

October 2012 Newsletter

Save the People's Post Office

A Community/Labor Coalition

Next Coalition meeting:

Monday, October 29, 2012 – 6:30 p.m.

Redstone Bldg – 2940 – 16th St (at Capp, betw Mission & So. Van Ness)

Half a block from the 16th & Mission BART – 3rd floor conference room (elevator)

Get involved!

- [Leaflet the Excelsior district with us on Sun. Oct. 21, 11 AM-4 PM](#), with coalition partners, S.F. Living Wage Coalition. It's "Sunday Streets," a street festival where streets are blocked off for walkers and cyclists, bands and dancers. We will set up a table, placards and "Save the People's Post Office" banner **on Mission St. near Ocean Ave.** We're also petitioning for a Community Jobs Program. This summer we did community outreach at the Bayview, Mission and Fillmore street festivals to build support. Come join us.
- [San Francisco post offices spared the axe](#), in a victory for mass action to save the Postal Service. In June, our local S.F. coalition organized a 200-strong march and occupation and people's speak-out inside the Civic Center post office, which had been threatened with closure. **Read more by clicking [here](#)**
- [Direct actions targeting billionaire and real estate mogul Richard Blum](#) (husband of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein). **Actions set for early December.** Blum's real estate firm CBRE has the exclusive contract to sell off Berkeley's historic Main Post Office and some 70 other post offices nationally – our national treasures put on the auction block for private profit. The Post Office is not the only public institution that Richard Blum is helping to privatize. He's also been pursuing a privatization agenda in his capacity as regent of the University of California, and stands to make billions more out of his post office deals.
- [About 100 Berkeley residents confronted the Postal Service](#) Sept. 13 at a mid-day meeting at Old City Hall. Some 25 people went to the mike to say: **"Stop the sale!"** Major presentations were made by Gray Brechin, project scholar at UC-Berkeley; Harvey Smith, National New Deal Preservation Association; and Steve Lysaght, American Postal Workers Union. Ying Lee, long-time political activist, gave a report on the history and importance of living-wage postal jobs to African-American and other communities. In the end of the USPS agreed to delay the sale, until an evening meeting could be scheduled for more community input.