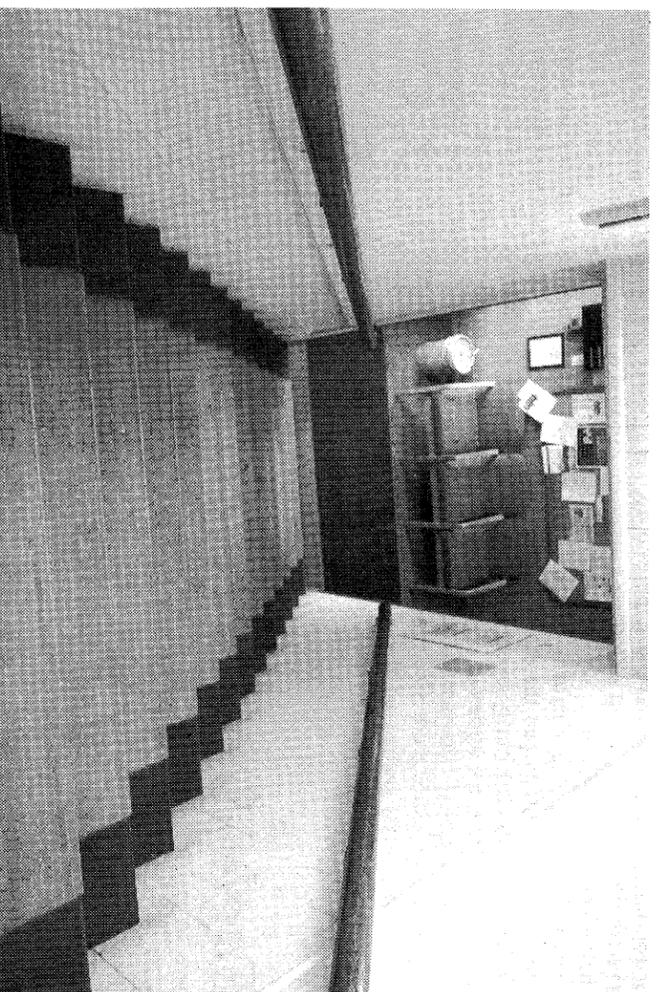


# Town Hall's Makeover: A Story of Peeling Paint and Repairs, in Pictures

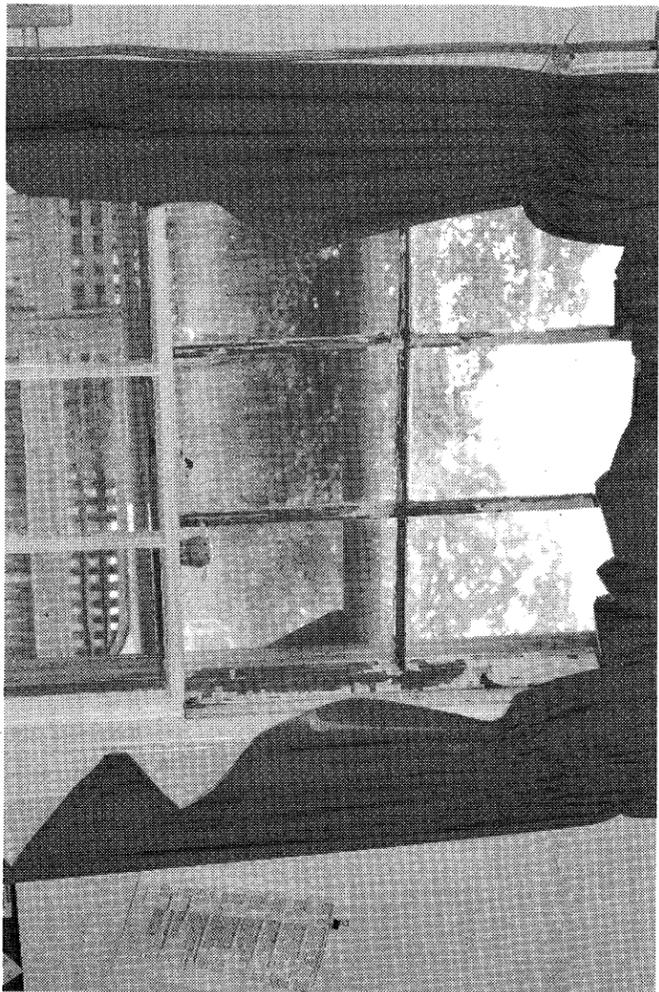
ALEX MAZZUCA



The paint is peeling itself off at this point, as Supervisor Richard Shea noted on a tour with the PCNR. All photos by Kimberley Mazzuca



The steep stairs up Town Hall will be replaced by an elevator, finally making the building ADA accessible.



Most of the windows have been covered with plastic to prevent drafts for years now, but still manage to be an escape route for heat during the cold winters.

n Hall will be replaced by an ally making the A accessible. will be moved more toward the upstair, after he wall shown be knocked out n for the stairs, nd a conference wyers during t of history: the wall as you go used to control its outside. The all, in the panel, e outside of the t sheet rock. lows' Cry for e upstairs win- covered with vent drafts for The windows ave been an es- heat during the Shea says they ep the original e windows, but ave a different iling upstairs ne as well. ovations: Hall will go v AC units to a nit, and will be ed. The current l such will still trical work and ll be done. The ll be done. The athrooms, some l remain where ll be redone as arpet will be Hall is exempt storic District cess, but Shea s were sent to and their opin- acerns will be ill be granted missive refer- he bonds ends aks. The work o four catego- be done by the ork: PVS Con- 96,250) k: MH Heating 05,000) work: S&L & Heating

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is Saturday

By Eric Gross

The improper storage or disposal of hazardous waste poses a health risk to man and pets alike.

Because of this the Putnam Health Department in conjunction with the New York State DEC is sponsoring a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday at the Canopus Beach parking area at Fahnestock State Park off Route 301 at the Kent-Putnam Valley border.

Health Commissioner Dr. Michael Neshewat said the day was an opportunity for county residents to "safely dispose of toxic materials such as household cleaners, pesticides, herbicides, oil based paint, automotive solvents, paint thinners, mothballs, rodent poisons, gasoline, kerosene and small propane tanks up to a 20 pound size."

Dr. Neshewat said items would be accepted only "if they are labeled and identifiable."

He stressed that latex paints, used oil, lead-acid batteries, plastic bags, tires, electronic waste or materials from commercial establishments will not be accepted.

Dr. Neshewat also reminded the public not to dispose of any potentially explosive or dangerous substances such as picnic acid. Last year a Brewster man brought several containers of the extremely volatile substance to the collection day resulting in the program being suspended and the Westchester Bomb Squad being summoned to detonate the hazardous waste.

Pre-registration is required. Dr. Neshewat encouraged those interested in participating to call the Health Department (today) Tuesday or Wednesday at 808-1390 ext. 43150 or by registering on line at [PutnamHealth@putnamcounty.ny.gov](mailto:PutnamHealth@putnamcounty.ny.gov). The clean-up day will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. rain or shine.

## Unemployment Increases Across Putnam

By Eric Gross

Unemployment increased by two-tenths of one percent across Putnam County last month while other counties throughout the Hudson Valley also experienced slight increases in the unemployment rate as well.

The NYS Department of Labor reported last week for the month of August, Putnam's rate of unemployment was 3.9 percent. In 1998, Putnam's 2.2 percent rate of unemployment was the lowest in all of New York.

Hudson Valley unemployment was 4 percent in July, up from 3.7 percent in July 2019 and up from 3.8 percent in August 2018. In August 2019, there were 45,800 unemployed in the region, up from 43,300 in July 2019 and up from 43,200 in August 2018.

The department also reported that 75,954 residents of Putnam were currently employed while the labor

force decreased throughout the Hudson Valley by 16,500 to 1,154,600. County Executive Mary Ellen Odell reiterated her belief that while the news was "positive from a state and regional perspective, a rate of unemployment of 3.9 percent is too high when realizing that nearly 3,900 people are facing unemployment and the loss of health insurance. I won't be happy until the rate of Putnam's unemployment drops to below 3 percent."

The Labor Department reported Putnam's 3.9 percent rate of unemployment was the third lowest in the Hudson Valley compared to Sullivan County's 3.4 percent Dutchess County recorded a rate of unemployment of 3.8 percent last month, Joining Putnam were Rockland and Ulster Counties with the 3.9 percent rate followed by Orange and Westchester with each recording rates of unemployment of 4.1 percent

## Legislature Approves Spending \$2,915 For New Tourism Bureau

By Eric Gross

Putnam's recently hired Director of Tourism Tracey Walsh needs tools to operate her agency and at last night's (Tuesday) meeting of the County Legislature, lawmakers voted 7-1 with Legislator Nancy Montgomery casting the lone negative vote and Legislator Toni Addonizio absent, to expend \$2,915 for the purchase of a cell phone, laptop computer and part-time help in the Tourism Bureau's office.

At last month's Economic Development Committee meeting, Walsh made the request to purchase a county-owned cell phone and laptop for her use in addition to the hiring