PENFIELD, N.Y., MAY 29, 2013 – The Town of Penfield invites the community to a celebration of the publication of “Calvin Wooster Owen: Diary of a Nineteenth-Century American” on Sunday, June 9, at 2:00 p.m. in the Braman Room, Penfield Public Library, 1985 Baird Road. At 2:30 p.m. Cynthia Howk, Landmark Society of Western New York’s Architectural Research Coordinator and great-great-granddaughter of Calvin Wooster Owen, will speak about Mr. Calvin Owen and the book. Light refreshments will be served.

Penfield Town Historian Kathy Kanauer and Ann H. Stevens edited the diary of Calvin Owen, who lived much of his life in Penfield. The annotated journal provides a 19th century glimpse into social and religious causes, politics, wars, medicine and disease, family life, inventions and more. Topics also include abolition, temperance, the Erie Canal, Civil War and spiritualism.

The transcribed diary includes photographs, illustrations, maps, timeline and additional information on historical topics. An extensive index allows readers to locate information about people, events, and topics of interest.

Supervisor Tony LaFountain comments, “This long-awaited book offers an incredible connection to our past, inviting us to experience 19th century Penfield and appreciate how the world has changed since our earliest settlers founded our community. Through this book we also come to understand how much we still have in common.”
Books are available for purchase at $34.50 for soft cover and $49.50 for hard cover. Payment may be made by cash or check, no credit cards.

Books may be purchased at the Penfield Local History Room or Recreation Department (both located at 1985 Baird Road) or the Town Clerk’s Office in the Town Hall, 3100 Atlantic Avenue. For more information or to place an order, call 340.8740 or email historian@penfield.org.


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