

NORTH RIDGEVILLE Review

THE COMMUNITY THAT CARES...

DECEMBER, 2020
VOLUME 2 ISSUE 3

Holiday on the Ridge

North Ridgeville's 20th annual Holiday on the Ridge was a hit last Saturday as the community took part in the celebration of local businesses in the Christmas season.

"It was successful! It is our purpose to promote the businesses of North Ridgeville and I think we were successful in doing that," said Marjorie Snyder, President



North Ridgeville Chamber & Visitors Bureau.

Guests got off to a rousing start at My Wood Loft where proprietors Steve and Tori Lambert joined with Heather Johnson of The Northridge at a delicious Hot Chocolate complete with all the toppings.

Masked visitors were then welcome to tour the unique creativity that abounds at My Wood Loft, which offers the area's largest selection of reclaimed barn materials taken right from the



Santa visited with children and posed for photos in a nostalgic sleigh at My Wood Loft during the Holiday on the Ridge last weekend.

barns here in northern Ohio.

Elves were on the scene, too, guiding generous community members to a large collection box for toy donations that are being contributed to North Ridgeville Community

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Boosting Spirits: LCCC Students Pen Letters to Local Nursing Home Residents During the Holiday Season

by Leigh Keeton

As the coronavirus pandemic changes the way people gather and celebrate this holiday season, a group of students at Lorain County Community College is spreading cheer and compassion with those they think might need it most.

"We are writing letters for residents in a nursing home in Elyria," says LCCC student Madison Calvert.

The Wesleyan Village nursing home is just a few miles from the main LCCC campus. Calvert, president of LCCC's Psi Beta Honor Society, contacted Barbara Hopkins, activities director at the home, and broached the idea. Hopkins loved it and now Calvert is one of five students in the honors group who has volunteered to send positive notes during this difficult time.

"I think it is so hard for certain

groups of people, especially in the nursing homes right now," Calvert says. "I know a lot of homes aren't able to let family come visit because they are at such a high risk, so we thought if there's anyone who needs a pick me up right now, it's those in nursing homes."

LCCC associate professor James Jordan, who co-advises the Psi Beta Honor Society with pro-

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LCCC's Psi Beta Honor Society students (from left) Randi Schmidt, Jenna Leach, Maddy Calvert volunteered to write letters to residents of a local nursing home to spread cheer during the holiday season.

County Commissioners Grant \$150,000 to NR Community Care and CRS

North Ridgeville Community Care and Community Resource Services of Avon and Avon Lake were granted \$75,000 each at last Wednesday's virtual meeting of the Lorain County Board of Commissioners.

Commissioners granted each group the monies from CARES Act funding, catching both Pam Ohradzansky, Executive Director of CRS, and Heather Kaesgen, Executive Director of NRCC by surprise on the video call.

"Pam, I am crying for you," exclaimed Kaesgen as Commissioners Matt Lundy, Lori Kokoski and Sharon Sweda unanimously approved the CRS grant. "That is what social workers do - cry together!" she laughed.

Moments later, Kaesgen was tearing up again as the board unanimously approved a second \$75,000 grant for NRCC.

Both Kaesgen and Ohradzansky said it is the Food Pantries they host that see the most need.

"Last year, we distributed 113,000 pounds of food to 477 individuals," said Ohradzansky. "This year, we've moved through 110,000 pounds through November." Stocked through donations and food drives, CRS also belongs to Second Harvest Food Bank.

"Phenomenal for us is the support we have received from Avon Meijer's since

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Pam Ohradzansky, CRS



Heather and Daphne, North Ridgeville Community Cares

County Commissioners Grant \$150,000 to NR Community Care and CRS

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they've moved into town." They have donated \$50,000 in food only cards. "They understand what it means to be in a community and be part of a community," she added.

Clients, who qualify under minimum income guidelines, also turn to CRS to assist with energy bills (up 10 per cent this year), mortgage and rent assistance and car repairs, which have been on the upswing.

"We have passed out 200,000 pounds of food this year. Our biggest program is our food pantry," said Kaesgen of the North Ridgeville Community Care services. "For the

first time in our history this year we had to purchase food for our pantry. We work closely with Second Harvest and they have been a Godsend to us.

"We have seen 74 new families who have never seen a food pantry before, never had food insecurity before, and 2 business owners, one who has kept his business open but doesn't receive a paycheck so he can pay his employees. He comes to our food pantry for his own family. These are the stories we hear all day long. He has kept two single moms from going under."

NRCC once had 85 volunteers, all over 70, who are un-

able to work now because of safety considerations.

Heather's assistant (Daphne) and their husbands have made a pact to keep the center open, working about 70 hours a week because there is no staff at this time.

But, says Heather, there is a silver lining, even though community needs surged in September and October.

"It's been overwhelming but gratifying. Lots of silver linings. United Way, Trader Joe's, Giant Eagle, people from the community....

"I can't thank you enough."

A Message from Mayor Corcoran

With the holidays approaching and the number of COVID-19 cases on the rise, I would like to remind everyone the importance of mask wearing and social distancing. Governor DeWine recently signed a revised health order on November 17th as it relates to all public and private gatherings of greater than 10 people occurring outside a single residence are prohibited. We need to continue to follow these guidelines in order to get this pandemic under control.

Lorain County Public Health is a great resource for information. They recently released tips on how to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19 during the holiday season. To lower your risk, celebrate with only the people you live with. If you plan to celebrate with people you don't live with, here are several ways to reduce your risk of getting sick and protect others:

- Wear a clean mask at all times during the gathering except when eating. Wash afterwards.
- Wash your hands and remind others to do so.
- Limit the amount of time you spend with others.
- Sit physically apart. The more distance the better between people who don't live together.
- If sharing food, have each person use their own unused utensils to dish out their food.
- Have a clean-up plan to not crowd together in the kitchen.

Think you've been exposed? To protect others, be extra cautious for 14 days after the event:

- Stay home as much as possible.
- Avoid being around people at high risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- Consider getting tested for COVID-19 with a PCR test, 5+ days after exposure. Find a PCR testing site at www.LorainCountyHealth.com.
- Pick up the phone when it rings – your local health department calls all close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases.

Please be safe and healthy as you find ways to celebrate this holiday season. May the new year bring you peace, joy, and happiness!

If you have any questions, please contact my office at (440) 353-0811.

Sincerely,
Mayor Kevin Corcoran



Tips for a Safe Holiday Season During COVID-19

Lorain County Public Health released tips on how to reduce risk during holiday activities. See the handout below for great information.

Do you plan to visit someone who is high risk to get very sick with COVID-19?

Are you high risk yourself, or do you live with someone who is?

How will you celebrate while protecting the people you love?

Trying to Decide How to Celebrate?

Ask yourself questions like these to think about factors that impact risk for you and your loved ones.

Take time to decide how to celebrate the holidays this year. Make a plan, and talk to your loved ones about it.

- Time: How long will we be together? Shorter than usual?
- People: Will there be fewer attendees than usual, who mostly live together?
- Space: Is it a big place or outside? Is there space to be 6 feet apart from others?
- Number of social interactions: How many holiday activities or social get togethers will you attend?
- Are the attendees health-conscious? Do they generally avoid social gatherings, wear a mask at social gatherings and in public, practice social distancing, and wash hands?

• How likely are the attendees to wear masks during the social time?
• Will I be able to take extra precautions to protect my high-risk loved ones? Or to protect myself?
There is no such thing as zero risk. If you get together with anyone you don't live with, you might give COVID-19 to them, or they might give it to you. Be safe and healthy as you find ways to enjoy this holiday season.

Visit www.NRidgeville.org to download a full Holiday Season Safety Tips Guide.

North Ridgeville Chamber of Commerce Business of The Year Celebration

Every year our chamber awards a deserving business "The Business of the Year Award" at a luncheon usually held in December. We also award a "Business of the Year Runner-Up Award. In addition, The North Ridgeville Chamber of Commerce awards two Pride Awards: New Construction and Renovation.

The Pride Awards have already been chosen: **New Construction - Danbury Senior Living and Renovation - 8820.**

The candidates for Business of the Year are **Georgia Awig-Mary Kay Cosmetics, North Ridge Health, North Coast Eye Care, My Wood Loft and Angelina's Pizza.** We are going to hold a virtual ceremony this week to announce our winners. The current Business of the Year is **Bistro 83.**

Visit NRChamber.com to see the winners.

The North Ridgeville Review welcomes letters to the Editor as well as news items. Please send all information by e-mail or typed. You must include your name, address, phone number and signature for verification. All items should be sent to:
North Ridgeville Review c/o The Villager Newspaper
27016 Knickerbocker Rd., Suite #1, Bay Village, OH 44140

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embassyhealthcare.net



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LONG-TERM CARE AND
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THAT OUR SKILLED
STAFF PROVIDES THE
HIGHEST QUALITY
CARE TO PRODUCE
THE BEST PATIENT
OUTCOMES**

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AND EXTENDED STAFF
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COMMUNITY FOR
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It's fast and easy to schedule an in-person or virtual appointment.
Call **440-616-6295** or visit **UHhospitals.org/WomensHealth** to schedule online.



Holiday on the Ridge

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Care right here in town.

A special attraction was the arrival of Santa Claus, who surprised one and all with a jolly HO HO HO at the front door. He then took his place in a nostalgic sleigh where he visited with children and took their Christmas requests.

Then, it was off to various other locations in town to celebrate this special day and learn about the businesses of North Ridgeville. Welcoming guests were **Bistro83** at 36033 Westminster Ave., **American Family Insurance** at 34165 Center Ridge, **Blue Barn Shoppes & House** at 33094/33060 Center Ridge, **Junk Monkey** at 6387 Lear Nagle Road, **Don Mould's Garden Center** at 34837 Lorain Road, **Hometown Vendors** at 8820 at 8820 Bender Road, and **Poppee's Popcorn/Jenny's Snack Shop** at 38727 Taylor Parkway.

"There was also a prize drawing at every location and as soon as all the entries come in we are giving away a Bistro83 gift card and 2 Giant Eagle gift cards," said Marjorie. Visit the Chamber for updates at nrchamber.com.

View more photos online at www.NorthRidgevilleReview.com



Elves Ashley and Kayden welcome Marjorie Snyder of the North Ridgeville Chamber to a place of honor on Santa's sleigh.



Santa surprises a little girl at My Wood Loft.



Laura & Sarah of Don Mould's wrap a fresh Christmas tree for a customer.



Heather Johnson, Marketing Director for The Northridge, welcomes a young guest to My Wood Loft with a fresh cookie!



All are welcome at My Wood Loft



Vendors at 8820



Santa photos at My Wood Loft



Shopping at 8820

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North Ridgeville

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To learn about funeral pre-planning

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Holiday at Finwood Estates

Finwood Estate in Elyria is home to a beautiful display with thousands of lights.

From now until the end of the year from 6-9 p.m. visit Finwood Estates, 799 N. Abbe Rd., Elyria, next to Lorain County Com-



munity College to view this special holiday lights display.

Normally the building is open to the public to visit with Santa and other fun activities, this year however, the the drive thru light experience is still open to the public and worth the visit! FREE!



Boosting Spirits: LCCC Students Pen Letters to Local Nursing Home Residents During the Holiday Season

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fessor Michelle Foust, Ph.D., says the students came up with the idea after hearing about national letter-writing campaigns.

"We thought we'd take on our own campaign to help lift their spirits and give some joy," Jordan says.

Jordan says he and Dr. Foust have "sat back and watched" as the students use their writing to let others know that while they might be feeling alone, they are part of a community that will always support each other.

"I think that right now everyone has to come together; it's not just about us," says LCCC University Partnership student Jenna Leach. "Everyone feels alone now more than ever, so it's important that we help each other."

Randi Schmidt, also a University Partnership student, knows that helping others doesn't always take a grand gesture. Sometimes just a few small words can bring the biggest smiles.

"We sent our first group of letters last week and we received word back that the residents loved them and were really grateful, so we wanted to do it again," Schmidt says. "I write things like, 'just sending a reminder that you are loved' or 'people are thinking about you and care for you.' Just little affirmations."

Those little affirmations are going a long way. Hopkins says the letters, which everyone at Wesleyan Village calls "happy mail," have helped residents like Helen Vaughan feel tethered to the outside world during an isolating time.

"Helen is 98 years old and still enjoys hand-written letters," Hopkins says. "She was really impressed that 'those college kids' cared enough to hand write happy mail for our residents."

Jordan is impressed as well. Beyond the kind act fitting well with the Psi Beta Honor Society's goal to give back to the community, it fits well with his students' compassion for those in need.

"They're not doing this for a grade or to remain a member of Psi Beta," Jordan says. "Our students are caring about the community of Lorain County and people in nursing homes who could use a little lifting up."



Save Money, Stay Safe



LCCC is meeting you where you are with flexible class options for fall:

Online • Online Live conference
In-person • Blended

Credits guaranteed to transfer!

Register Now at lorainccc.edu/spring2021
Classes Start January 19
Questions? Call 440-366-4032



*Lorain County
Community College*



North Ridgeville Schools Ranger Round-Up

www.NRCS.net



facebook.com/NorthRidgevilleCitySchools



@NRCSRangers

Ms. Holka's 4th Grade Green Studio Collects 156 Items for Second Harvest Food Bank

A shoutout goes to Ms. Holka's 4th Grade Green Studio at the Academic Center. Her class organized a food drive for the Second Harvest Food Bank for the month of November. Her class collected 156 items for the Second Harvest Food Bank! Great job, everyone!



Thank You

Mr. Mohammad

Thank you medical lab technician, Mr. Mohammad, from University Hospitals for Zooming with eighth grade today! Our learners loved hearing about your work with COVID testing and it was a great connection to our PBL! #stem #pbl - Natalie Castigano, 8th Grade STEM Coach, NRCS Ranger High-Tech Academy, @RHTAGrade8STEM

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Parent/Guardian,

At the Tuesday, December 1 Board of Education meeting, I shared a summary of the results of the community and staff surveys that were launched in October regarding second semester planning. Based on the survey feedback received and the divided results, in addition to guidance from Lorain County Public Health, I have recommended that we continue our current hybrid model to start the second semester.

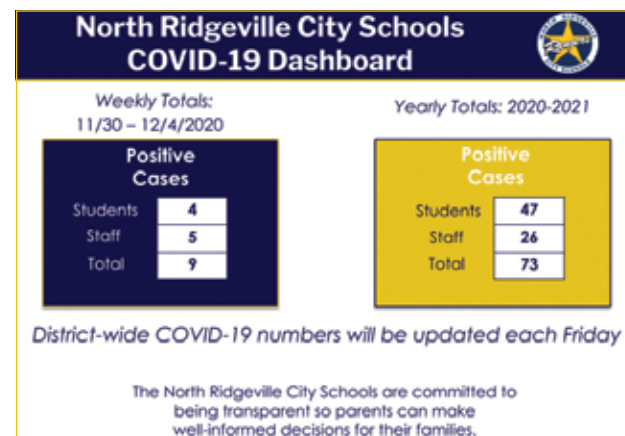
The reality is that under the current circumstances a return to full in-person learning five days a week is not practical because of a shortage of certified and support staff substitutes. Also, we do not have the physical space to properly distance students, regardless of whether we chose a three or six-foot standard.



Additionally, with the increasing positive case counts of COVID-19 and the number of staff and students required to quarantine, it would not be possible to staff our buildings in-person five days per week. Currently, we are only able to continue our hybrid model because teachers are able to work remotely while quarantined.

3rd Graders Adopt Cow!

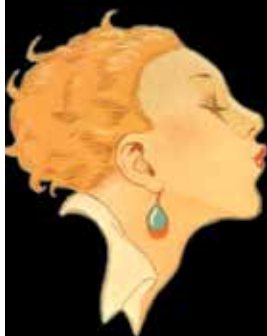
Meet 3rd grades' adopted cow! We will get to learn all about our calf through this amazing opportunity and collaboration with Daisy's farmers. #discoverdairy #PBL @NRCSRangers, @NRCSStem, @NRCS_Curriculum - Coach Samoson & Coach Simon, 3rd Grade Coaches at Ranger High-Tech Academy, @RHTASTEM3



Holiday Gift Cards

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Nino's Italian Restaurant



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North Ridgeville
Mills Creek Commons
1/4 Mile West of Barton Rd., 5 Min. from Crocker Park
440.353.9580
www.Ninos1990.com
Closed Mon / Tues 4-9 / Wed & Thurs 11-9
Fri 11-9:30 / Sat 4-9:30 / Sun 4-8



We continue to evaluate every option available to the district. This was a very difficult decision to make and I understand that it will not meet the desires of everyone. We understand that it has been a challenging year and I cannot thank you enough for the sacrifice, flexibility, and support you have shown.

Sincerely,
Roxann Ramsey-Caserio, Superintendent

Substitute Employees Needed

The North Ridgeville City Schools are in need of support staff and substitute teachers. If you or someone you know is interested in being a substitute, visit the NRCS online employment application page at www.applitrack.com/northridgeville/onlineapp/jobpostings/view.asp

Technology Repairs

Listed below is information about technology repairs:

Online and remote learning days: Technology that needs to be repaired can be dropped off at the Community Entrance of the North Ridgeville Academic Center between 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Please stop in to complete a repair form and a loaner device will be provided. Once the device has been repaired you will be contacted by the IT department.

Hybrid Students and in-person days: Technology repairs should be given to the student's classroom teacher for a help ticket to be created and a loaner device will be provided. Repaired devices will be returned to the classroom of the student.

New Screens Go Up at Aut-O-Rama



The indoor theater business has been dark since the start of the global pandemic, but business has been good at the tried-and-true Aut-O-Rama on Lorain Road in North Ridgville.

The long-time area entertainment landmark has not only been showing movies, but has hosted

many virtual events like school graduations where families may enjoy signature milestones in a socially distanced way.

Recently, Aut-O-Rama has begun replacing its two big screens. Here's to many more years of success for the Ridgeville icon!

Fire Department Offers Emergency Medical Identification Cards

The North Ridgeville Fire Department has teamed up with the North Ridgeville Senior Center and University Hospitals of Cleveland to offer Emergency Medical Identification Cards to our residents. The cards can be obtained by residents and filled out to include emergency information such as doctor's name, existing medical conditions, medications, allergies and other medical information that can be useful in an emergency. The card then slides into a magnetic sleeve that should be kept on the refrigerator. This is especially useful in times of an

emergency when the paramedics respond to the home. If this information is readily available, it streamlines the process of obtaining information when a patient may not be able to supply it themselves. These cards are free and can be picked up at City Hall and both fire stations.

If you cannot leave your home, but would still like to have a card, contact the North Ridgeville Fire Department at (440) 327-5311 and arrangements will be made to get one to your home.

Santa's Calling

The North Ridgeville Lions Club is assisting Mr. & Mrs. Claus this holiday season by providing them with a direct phone line into our community. Parents who would like their children to receive a phone call from Santa must register online or at the Parks and Recreation office. Since this is the busiest time of the year for the Clauses, they'll have time for only one call to each family. It's very important that you're home during the time your call is scheduled!

This is a FREE event for boys and girls 3-6 years old. Please make sure you are registered online at our website or at our office for this event, clicking attend on this event does not mean you are registered.

You will receive a confirmation email when you have been registered.

If you have questions please email
Program Supervisor Melissa Shirley at mshirley@nridgeville.org.



Senior Center Will Remain Closed Until Further Notice

The City of North Ridgeville released the following statement regarding the Senior Center:

“On November 9, 2020 we made the decision to reopen the Senior Center for planned activities only with safeguards in place. With the coronavirus numbers continuing to rise, we have an obligation to protect our most vulnerable citizens. After consulting with Lorain County Public Health, we have once again made the decision to cancel all activities and close the center until further notice.

“Our Meals on Wheels Program will continue to operate with meals delivered to our clients. Also, our staff will still be available by phone and/or email. Please call the general number at (440) 353-0828 and leave a message and someone will return your call.

“We will continue to update this information as changes are made on our city’s web-site at www.nridgeville.org.”

Congratulations Danbury ROPE Winner Char!

Congratulations to this month's Danbury North Ridgville ROPE winner!

Char is a dining server here at Danbury. She helps us to provide the best possible dining experience to our residents through excellent customer service, delicious food, and service with a smile! Thank you Char for all your hard work today and everyday! The residents, families, and staff appreciate you so much!

ROPE stands for “Recognition of Performance Excellence.”

All ROPE winners get a chance to spin the Danbury prize wheel.



Danbury Celebrates Thanksgiving



Danbury North Ridgville residents enjoyed a Thanksgiving feast for lunch!

Home FOR THE Holidays

Independent Living | Assisted Living | Memory Care

Danbury invites you to experience the Danbury Difference and enjoy the holidays with us. Select any apartment and take advantage of our holiday gift to you. Settle in, and be “Home for the Holidays” with Danbury Senior Living.

Enjoy an improved quality of life with:

- 
- Beautiful studio, 1 & 2 bedroom apartments
 - Chef-prepared meals daily
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 - Pet friendly community
 - Personalized wellness plans
 - 24-hour nursing team, on-site therapy, and primary care physicians

Call and ask about our Holiday Gift!

Danbury
SENIOR LIVING
North Ridgeville

**33770 Bagley Road
North Ridgeville, OH 44039**

440.596.3797

DanburySeniorLiving.com

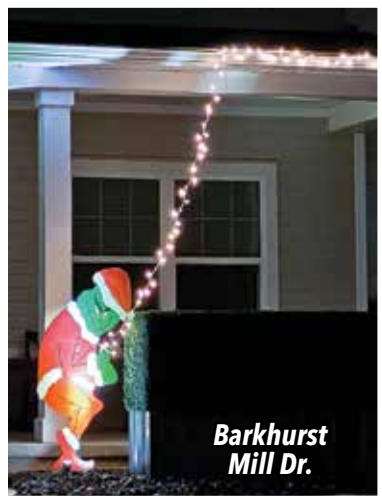


youtube.com/TheDanburyDifference



facebook.com/DanburySeniorLivingNorthRidgeville





Barkhurst
Mill Dr.

Help to Make the Season Bright

With the beautiful weather from the beginning of winter residents were able to get a head start on the amazing decorations to celebrate the holidays. The North Ridgeville Review staff enjoyed taking a drive around town to enjoy these amazing displays. Thank you to those who bring the holiday season to light! What a way to bring this year to an end!



Fairway Dr.



Cambridge Dr.

Happy Holidays!

From The Villager Newspaper
& North Ridgeville Review Staff



Rummel Mill Dr.



Avalon Dr.



Rummel Mill Dr.

Holiday Shopping Simplified with

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Locations in Elyria & Lorain



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American Share Insurance insures each account up to \$250,000. Excess Share Insurance Corporation provides up to an additional \$250,000 of insurance per account. This institution is not federally insured, and if the institution fails, the Federal Government does not guarantee that depositors will get back their money. MEMBERS' ACCOUNTS ARE NOT INSURED OR GUARANTEED BY ANY GOVERNMENT OR GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED AGENCY.