WELCOME HOME, SPARTANS!

Congratulations on a successful move-in for the 2015–16 academic school year! We hope your experience was filled with moments of excitement as you became familiar with your student’s community and all it has to offer. It’s important to us that move-in is a fun and comfortable process for our students and their families. We pride ourselves on the support we receive from so many fellow students, staff, parents and volunteers who strive to instill confidence and pride in our students as they gear up for a great year at Michigan State University.

Hundreds of volunteers were spread across campus to lend a helping hand as they loaded carts and hauled boxes. We hope you enjoyed the complimentary meal provided by Culinary Services as you took a break in one of the newly renovated dining halls on campus. Throughout the day, Residential and Hospitality Services staff was also on hand to assist students and families with moving, answering questions and calming any first-year jitters.

In this issue you’ll also find answers to any additional questions as well as a few tidbits to help make your Spartan’s fall semester a success, including information on housing sign-up for next year, the many resources offered by MSU’s Engagement Centers, how to stay active and eat well on campus, and much more.

The articles found in Live On Family News will help keep your family in the loop while offering some helpful tips to make your Spartan’s year a success. GO GREEN!

Living on campus is definitely convenient! Your access to on-campus resources is unlimited!

-Monet Stanfield, Class of 2015

AWAY-GAME TAILGATES

Can’t make the away game? We’ll bring the game to you! MSU Live On hosts Away-Game Tailgates across campus in the following Neighborhoods:

Oct. 10 at Rutgers, River Trail Neighborhood
Oct. 17 at Michigan, East Neighborhood
Nov. 7 at Nebraska, Brody Neighborhood
Nov. 21 at Ohio State, South Neighborhood

Students can catch the game on the big screen with game-day food similar to that offered by MSU Concessions, including popcorn, ice cream, and a special menu item for each away-game event. Don’t miss out on games, music and giveaways throughout the tailgate. The events are free for students with a valid MSU ID card.

Check out www.liveon.msu.edu for locations and more info on these fun events. Let’s cheer our Spartans to victory!

RESIDENT ASSISTANT RECRUITMENT

Resident assistants (RA) are an important part of the Spartan experience, and now is the time to think about becoming part of the team for the 2016–17 school year. Applicants will be accepted this fall and training will take place during the spring semester and during the summer. RAs enhance the student experience by promoting learning and development through interaction.

Interested students can begin applying in October. Stay tuned for information sessions where students can ask questions and learn more about the job.

Students interested in gaining leadership skills and helping others are encouraged to apply!

www.liveon.msu.edu/employment/resed
ON-CAMPUS HOUSING SIGN-UP BEGINS OCTOBER 26

We know that a student’s academic success is a top priority, and we want students to take time to get to know their roommates and others in their hall, become familiar with campus, and have a chance to embrace their college experience before it’s time to choose housing for next year.

To relieve pressure students may feel while looking at housing options and making a housing decision for the following year, on-campus housing sign-up for the 2016–17 academic year will kickoff Oct. 26, giving students time to settle in and become familiar with the benefits of living on campus.

With unmatched flexibility and peace of mind, we encourage students to live on campus for at least two years and invite them to retain their housing assignment if they so choose beginning Oct. 26. Outside of certain housing priorities that must be met, many students can request to retain their current room. During the first week of November, students may begin signing up to live anywhere on campus. Students will be given access based on their class standing, which will ensure the process is as seamless as possible.

At Michigan State University, we believe that this is a step in the right direction to alleviate pressure on students when it comes to campus housing. We’re hopeful that by providing students with more time to make an informed decision about their plans for next year, they will spend those first important weeks of the fall semester laying the foundation for academic success.

We encourage students to explore campus, experience all the resources that MSU has to offer, make new friends and get involved in their new community. If you or your student would like more information about on-campus housing, please visit www.liveon.msu.edu or contact the Housing Assignments Office at 517-884-5483 or at liveon@msu.edu.

SNAPSHOT: RESIDENT ASSISTANTS

There is a lot to take in when you live on campus. Resident assistants have the benefit of experience and are happy to pass it on to your Spartan. They know about campus resources and are trained in resolving roommate conflicts. They’re also there to lend an ear and provide advice.

RAs are second-year students or above who can provide valuable information to other students who may need guidance. They also undergo extensive training in the weeks leading up to the academic year, learning about all the resources available to students, becoming familiar with steps on how to resolve emergency matters and conflicts, and learning how to balance the added responsibility with their own academic goals.

RAs love their jobs and are always happy to help! Throughout the year, they meet and form relationships with many Spartans and serve as the ties that bind our campus Neighborhoods together. Whether it is organizing floor hangouts, movie nights or midterm study sessions, your student’s RAs help to make on-campus living feel more like home.
GET INVOLVED WITH THE RESIDENCE HALL COMMUNITY

- Be an active member of the hall community by attending floor programs, floor meetings and hall events.
- Meet people by attending hall-based government and caucus meetings.
- Get to know the Resident Assistant and Office of Cultural and Academic Transitions Intercultural Aide. These undergraduate staff members receive extensive training in order to help students successfully transition to college.

BE HAPPY AND ACHIEVE ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- Create a study group with students who live nearby.
- Keep family involved with classes and learning, and talk about classroom experiences with friends.
- Select a housing option that meets student needs (things like quiet floors or living-learning communities).
- Seek out MSU’s many academic resources such as tutors in the Engagement Center. RAs and Intercultural Aides can also be helpful in connecting students with resources.

EXPAND YOUR LENS

- Get to know others on the floor and in the hall. There are many opportunities for students to extend their social circle to include individuals with different backgrounds, identities and interests.
- Think about how to candidly discuss living expectations with roommates and suitemates.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Sept. 28**
End of tuition refund period for all courses

**Sept. 28–Oct. 3**
MSU Homecoming Week

**Oct. 10**
Live On Away-game Tailgate
Spartan Football @ Rutgers

**Oct. 17**
Live On Away-game Tailgate
Spartan Football @ Michigan

**Oct. 26**
2016–17 On-Campus Housing Sign-Up Begins

**Nov. 7**
Live On Away-Game Tailgate
Spartan Football @ Nebraska

**Nov. 21**
Live On Away-Game Tailgate
Spartan Football @ Ohio State

ACADEMIC BREAKS AND IMPORTANT DATES

Fall semester is underway, starting off the 2015–16 academic year. Keep these important dates in mind and refer to [www.liveon.msu.edu](http://www.liveon.msu.edu) in November for information on winter break housing and dining options.

**Nov. 26–27**
University Closed for Thanksgiving

**Dec. 11**
Classes End

**Dec. 14–18**
Final Exams

**Dec. 17–19**
Commencement

**Dec. 19–Jan. 10**
Winter Break

**Jan. 11, 2016**
Spring Semester Begins
1855 PLACE – NEW STUDENT HOUSING FOR 2016-17

If you like the sound of your Spartan living conveniently near an MSU-sponsored marketplace, coffee shop and ticket office, all in a picturesque community, 1855 Place will be of interest to you. Construction began this month, with on-campus housing for single students and student families to be completed and available for the 2016–17 school year. The project will replace Spartan Village housing with new one-, two- and four-bedroom apartment-style housing at the southeast corner of Harrison and Kalamazoo. Visit future.rhs.msu.edu and stay tuned to www.live.msu.edu for information on signing up.

WINTER BREAK HOUSING

After wrapping up the fall semester, winter break should be a well-earned period of relaxation and gearing up for spring. During this time, MSU provides between-semester housing beginning Dec. 19, in the following locations: Hubbard, Wonders, McDonel, Owen, and Van Hoosen halls and University Village.

Students must currently live in these locations in order to be eligible to stay over the break. These students can apply online to www.liveon.msu.edu to stay in their residence hall rooms during winter break. Students may also choose to reserve a room at the Kellogg Center by calling 517-432-4000. Students who visit home during winter break will be welcomed back when the halls reopen on Jan. 11, 2016.

SPRING EARLY ARRIVAL INFORMATION

If your student is taking classes during the spring semester and would like to move-in early, visit www.liveon.msu.edu for more information on spring early arrival.
As students settle into their new campus routine, it’s a comfort to know there’s a Neighborhood Engagement Center nearby. These Engagement Centers are hubs of information, entertainment and ways to get involved on campus.

MSU Engagement Centers offer many resources. Conveniently located in each campus Neighborhood, these centers are open for all students to use at no cost. More than just another quiet study space on campus, they are full of resources that cater to academic achievement, community and intercultural involvement. Students’ health, wellness and safety needs are also addressed.

Students will find the following resources in each Engagement Center:

- Academic advising
- Fitness and recreational classes
- Sparty’s convenience stores and cafés
- Answers to campus questions
- Tutoring in most subjects, math and writing specifically
- Cultural spaces
- Music and movie spaces
- Information on health and wellness resources
- Student health and service centers

To learn more, visit www.neighborhoods.msu.edu or email nhds@msu.edu.

---

Health and wellness are important to us here at MSU. Students have a variety of options to stay healthy while living on campus. From group exercise classes offered by the Neighborhood Engagement Centers to our Live On and Be Fit program and everything in between, there are many opportunities to enjoy good health across campus. Whether your student hops on a treadmill for a run or grabs some friends for a group exercise class, there is something fun for everyone who wants to fit in their workout on campus.

With a valid MSU ID, students can participate in a variety of classes and use fitness rooms in their campus Neighborhood. There is no need to sign up in advance. Classes are ongoing to give students the greatest flexibility.

Watch for upcoming classes on the digital signs within each residence hall and check www.liveon.msu.edu/befit for a current schedule.
At Michigan State, students have a lot of dining options available to them. Many Spartans choose the convenience of dining in one of MSU’s 10 residence dining halls where access from 7 a.m. to midnight seven days a week allows them to find time for a meal around a busy schedule. No matter where you live, work, study or play, there’s a residence dining hall nearby. Each Neighborhood offers vegetarian options, comfort food, grill items, salads, desserts, international cuisine and more! Our goal is to provide an outstanding, integrated food experience for the campus community that emphasizes culinary excellence, sustainable food practices and enhances community development.

In each unique dining hall, you’ll find talented chefs and staff who care a lot about the students’ Spartan experience. Brody Square’s Sous Chef James Cummings says, “From what I’ve been able to observe, we have a staff who cares, so if there’s a student with dietary needs or issues, they go out of their way to make sure that we’re working with them, and they’re always friendly and trying to do the best job they can.”

Student workers are an integral part of MSU’s culinary staff. Executive Chef Eric Batten, who also recently moved to Brody Square, says that one of his favorite things about his job is working with students. “I really like the students that work for us, and I really like the diversity of Michigan State in general.”

The multitude of dining options and the wonderful staff that help provide these options come together to make the experience of eating on campus great for every student.

**GET TO KNOW OUR CHEFS**

**Brody Neighborhood**
Eric Batten, Executive Chef, Brody Square
Jim Cummings, Sous Chef, Brody Square
Brian Guadagnini, Sous Chef, Brody Square

**East Neighborhood**
Jason Strotheide, Executive Chef, East Neighborhood
Leann Shepard, Sous Chef, The Edge at Akers
Joe Murphy, Sous Chef, Holmes Dining Hall

**North Neighborhood**
Kevin Cruz, Executive Chef,
The Gallery at Snyder/Phillips (Acting)
Melissa Martinez, Sous Chef, The Gallery at Snyder/Phillips
Eric Batten, Executive Chef, Heritage Commons at Landon
Dien Ly, Sous Chef, Heritage Commons at Landon

**River Trail Neighborhood**
Kevin Cruz, Executive Chef, River Trail Neighborhood
Norbert Dill, Sous Chef, The Vista at Shaw
Emily Swirsky, Sous Chef, Riverwalk Market at Owen

**South Neighborhood**
Kurt Kwiatkowski, Executive Chef South Neighborhood (Acting)
Jonathan Hughes, Sous Chef, South Pointe at Case
Bryan Latz, Sous Chef, Holden and Wilson Dining Halls

**Food Truck/Corporate Kitchen**
Kurt Kwiatkowski, Corporate Chef
Kari McGee, Sous Chef
Residence Education and Housing Services is part of the Division of Residential and Hospitality Services at Michigan State University.

Live On Family News is a monthly newsletter published throughout the academic year to keep Spartan families connected to what is happening in Residence Education and Housing Services at MSU. You can read past issues at www.liveon.msu.edu.

VISIT US ONLINE: WWW.LIVEON.MSU.EDU