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California Western Americana Collection Unveiled June 11 2PM at Cupertino Community Hall

Cupertino, CA—May 31, 2011—The Cupertino Library in collaboration with the Cupertino Historical Society and the Cupertino Library Foundation announced the inaugural event unveiling The California Western Americana Collection (CWA) at the Cupertino Library, this group has also formed the Santa Clara Valley History Collaborative, with the purpose of enhancing and promoting the historical richness of Santa Clara Valley.

Saturday, June 11th, 2PM, at Cupertino Community Hall, 10350 Torre Avenue, Cupertino, Darlene Thorne, Historical Society Board Member, will lead off the event speaking on *Postcard Vignettes of the Valley of the Heart Delight*. Darlene is a long-time resident of Cupertino, sits on the Board of the Cupertino Historical Society, and has collected thousands of vintage postcards over the years. A tour of the special exhibit at the Library will follow.

“This collaboration is unique,” notes Cupertino community librarian, Mark Fink, “as the Library has the CWA collection and the Historical Society has the artifacts of the various eras in the development of the area. The Cupertino Library Foundation has been a catalyst in getting the collection catalogued, housed and displayed. We are truly working as a team to bring this priceless showing to the public.”

Special display cases for the CWA collection and the artifacts were fashioned to accentuate the books and artifacts. It is envisioned that there will be two different themed displays a year on the second floor in the reference area of the Cupertino Library.

The CWA collection includes materials on the American trek west to California, and on California history, including the history of its cities, towns, and counties. It is a reference collection for in-library use, and the result of decades of special purchases and donations preserved for future generations.

CWA includes some unusual and specific titles as well as standard works on California and San Francisco Bay Area history. For instance, the 1935 edition of the Letters of Western Authors and the 1915 catalogue of the Panama-Pacific international exposition, and Yosemite illustrated in colors, published in 1890. Titles that are in locked cases can be requested at the near-by reference desk.

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