

A FREE PUBLICATION

Next Issue: Tuesday, December 16  
Deadline: Thursday, December 11

# TRENDY TIMES



Po Box 43, South Ryegate, VT 05069  
802-461-9886

Email: April@TrendyTimes.com  
Website: www.TrendyTimes.com

December 02, 2025 VOLUME 17, NUMBER 4



## NORTH COUNTRY CHORUS Handel's Messiah

*The North Country Chorus sings Handel's Messiah at their annual holiday concerts on December 5, 6, and 7. The Friday concert is at 7:30 pm at Wells River Congregational Church. The Saturday and Sunday concerts are at 3 pm at United Community Church in St. Johnsbury and Peacham Congregational Church, respectively.*

*Accompanied by a chamber ensemble, the 80 voices in the North Country Chorus are directed by Alan Rowe. Soloists are sopranos Lisa Baclawski, Suzan Derby, and Kristen Morgan-Davie; altos Kim Beckley and Bridget Peters; tenors Michael Eareckson and Andrew Hudson-Sabens, and bass Lucas Weiss.*

*Composed in 1741 by George Frideric Handel, Messiah is one of the best-known and most frequently performed choral works in Western music. It was first performed in Dublin in April the following year and received its London premiere a year later. The North Country Chorus has sung Messiah periodically in its 78-year history, the last performance being six years ago. At the Sunday matinee in Peacham, singers with their own Messiah scores are invited to sing along on the major choruses.*

*The libretto of this English-language oratorio was compiled from the King James Bible and the Coverdale Psalter by Charles Jennens. His text is an extended reflection on Jesus as the Messiah, or Christ. The opening Christmas section begins with Old Testament prophecies by Isaiah and others, and moves to the annunciation of Jesus's birth to the shepherds, the only scene taken from the Gospels. In the second part Handel concentrates on the Passion of Christ and ends with the Hallelujah chorus. The final movement covers New Testament teachings on the resurrection and Christ's glorification in heaven.*

*Admission to the concert is by donation.*

*The North Country Chorus is a community choir with singers from a broad spectrum of choral experience. What they all have in common is the joy of singing works by master composers from past centuries to the present day.*



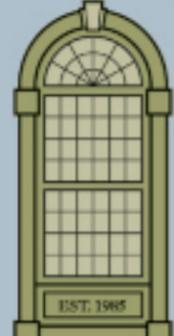
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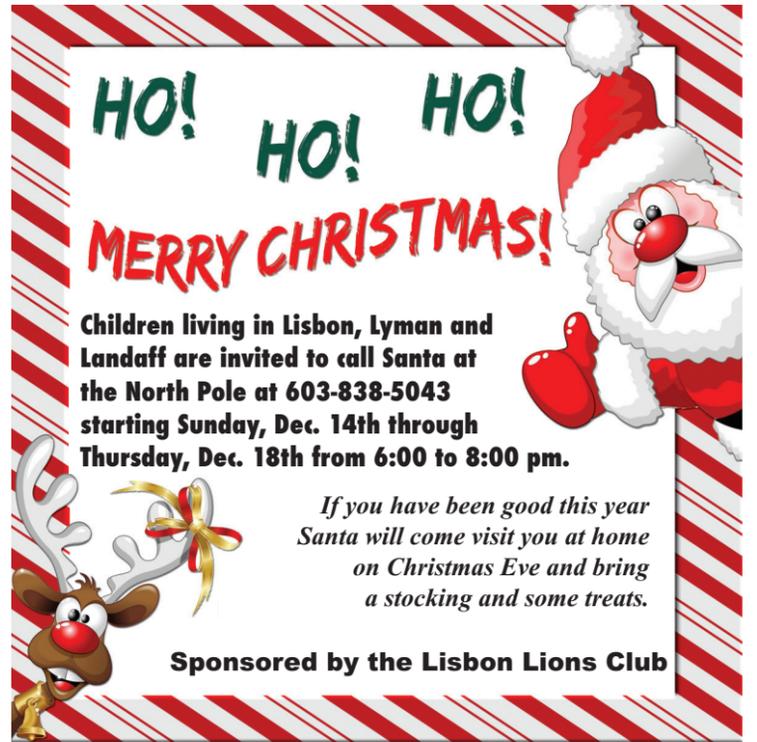
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Woodsville, NH



# TRENDY Dining Guide



**HO! HO! HO!**  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



Children living in Lisbon, Lyman and Landaff are invited to call Santa at the North Pole at 603-838-5043 starting Sunday, Dec. 14th through Thursday, Dec. 18th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

*If you have been good this year Santa will come visit you at home on Christmas Eve and bring a stocking and some treats.*

**Sponsored by the Lisbon Lions Club**



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*Open for Breakfast*  
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**DINE IN or TAKE OUT**

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**Joshua Steenburgh**

Text or call : 603 303 3072 email: [jwsteenburgh@gmail.com](mailto:jwsteenburgh@gmail.com) [www.steenburgh.com](http://www.steenburgh.com)

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# WHS JAG

Woodsville High School Juniors and Seniors in the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) program recently visited Plymouth State University for an immersive campus tour and college exploration experience.

Students had the opportunity to learn about PSU's academic programs, explore student spaces, meet with campus representatives, and get a firsthand look at college life. They asked questions



about majors, financial aid, and campus resources—gaining valuable insight into their post-high-school options.

A highlight of the day was reconnecting with two former WHS JAG Presidents now thriving at Plymouth State: Mackenzie Griswold (Class of 2024) and Paige Royer (Class of 2025). The alumni warmly welcomed the group, shared their personal journeys from WHS to PSU, and

encouraged students to believe in their potential.

"It's always powerful for our students to see JAG alumni thriving and giving back," said JAG Specialist Mrs. Jill Nichols. "Mackenzie and Paige are incredible examples of what's possible."

The visit supports the JAG program's mission to help students develop career skills, explore future pathways, and build confidence for life after graduation.

Woodsville High School is proud of its JAG students for taking active steps toward their futures—and for bringing that Engineer Energy wherever they go.

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Trendy Times reserves the right to accept or reject publication of any letter to the editor or submission of any nature for any reason. *Of course you will need to be really out there for us to turn you down.* We also reserve the right to make slight changes to submissions for readability purposes. Please limit submissions to 600 words or less.



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**Po Box 43,**  
**South Ryegate, VT 05069**

Pricing Effective, February 22, 2023

Open rate is \$7.00 per column inch  
 Full color ads: add \$1.50 per column inch

**Quarter Page - Black & White: \$115**

**Quarter Page - color \$150**

20 column inches: 4"x10", 6"x6.667 or 8"x5"

**Half Page - Black & White: \$200**

**Half Page - color: \$265**

40 column inches: 6"x13.33" or 10"x8"

**Full page - Black & White: \$350**

**Full Page - color: \$450**

80 column inches: 10" wide by 15.75" tall

Municipal Rate will pertain to all Towns and Schools.

**\$5.00** per column inch

Sample: 2 columns (4") wide by 5" tall = \$50.00

These can be Notices of meetings, help wanted, whatever.

Non-Profit Organizations (including churches)

Rate shall be \$3.50 per column inch B&W / \$4.25 for color

• Example: 2 column (4" wide by 4" tall = \$28.00 or \$34.00

***This is probably the lowest rate around for non-profit groups.***

***Why does Trendy Times do this? Because non-profits should not need to spend big dollars on advertising.***

**FRONT PAGE:**  
 full color \$12.00  
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**BACK PAGE:**  
 full color \$10.00  
 per column inch"



A section devoted to stories about our recent visit to one of our advertising eateries.

4"x4" - 13 issues \$450/B&W \$500 color  
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4"x4" - 6 issues \$225/B&W \$250 color  
 includes One Dining Guide Review

4"x 2" or 2"x4" - 13 issues \$225/B&W \$250 color  
 Includes One Dining Guide Review

4"x 2" or 2"x4" - 6 issues \$125/B&W \$140 color

**Personal Ads (non-business type)**  
 Thank You, Yard Sale, Open House, Card Shower:  
**\$4.50 per column inch**  
 Minimum of \$20.00 per ad

**Personal Classifieds:**  
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**Business Classifieds:**  
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 for up to 30 words  
**\$10.00** for 2 issues  
**\$20.00** for 5 issues  
**\$50.00** for 15 issues

**Each column will measure 2" wide.**

•

**This is a 1 column (2") wide space.**

**This space measures 4" high.**

**That equals 4 column inches.**

**The price for this ad would be: \$28<sup>00</sup> in Black & White or \$34<sup>00</sup> in Color**

# THANKSGIVING

By  
Maggie

I read an article this morning, two in fact, about a pair who have been getting together for Thanksgiving every year since their accidental meeting in 2016.

Both articles referred to their friendship as unlikely. Though neither article was specific as to why they labeled the friendship unlikely, I can only surmise the label is due to one of two factors.

The first possible answer is that the two accidental participants are generationally distant; one was a grandmother, the other a high school student when the mistaken text was sent.

The only other factor that might be considered is that one is white, the other is black.

I have been close for decades to friends in a rainbow of hues. I also have friends who are and have been decades older than I - one of the closest friends I ever had was 50 years old the day I was born - and many who are not only younger than I, but even younger than my own grandchildren.

Friendship knows no boundaries - except those we erect.

When one of my black buddies and his son laughingly had a photo taken with me sandwiched between them and told each other we'd just created a giant Oreo, it seemed as natural as teasing my high school chums for the unfortunate colors their locks had turned when they had spent the weekend dyeing one another's hair.

This Thanksgiving I'm thankful to have been raised to see people as people, not as one color or another, or beyond the possibility of friendship because of the difference in our ages.

My life is richer having gathered a resplendent array of blooms in every size and color, none exactly like the one beside it.

What would my life's bouquet be without such a medley of friends?



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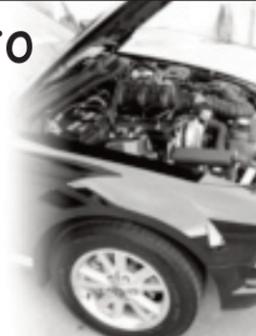


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**\$47.45**



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**December Holiday Hours**  
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Open Sunday: 9 am – 3 pm  
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**LISTEN DAILY ON WYKR!**



**5:40am & 12:20pm**

# Calendar of Events

EVENTS FROM LOCAL NON-PROFITS, SCHOOLS AND TOWNS. *PRESENTED FREE BY TRENDY TIMES.*

## EVERY FRIDAY

SHARE THE HARVEST TABLE

NOON - 7:00 PM

Baldwin Memorial Library, Wells River.

## EVERY SUNDAY

BETHANY CHURCH WORSHIP SERVICES

9:00 AM "the church set apart on the hill"

Mt. Moosilauke Highway, Pike, NH

Phone: jo anne at 603-787-6658

## WEEKLY EVENTS AT:

### CLIFFORD MEMORIAL BUILDING

South Court Street, Woodsville

### PICKLEBALL

Tuesday & Thursday evenings at 6:00 PM

Saturday mornings at 9:00-10:30 AM

**LINE DANCING** every Wednesday evening

6:00 - 7:00 PM

### ANTIQUÉ STROLLERS WALKING PROGRAM

Monday – Friday from 11:00-12:30

Clifford Building, North Haverhill

### FOLK MUSIC JAM - Pope Library (Community Center)

121 Park Street, Danville, VT.

"Back porch style", sit in a circle and take

turns choosing a tune/song. Listeners welcome.

For more info or to confirm date contact (library) 802-684-2256 or (Vicki) 802-535-6069.

The Littleton Bluegrass Jam at Topic of the Town Restaurant, Littleton

Second and Third Sundays from 2-5pm.

Bring your stringed instrument and join in on the jam session!

All are welcome. In October the jam will be on Sundays, October 12th and 19th.

## Upcoming Events

Horse Meadow Senior Center

Every Monday: 8:00-10:00 Continental Breakfast, 9:30 Chair Yoga, 10:30 Chair volleyball, 1:00 Drums Alive, 2:00 Tai-Chi via Zoom

Other Mondays: 8/11 @ 10:30 Candy Bar Bingo

Every Tuesday: 9:00 Plastic Canvas & Needlework, 9:30 Bone Builders, 11:00 Interfaith Chat, 12:00 Discovery Bible Group, 1:00 Food Pantry, 1:00 Popcorn & Movie

Every Wednesday: 9:30 Chair Yoga, 10:00 Food Pantry, 1:00 Bingo, 1:00 Drums Alive,

Every Thursday: 9:30 Bone Builders, 10:30 Bean Bag Toss, 1:00 Food Pantry,

Every Friday: 9:30 Chair yoga, 11:00 Cribbage, 12:00 Tai-Chi via Zoom, 12:30 Mahjong, 1:00 Popcorn & Movie

OLD TIME MUSIC JAM - 3rd Saturdays OCTOBER thru MAY, 10am-Noon. "Back porch style", listeners welcome! Pope Memorial Library Community Center, 121 Park Street, Danville VT. If traveling conditions are questionable, call to confirm. 802-684-2256 or 802-535-6069

Court Street Arts

Alumni Hall, Haverhill

tickets:www.courtstreetarts.org

Sunday Dec 7th

CLASSICOPIA - "FOUR HAND HOLIDAY" 2pm

Friday, Dec 12, 2025

THE MALLETT BROTHERS 7:30pm

TINKER TUNES - A Family STEM activity Night with WMSI

Thursday, Dec 18, 2025 5-8pm

Saturday, Dec 20, 2025

DAN KENNEDY -Solo Piano Holiday Favorites 7:30pm

The Gallery at WREN

Gnome Scavenger Hunt 12/5-12/7 5pm

WREN 2011 Main Street, Bethlehem, NH

Make Paper Stars with Julia! 12/6 11 am

Friday Niights: Local Delights 12/5 5pm

Downtown Bethlehem, NH

Thursday, December 4 at Alumni Hall, the Haverhill Library Association will host Doug Teschner to discuss his new book:

North Country Chorus Holiday Concerts

12-5-2025 7:30 PM

Wells River Congregational Church

12-6-2025 3:00 PM

United Community Church, St. Johnsbury, VT

12-7-2025 3:00 PM

Peacham Congregational Church, VT

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# CLASSIFIEDS

Personal: For Sale, Wanted, Lost, Found: Up to 30 words FREE for 2 issues. (\$10,000 value limit)  
 Business: Help Wanted, For Rent, etc. \$10/2 issues, \$20/5 issues, \$50/15 issues. Limit of 30 words.  
 Classifieds that exceed word count may be subject to an additional charge.  
 Mail or Drop Off at Trendy Times, 135 Church St. South Ryegate, VT, 05069 Email: April@trendytimes.com

## SERVICES

302 WASTE SERVICE & trash drop. Jct. Route 302 and Wallace Hill Road, Wells River. Wed. 5-7 pm. Sat. 8 am - 1 pm, Sun. 9 am - 1 pm. Phone 802-584-3287 and 802-272-7019

Apex Lawn Care,  
 Let us take the hassle out of maintaining your lawn and give you back your weekends to enjoy. We are dedicated to providing top-notch service and ensuring your lawn looks its best all season long. Don't wait, contact us now to schedule your lawn care services. Rich Saffo III, 802-338-0011, ApexLawnca-reNH@outlook.com

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## FOR RENT

WOODSVILLE; 4 bedroom, 2 bath home on quiet street. Features recently renovated bathroom, formal dining room, updated kitchen delightful sitting area and incredible detail and craftsmanship throughout. \$2,875 per month. Call or text 808-639-7149 for viewing or more information.

COMMERCIAL: Business opportunity in Wells River. Store front and front office available, next to Laundromat. Ideal for a professional office or store; large front room with private office. Long term or short term sub lease \$500 per month; call for particulars. Great space for anyone starting a new business or in need of office space. Call 703-298-5436.

## FOR SALE

BARRELS, TOTES & PAILS: 5 gallon - 275 gallon. Plastic or steel. Open and closed top. Call Bicknell Barrels 802-439-5519

5 sections, 6" X 36," stainless steel, double-walled, interlocking stove pipe, \$100.00 per section.

6 FT. GALVANIZED RAMPS, USED ONLY A COUPLE OF TIMES. NEW \$80. WILL SELL FOR \$50.00 WOODSVILLE

JOHN DEERE LX188RIDING MOWER, V-TWIN 17 HP. NEW BATTERY, NEEDS KEY. WELLS RIVER. CALL 802-480-1695

CANOE MOTOR MOUNT  
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DIGITAL DOG TRAINING COLLAR  
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# LETTERS

(and even some real words)

## From The Editor

Jamaican Disaster

To the Editor

In the November 18, 2025 edition of The Trendy Times, Richard Roderick wrote an informative article about the disaster in Jamaica caused by the destructive forces of Hurricane Melissa. As Mr. Roderick pointed out, no part of this island was spared the devastation. I commend him for his years of service as a Peace Corps volunteer.

Unfortunately, as noted, these types of occurrences tend to bring out the scammers intent upon getting your money for their nefarious purposes. There are, however, trustworthy organizations deserving your consideration. As was indicated, the Friends of Jamaica (FOJ) is one such organization. Another worthy organization is Franklin Graham's Samaritan's Purse, P.O. Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607 (samaritanpurse.org 800-665-2843). Within 48 hours of

Rober,

*From past letters I can tell that you and Mr. Roderick do not often agree. It is great to see that you both understand the situation of those living in Jamaica, and wish to pass along the words to encourage others to help those in need. Thank you for your efforts toward this end. And may more subjects be the source of agreement in the future.*

Gary Scruton, Editor



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Adam W. Smith

To the Editor:

Ramanullah Lakanwal, a 29-year-old Afghan national, is accused of opening fire on two National Guard members, Sarah Beckstrom and Andrew Wolfe on Wednesday, November 26. As I write this on November 27th, Army Spc. Sarah Beckstrom has died and Air Force Staff Sgt. Andrew Wolfe, is in critical condition after undergoing surgery.

While Ramanullah Lakanwal may have pulled the trigger, it is Trump who bears the responsibility for the death of Army Spc. Sarah

the hurricane, they began a series of relief flights that delivered shelter materials, hygiene kits, solar lights, medical supplies, household water filtration systems, and set up four community water filtration systems that can serve up to 10,000 people per day. (more than 500,000 lbs. relief). On Nov. 2, they airlifted a Tier 1 Emergency Field Hospital and had it operating three days later in the coastal town of Black River, considered ground zero of the storm. As of this writing, more than 900 patients have been treated, more than 500,000 lbs. of relief delivered, and there have been 103 helicopter missions.

If anyone is questioning the legitimacy of a particular organization soliciting your money, please go to charitynavigator.org for their unbiased appraisal of the organization in question.

Robert Briggaman  
North Concord, VT

Beckstrom. We have to go back to Afghanistan to February 2020 when Trump negotiated a withdrawal agreement with the Taliban that freed 5,000 imprisoned Taliban soldiers with a May 1, 2021, final US withdrawal date. In January 2021 the departing Trump Administration left the Biden Administration with a date for withdrawal, but no plan for executing it. While the evacuation of Kabal was chaotic at best, according to CNN all Afghans who came to the US after the fall of Kabul were subjected to security screenings by intelli-

he Shady, Scurrilous Six... Benedict Arnolds of our time

Six elected Democrat legislators who are former military officers with privileged or intelligence backgrounds are eroding our American military chain-of-command culture and values by issuing scurrilous and mutinous comments. Inciting rebellion by urging US service men and women to refuse "illegal" orders, "illegal" orders which they never identified, are punishable crimes in any country's military, especially during wartime.

These Democrat individuals include: Maggie Goodlander, (D-NH), Chris Deluzio, (D-PA), Jason Crow, (D-CO), Chrissy Houlihan, (D-PA), Mark Kelly, (D-AZ), and Elissa Slotkin, (D-MI).

These individuals should receive swift military justice, including being "busted" in rank, pay, pension, and perks. Reduction in rank and pay should be imposed; pensions should be revoked; PX privileges should be eliminated; VA health & medical benefits should be erased; fines should be imposed; dishonorable discharges from the military issued; jail time considered. Eliminating any future posi-

Nick,

*I consider myself an American Patriot. Like millions of others, at one time I stood up, raised my hand and swore an oath to serve this country. In all honesty that time was short due to an inherited eye issue. But my resolve to stand up for my country has never changed.*

*However, in today's political climate some will not consider me a patriot simply because I do not believe in everything that they believe in. And unfortunately the issue you have brought up is one of those occasions.*

*As I see it, reminding those who serve of what the rules are, is not trea-*

tion of political office should be carefully considered and evaluated by the voters who reside in the districts of these six scurrilous individuals. The mutinous words issued by these individuals make them the "Benedict Arnold" of our times. "Selling-out" the American military now during these "trying times" is equivalent to Benedict Arnold's selling of West Point to the British during our Revolutionary War.

George Washington had no compunction to hang traitors and deserters in our Colonial Army during our Revolutionary War. He even put rebellious leaders to face the firing squad at Valley Forge for inciting desertions. King George III and Great Britain were mighty opponents during 1775 - 1783, and any internal undermining of American morale from our own troops would certainly affect the solidarity and morale of American Patriots and American country men & women during our courageous and bloody battles with the mighty British army.

President Trump is only guilty of keeping Americans safe from the influx of drugs which are insidiously killing Americans from all walks of life. These killing drugs are illegally entering our shores

*sonous. If no illegal orders have been issued, then there are no orders to not obey. The oath taken when joining the military specifically directs those taking the oath to follow orders, unless they are illegal.*

*At this time our country appears to have a great chasm between the two sides. Work must be done, not to drag one side to the other, but to build bridges to link the two sides back together and to move forward in a united manner for the improved future of this great country.*

Gary Scruton, Editor

gence, law enforcement and counterterrorism professionals. According to officials and experts, some evacuated Afghans were vetted multiple times – before leaving Afghanistan and again in transit countries before arriving in the US.

It is Trump who is ordering troops into cities without consulting officials of those cities and in fact, officials of those states and cities are saying the troops are not needed and not wanted. According to CBS, District Judge Jia Cobb sided with D.C. Attorney General Brian Schwalb, who sued

the federal government over the Guard deployment, arguing it exceeded the president's legal authority. Schwalb said, "Normalizing the use of military troops for domestic law enforcement sets a dangerous precedent, where the President can disregard states' independence and deploy troops wherever and whenever he wants – with no check on his military power.

Once again, Trump is scapegoating immigrants by highlighting Ramanullah Lakanwal, the accused shooter, is from Afghanistan. (Note. he

via the use of sleek, super-fast, shallow-draft speedboats. "Fishing boats" have a different look altogether than these "drug boats" which are loaded with contraband, and are therefore being destroyed. President Trump is taking steps to save Americans from the consistent and growing influx of murderous drugs from South and Central America and China.

General Jack Keane, a retired American general who served as Vice Chief of Staff of the United States Army from 1999-2003, and now serves as a national security analyst, calls the actions of these six legislators, "reckless," with "no findings of illegal orders being given by President Trump."

"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine Patriot, will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman." "American Crisis," by Thomas Paine... read by George Washington to his men on Christmas night, 1776, before crossing the frozen Delaware River to attack the British and Hessians at Trenton.

Nick De Mayo  
Sugar Hill, NH

is in the US legally). It should also be noted per NPR, that research indicates that immigrants commit less crimes than U.S. born people.

If the troops were not in DC, Army Spc. Sarah Beckstrom would not have been killed. The blood is on Trump's hands. If Trump is unable or not willing to abide by the constitution, it is time for him to resign or to be removed from office.

Richard M Roderick  
Wells River, Vermont

Richard,

*It is undoubtedly a tragedy that a member of the National Guard (and possibly two) has been killed in the line of duty. It is also unfortunate that this is not the first time. It may well be true that this is the first time on American soil in some time. Our National Guard members sign up for duty that may come*

*their way. It is their obligation to serve when called upon. It is also the duty of those in command of these soldiers to train them properly, deploy them in a helpful manner, and to protect them in the best manner that the situation allows.*

*It is equally important to note that the person who pulled the trigger is the main person to blame for this tragedy. Blame*

*can be like a pinball machine. There are plenty of lights and targets. Blame can be bounced around in multiple directions and hit multiple targets. Sometimes, unfortunately, the game goes on tilt. But in the end there is a final score and those playing are not always the winners.*

*Let us all hope that this death is not in vein. Let us hope*

*that civil unrest can be better handled and that both sides can take this as a very bright sign to lower the temperature and help us all move forward to the future in a much more peaceful and cooperative manner.*

Gary Scruton, Editor