

June 17, 2011

## **WEST COUNTY NOTES**

By Chris Treadway

A major civic unity initiative backed by a five-year, \$300,000 foundation grant officially kicks off this week in San Pablo, where 15 people identified as community leaders will become **Koshland Community Fellows**.

The initiative is funded by [the San Francisco Foundation](http://www.sff.org) (www.sff.org), which selected the 15 recipients of the **2011 Daniel E. Koshland Civic Unity Awards** in a process that began in January and continues with an awards ceremony from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Maple Hall, 13831 San Pablo Ave.

This fall the 15 award winners will start a six-month leadership program that will train them in promoting collaboration and communication while diminishing conflict among the city's diverse communities.

As part of their duties, they and the partners they make in San Pablo neighborhoods will decide how to distribute a portion of the grant each year through 2016 to meet these goals.