

MSW Projects Grateful For Support Over The Holiday Season

MSW Projects would like to THANK the community for the support over the holiday season. In September, MSW Projects was notified of funding cuts to the partial grants for the nutrition, transportation & outreach services. The community came together and helped raise enough money to offset the cuts through the Senior Saver Program. MSW Projects was then notified by Age Central (Central Illinois Agency on Aging) the partial funded grants were not going to be cut and would be put to the FY 25 amounts.

Without the community support it would have meant that waiting lists would have been instituted in every area where meals are served, transportation might have had to be reevaluated with riders possibly being denied, and the outreach worker's hours being cut which would have impacted the ability to help senior citizens. We are so thankful and appreciative of the community support!

Community support during the holiday season also included people donating items for senior cit-

izens to receive a gift. We would like to thank Marshall-Putnam Quilters Guild and the anonymous Santa Elves who made it possible for senior citizens to feel the joy of the holiday. We would also like to thank the Marshall-Putnam Master Gardeners who provided a beautiful centerpiece. The home delivered drivers were treated to the centerpiece gift and they all were so thankful to be remembered as it brought cheer to them each time they saw the beautiful centerpiece.

Community support comes in many different ways...making a donation, attending lunch at either the Henry or Toulon Nutrition Sites, using the transportation service available to ANYONE in Marshall or Stark County, following us on Facebook, sharing with others the services that are available to people of Marshall, Stark or Woodford County or simply by saying Thank You to the meal delivery drivers, transportation drivers or the office staff. Together we make it possible to serve the people of our counties.



Traci Dowell, Executive Director & Laurie Hattan, Marshall-Putnam Quilters Guild,

with the beautiful placemats given to the home delivered meal clients for the holidays.

Census Projections Show Red States To See Gains In House Seats, Electoral College

By Andrew Rice | The Center Square

Several blue states appear set to lose electoral college votes while red states will make sweeping gains, new data from the U.S. Census Bureau suggests.

On Tuesday, the U.S. Census Bureau announced a significant decrease in U.S. population growth, largely due to less international immigration.

However, analysis of the census data revealed several noteworthy takeaways in domestic migration trends that could affect electoral college and congressional makeup.

Electoral votes are allocated to states based on the Census. Each state is allocated a number of electoral votes based on the number of U.S. Senators and Representatives in that state.

The District of Columbia is allocated three electors in the Electoral College.

The American Redistricting Project estimated Texas would gain four seats in 2030 based on recent Census data and Florida would gain two seats. On the other end, California is projected to lose 4 seats.

North Carolina, Georgia, Idaho, Utah and Arizona would gain one additional seat respectively. However, New York, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois and Oregon

would lose one seat, respectively.

Democrat leaders expressed concern over these new projections and criticized mid-decade redistricting efforts across the country. John Bisognano, president of the National Democratic Redistricting Committee, called on Democrats to respond to redistricting efforts.

"Republicans have enacted mid-decade gerrymanders in states like Texas and North Carolina by drawing maps that aim to further silence the very communities driving the most population growth," Bisognano said.

Jonathan Cervas, a redistricting forecaster at Carnegie Mellon University, shared similar predictions as the American Redistricting Project. However, Cervas predicted Florida would gain four seats instead of two and New York would lose two seats instead of one.

David Hogg, a former leader in the Democratic National Committee, called on Democrats to build support in the South to counter reapportionment.

"If we don't start building infrastructure in the South and start winning states like Texas, Georgia, North Carolina and Florida, we can kiss goodbye any chance of winning the White House in the 2030s," Hogg said.



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Help Lacon-Sparland Ambulance Save Lives



Join us for a fun night to raise money for essential, up-to-date life-saving equipment for our dedicated Lacon-Sparland Ambulance Service! Your support ensures our first responders have the best tools ready when our community needs them most.

CASH DONATIONS & RAFFLE ITEM DRIVE!

We are seeking cash donations and donations of raffle items (baskets, gift certificates, merchandise, etc.) to make this our most successful event yet!

To Donate Raffle items, please drop them off at the Lacon Ambulance Service or contact Kelsey Fitschen at (309) 472-7665 before the event.



WHISKERZ PUB, Lacon
SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 28, 4:00

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ BINGO will start at 5:00 p.m. and continue through the evening. Please join in at any time
- ◆ Play Bingo to help raise money and win fantastic prizes!
 - ◆ Raffle Drawings!
 - ◆ Pulled Pork and fixings until gone.

YOUR DONATION DIRECTLY EQUIPS OUR AMBULANCES!

Thank you for being a vital part of our life-saving team! If you would like to send a donation directly, please send to:

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