



2020 Memorial Day Program

Sunday, May 24th Noon

Montgomery Village Green

Welcome

Moderator – Scott Perry
Chairman,
Montgomery Historical Society

Thank you for coming today. I need to start by acknowledging the unusual circumstances upon us due to the current pandemic. Please keep your face masks on and maintain 6 feet of separation as best you can here on the green and at Pratt Hall. Honoring our friends should not cause anyone to be sick or die.

Welcome to Montgomery and our Village Green. This is the 26th year the MHS has organized and sponsored our annual Memorial Day commemoration. We begin with the Invocation and a poem.

Invocation

American Legion
Post 42 Chaplain

Poem

Memorial Day

by
Edgar Guest

Blow gently, winds of May,
And softly stir the trees,

Whispering today
The love we bear to these
Who sleep that silent sleep,
At rest for Revolutionary War er'more.
Blow gently, winds of May,
Their warfare now is o'er.

Blow gently, winds of May,
Bearing the perfume rare
Of blossom's o'er the way;
Rose petals scatter there;
The starry flag we place
In glory on each grave,
Catches in a fond embrace
For us and proudly waves.

Blow gently, winds of May,
Shine softly, summer sun;
Our heroes sleep today,
Their duty nobly done.
And with the flag they loved,
And flowers, we come today
To honor those who sleep.
Blow gently, winds of May.

Remarks and Roll Call Introduction

Moderator

It was 30 years ago a group of Montgomery citizens organized and raised money for the monument you see behind me. I want to acknowledge Lois Lumbra, Arthur St Onge Sr, and Melvin Chaffee and the over 200 donors who made this possible.

In 2011, on the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War,

we added this “Green” as a venue for our commemoration which rotates among the Town’s cemeteries. Our roll call on that day included all Civil War veterans interred in Montgomery.

Today our Roll Call will include one Montgomery veteran representative of all who served in each of the wars or periods of armed conflict.

Roll Call

Joshua Wade - Revolutionary War

Joseph Hutchins - Militias

Eli Bush - War of 1812

Louis Murray - Civil War

Byron Foot - Spanish American War

Edward Domina – World War I

Florence Vavoudis - World War II

Pauline Deuso - Korea

Robert Cota - Vietnam

Thankfully there have been no others since Vietnam.

Are there any other veterans, or others, anyone would like to acknowledge?

Closing

Moderator

Memorial Day has its roots in Decoration Day when families would decorate the graves of Civil War veterans with flowers, ribbons, and flags. After the ceremony today the wreath will be placed at the Veterans’ monument here on the Village green.

Before we close we want to thank American Legion Post 42 for their tremendous support with this ceremony annually, and Post 12 in Richford for placing the flags on our veteran's graves.

Thank you all for coming. Please join us for refreshments at Pratt Hall after Benediction, Honors, and Taps which follow. Please observe Social Distancing and wear your face masks (except while eating).

Benediction

American Legion
Post 42 Chaplain

Military Honors

American Legion
Post 42 Honor Guard

Taps

American Legion
Post 42 Honor Guard