearly 1,000 volunteers to support us when disaster strikes, when someone needs lifesaving blood, or the comfort of a helping hand, and provides 24-hour support to members of the military, veterans, and their families, and provides training in CPR, aquatics safety, and first aid; and

WHEREAS, in the past year, the American Red Cross Bay Area Chapter helped more than 1,066 people with temporary housing, clothing, food, and mental health counseling during 392 local disasters, and the chapter trained more than 50,843 people in lifesaving CPR, first aid, water safety, and preparedness education, and the Bay Area Chapter provided emergency communications, counseling, financial assistance, and a caring presence to more than 770 local military families, supporting 28 Bay Area hospitals, providing them with nearly 158,717 units of red cells, platelets, and plasma to patients in need; and

WHEREAS, for nearly 100 years, United States presidents have called on the American people to support the Red Cross and its humanitarian mission, and our community depends on the American Red Cross and because it is not a government agency, the Red Cross depends on support from the public to continue its humanitarian work, and this is especially important in these challenging economic times, which impact the Red Cross and many people in our community and across the nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim March 2013 as *American Red Cross Month* and encourages all Americans to support this organization and its noble humanitarian mission.

Dated: March 12, 2013

SUPERVISORS: DON HORSLEY, PRESIDENT DAVE PINE CAROLE GROOM WARREN SLOCUM ADRIENNE J. TISSIER

Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors