

Annual Events



Penacook Civil War Days sponsored by the Penacook Historical Society takes place on the Rolfe House Grounds

Penacook Farmers' Market - June thru Oct.

Halloween Parade

Penacook Elementary School - Applefest

Christmas Tree Lighting at the monument

Community Connections

American Legion Post 31 (Chartered since 1926)

American Legion Ladies Auxiliary

Sons of the American Legion

Horace Chase Masonic Lodge

Riverhill and Halloween Granges

Knights of Columbus

Penacook Historical Society

Penacook Community Center

Our Schools

Penacook is proud to be the home of Merrimack Valley High School, Merrimack Valley Middle School and Penacook Elementary School. Both the middle and high schools draw students from Andover, Boscawen, Loudon, Penacook and Salisbury.

Penacook Elementary School has strong support from the community through the volunteer program, and has consistently been awarded the Blue Ribbon of Excellence for Volunteerism from NH Partners In Education. The beautiful facility is located at 60 Village Street. For more information call 753-4891.

Both Merrimack Valley High School and Merrimack Valley Middle School are past recipients of the School of Excellence Award from NH Excellence in Education. In 2009 three of our administrators received state-wide awards, Dr. Michael Martin: "Superintendent of the Year", Dr. Michael Jette: "Principal of the Year" and Kevin O'Brien: "Class 1 Athletic Director of the Year".

Merrimack Valley Middle School is located at 14 Allen Drive. For more information call 753-6336. Merrimack Valley High School is located at 106 Village Street. For more information call 753-4311.

Penacook Village Association

Leading the charge of our community renaissance

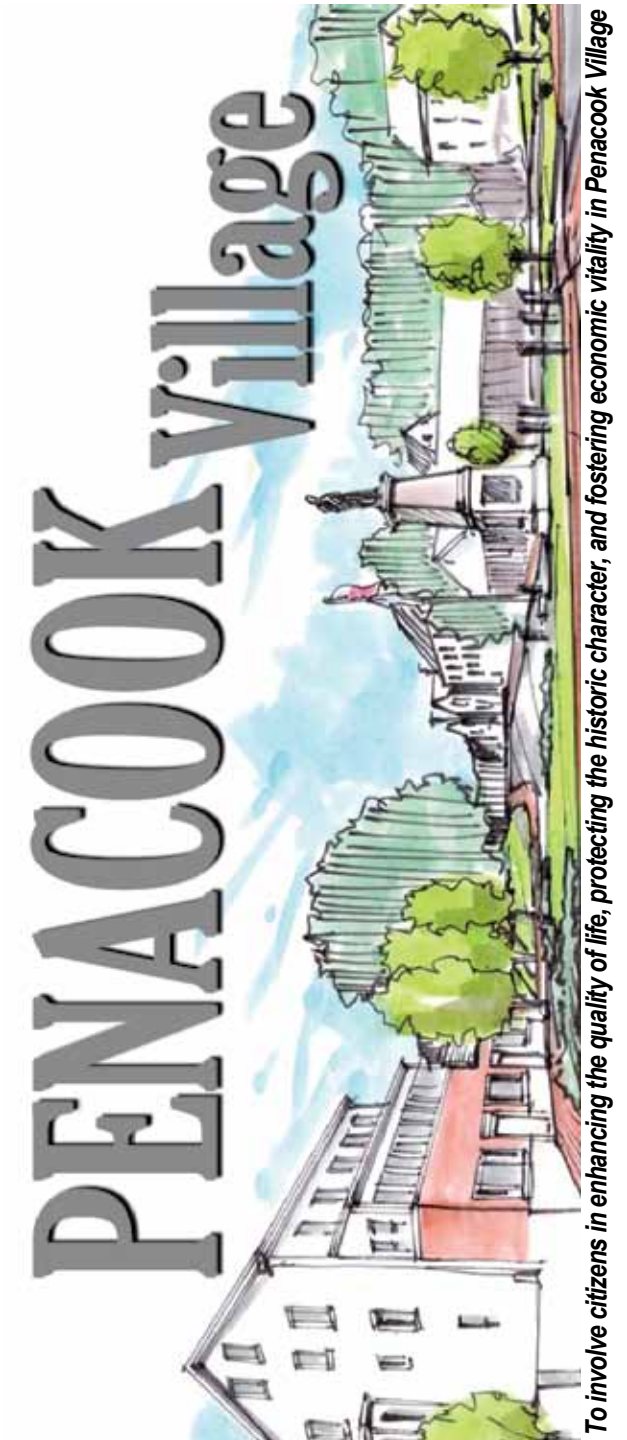
Sixty years ago, downtown Penacook was a neighborhood shopping center, the place where families spent \$9 of every \$10 for their consumer needs. Not unlike the declining downtowns in more urban sites, Penacook's commercial environment failed to adapt to the automobile, a catalyst in shifted shopping habits.

But, if a community recognizes that one cycle is playing out and acts to shape the next cycle, then strategic planning — a key to revitalization — is taking place. This is what is happening in Penacook. We are a village on the verge!

If you are interested in joining our efforts, bringing your business idea to life or would like more information about living in our charming community, send us an email and we will get you connected to the right villager.

Send inquiries to:
info@penacook.org or
P.O. Box 6174
Penacook, N.H. 03303

P^V_A Typically meets the second Saturday of each month at 9:00 A.M.



To involve citizens in enhancing the quality of life, protecting the historic character, and fostering economic vitality in Penacook Village

In Penacook you can walk past a dairy farm where cows graze in view of the Merrimack River. Pass by three houses built before 1815. Visit our library, one of our three parks or go for a swim and then eat a good meal. After a doctors or dentist visit you can walk to the pharmacy. Your children can attend our elementary, middle or high schools. All and all a friendly, quaint place to live, work and enjoy.



Postcard of the Village of Penacook

Our Rich History

Like any good New England town, the history of Penacook is rich in folklore. Villagers will tell you the first dated act here involves a grisly tale.

In 1697, Hannah Dustin, Mary Neff and a young boy killed their sleeping Indian captors on "the island where our two rivers meet." They escaped and returned to Haverhill, MA. A memorial statue was built in 1874 and is the first publicly funded statue to exist in the state of New Hampshire. It still stands at the mouth of



Village of Penacook -Concerts at Rolfe Park

the rivers, on Dustin Island, in the neighboring town of Boscawen.

The Contoocook River bends a mile before it meets the Merrimack, crossing the boundary of Concord into the town of Boscawen. Our community rose along both sides of the river. Originally, it was known as Fisherville, but 19th century residents preferred the name Penacook.

Rapid growth of the village began after a five story stone mill was built in 1836. Long ago woolen, cotton, and furniture mills dotted the landscape along the river's edge, powered by dams on the river's four falls. Electric instruments have been produced here since the 1890's. The 1890 four story Holden Mill survives today and was successfully renovated to accommodate retirement housing.

Near the village center, the United Church of Penacook's 150 foot spire stands as the



The Penacook Historical Society's 1790's Rolfe Barn recalls a rural age of farms & saw mills

sentinel gazing over the town. It has been a landmark here since 1858. The Penacook Academy, built in 1866, houses the Boscawen town offices. (We are very close neighbors) These buildings, along with the statue of Hannah Dustin, and the 20 obelisks faithfully standing guard in the Woodlawn Cemetery mark a prosperous era.

Penacook has many historical people, places and buildings all within comfortable walking distance from each other. Wherever you wander in the village, history quietly waits for you to discover it.

For more information about the history of Penacook, visit the Penacook Historical Society at www.penacookhistoricalsociety.org. A proud partner of the Penacook Village Association.

Penacook Village Association www.penacook.org

Our Parks



The Contoocook River played a large part in Penacook's history and is still scenic today.

Enjoy walking in three parks or canoeing two rivers, viewing ducks, geese and blue herons.

The historic Contoocook River Park is an undeveloped wooded area with two miles of walking trails offering scenic views.

In the Penacook Riverside Park you can sit and enjoy an upriver view as well as one of a granite cliff

Rolfe Park has a playground, athletic fields and an extensive woodland trail system

Dustin Island - a short walk down to the Memorial



Postcard of the Hannah Dustin Memorial Statue