Clara Barton Award
Given to South County Volunteer

The American Red Cross Silicon Valley Chapter is proud to announce this year’s Clara Barton Award winner, Mo Ghandehari. The Clara Barton Award is presented to an individual who has made major contributions in multiple areas of the Silicon Valley Chapter on a sustained basis over a long period of time.

Mo joined the American Red Cross in 2000 as a Disaster Action Team (DAT) Captain and Mass Care Coordinator in Utah, and shortly before Mo came to Silicon Valley in 2007, he was awarded the prestigious National Disaster Preparedness and Response Volunteer Award.

Although these days, Mo makes himself available to respond anywhere in Santa Clara County, his focus is on the South County area (Morgan Hill, San Martin and Gilroy). In South County he has built a close-knit DAT team of local Red Cross volunteers. In addition, he shepherds new volunteers into the Chapter, helping them figure out their own unique niche in the organization. The South County thrives through careful nurturing by Mo and his colleagues.

More recently, Mo stepped into the position of Emergency Services Training Administrator, a position he advocated for, to collectively manage Disaster Services training, exercises and drills, and preparedness education to increase continuity and share the best practices. Mo exemplifies the volunteer spirit and commitment that we look for when selecting recipients for this award.

Outstanding volunteers honored at the Silicon Valley Chapter Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition Event held on June 12, 2012 also included:

- Susanne Newswanger, Beth Brenner, Michael Garcia, Emergency Service Readiness
- Logistics Team, Teamwork
- Disaster Action Team (DAT) Dispatchers & Captains, Emergency Services Response
- Colonel Don Newhall and Sergeant Major George Rodrigues, Service to Armed Forces
- Hawley Rising, International Services
- Ranjini Kutty, Administration and Support
- Carolyn Lau, Youth Services
- Meg McDonald and Jenn Short, New Volunteer

Committed, compassionate volunteers are the heart and soul of the American Red Cross Silicon Valley Chapter. In Silicon Valley, nearly 1,000 dedicated adult and 1,000 youth volunteers give their time and energy to fulfill the Red Cross mission and help us strengthen our local community. For more information about becoming a Red Cross volunteer, please call 1-877-727-6771 or visit www.siliconvalley-redcross.org to learn more.
Bringing Humanitarian Issues to Life in the Classroom

We are exposed to war in the news each day, but few of us understand the challenges on the ground or how we can make a difference for vulnerable people in conflict zones. Students are also affected by conflicts around the world. They need the analytical skills to understand the rules governing war and their impact on human life and dignity. The American Red Cross Exploring Humanitarian Law curriculum is a flexible toolkit of resources that gives educators easy-to-use materials to help students understand how conflicts—at home and abroad—intersect with the rights and protections of those impacted.

The Silicon Valley Chapter is at the forefront of promoting the Exploring Humanitarian Law program. Our Chapter is pleased to be the recipient of our second Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) minigrant provided by the American Red Cross National headquarters (NHQ). Thanks to the hard work and creativity of volunteers, Hawley Rising, Mo Ghandehari, Peggy Pinarbasi, Alejandra Kramer, and Khatera Kakar.

EHL has been recognized by the national organization as a Chapter leading the way to educate our community about IHL. Alejandra Kramer was invited to NHQ to be trained in EHL Outreach and will take the role of EHL Coordinator as we strive to hold even more local workshops and train more local educators and youth. Hawley Rising is working on developing a course on Engineering and IHL this fall to be run at Los Medanos Community College in 2013.

University of Phoenix Partnership Continues Red Cross Nursing Tradition

The University of Phoenix, College of Nursing is making a positive difference in our community with a year-long partnership and $100,000 donation made this spring to the Red Cross Silicon Valley Chapter.

The partnership follows a long history of American Red Cross nurses helping out during times of disaster and conflict, starting with the 1888 Yellow Fever Epidemic and the 1889 Johnstown Flood. The Red Cross Nursing Service was formally established by Jane Delano in 1909 and played a major role in the strategic development of American nursing. Today, thousands of nurses continue in all levels and service areas throughout the Red Cross, working toward a vision to strengthen the organization through innovation and support.

Red Cross nurses play an important role at the University of Phoenix, including Associate Dean Angie Strawn, a Red Cross nurse for many years. With 40,000 advanced degree graduates over the last 27 years and a current graduation rate of approximately 1,000 nurse professionals a quarter, University of Phoenix College of Nursing is one of the largest nursing schools in the country. The program delivers highly-accredited programs to deliver the skills and knowledge needed in today’s health care industry, taught by experienced nursing faculty with extensive working experience.

For more information, visit http://www.phoenix.edu/colleges_divisions/nursing.html
NetApp Donates $100k for New Emergency Response Vehicle

The American Red Cross Silicon Valley Chapter rolled out a new mobile emergency response vehicle (ERV) this spring that will be used to distribute food, water and other supplies in times of disaster. The new ERV was purchased thanks to a $100K donation from NetApp.

“Disaster preparedness is something NetApp takes very seriously, and we are thrilled to be able to work with the American Red Cross to deliver a new ERV that will go a long way in helping to provide critical food and supplies to people in need,” said Gwen McDonald, EVP of Human Resources, NetApp.

In addition to purchasing the actual vehicle, NetApp’s donation to the American Red Cross Silicon Valley Chapter also includes funds to cover annual vehicle gas and maintenance costs, driver training courses for six people, and community disaster education materials.

The new ERV joins a fleet of more than 300 Red Cross emergency vehicles that are ready to respond to disasters around the country, including one other ERV stationed in San Jose. During a large-scale disaster, a single ERV serves 300 meals twice a day to people relying on the Red Cross for food and water. NetApp’s donation significantly increases the capacity of the Silicon Valley Chapter to serve our local and national communities. The new ERV, which features the NetApp logo as a way to recognize their generous contribution, will be stationed in Silicon Valley, home of NetApp’s headquarters in Sunnyvale.

“Through our partnership with generous companies like NetApp, the Red Cross is able to respond to disaster victims at a moment’s notice,” said American Red Cross Silicon Valley CEO Barbara Larkin. “This new emergency response vehicle can transport 2,000 pounds of emergency supplies and will help the Red Cross meet the needs of our neighbors in Silicon Valley.”

Home fires and other disasters strike in Silicon Valley every 68 hours. Families must evacuate their homes, many times with nothing but the clothes on their back and the few things they can carry. American Red Cross ERVs and volunteers are among the first on the disaster scene, stocked with food, water and critical supplies that give support and comfort to local residents who have lost everything.

A message from the President and CEO

As we saw the arrival of summer, our Chapter was hard at work on a number of projects. The annual meeting provided a look at our successes and challenges from the fiscal year. Our efforts in disaster preparedness included community trainings and drills. Blood drives, the 20th annual World Refugee Day in Campbell and our Youth Leadership Development Camp also kept us busy.

Volunteers are the cornerstone of this work and our mission. Over the last few months, we celebrated them during Volunteer Week and at our Gala event.

In this issue, you will read about these amazing volunteers. You will also find great events to put on your calendars and get to know new Chapter board members.

With your support, we respond to disasters and emergencies of all sizes. We also help members of the military, veterans and their families. We teach lifesaving skills in CPR/First Aid, and provide blood to people in need.

Barb Larkin
Chief Executive Officer
KFC and Harman Corporation Donates $200,000 to Support Colorado Fire Relief

Los Altos based Harman Family and Harman Management Corporation along with KFC, made a generous donation of $200,000 to the American Red Cross in July to support the Colorado wildfire relief efforts in Colorado Springs. With 66 KFC, Taco Bell, A&W and Long Johns Silver’s restaurants in Colorado, the company has a strong connection to the people affected by the fires.

“Pete Harman, the Harman Family, and KFC would like to offer their heartfelt prayers to the families and communities who have been affected by the devastating fire,” said Jeremy Dimick, Regional Director of Harman Management Corporation.

Pete Harman and the corporation have supported the American Red Cross for more than 20 years. Founded in 1952, the company operates KFC franchises in California, Colorado, Utah, and Washington. It also operates co-branded KFC and Taco Bell, Pizza Hut, and A&W restaurants.

The Colorado Springs wildfire in June 2012 destroyed over 500 homes and threatened 30,000 individuals. The Red Cross opened 19 shelters and served about 14,000 meals to those affected.

Join your local Red Cross at two fun events in September

Second Annual Firefly Run
Saturday, September 22, 2012, San Jose
Benefiting the American Red Cross Silicon Valley Chapter, this year’s race will feature newly design visual elements mixed in with exciting entertainment for everyone. Dress up in your craziest, brightest and most creative attire for a chance to win an Apple iPad in the post-race costume contest.
Visit www.fireflyrun.com for more information.

Silicon Valley Chapter’s Club Red Golf Tournament
Monday, September 24, 2012, Cinnabar Hills Golf Club
The tournament cost is $250 per player which includes: Continental breakfast, green fees, 18 holes, shared cart, putting contest, lunch, snacks, refreshments, prize drawing, and entertainment.
Please register by September 15, 2012 at http://american.redcross.org/disasterreliefclassic

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