WELCOME HOME, SPARTANS!

More than 14,000 first-year and returning students started a new chapter in their Spartan experience during the 2014-2015 move-in weekend. Hundreds of volunteers were spread across campus to lend a helping hand, including fellow students, East Lansing community members and MSU alumni. As they loaded carts and hauled boxes, they also shared memories and talked with students and families about living in the residence halls.

The Residential and Hospitality Services staff was also on hand to assist students and families with moving, answering questions and calming first-year jitters. Culinary Services provided students and their families with free passes to enjoy a meal in one of our many dining halls. And if you were here on campus, you may have spotted President Lou Anna K. Simon who visited each neighborhood to speak with students and help with move-in.

President Simon was one of many Spartans who grabbed a prop and snapped a selfie at one of the “Selfie Stations” set up in each neighborhood. Twenty-six stations could be found throughout campus and each included an 8x8-foot banner, fun photo props and an inflatable Sparty at some locations. Spartans and their families were encouraged to capture their move-in memories by enthusiastic volunteers and post pictures to social media for a chance to win a Live On prize pack.

Before the hustle and bustle of move-in, Residential and Hospitality Services staff were busy preparing residence and dining halls for the start of a new academic year. Students and families were encouraged to download the Guidebook app on their mobile device to access the MSU Live On 2014 guide. The app contained an array of necessary move-in information, including family reception details, cooling center locations and more.

We hope your student’s move-in experience provided the perfect start to the 2014-2015 academic year. GO GREEN!

LIVE ON AWAY-GAME TAILGATES

While the team is away, it’s still game day! MSU Live On is bringing the Away-Game Tailgates to the neighborhoods for the second year. Spartans can come out to the tailgates to catch the team on the big screen, while they are away facing Oregon, Purdue, Indiana and Maryland. Our first event on Sept. 6 vs. Oregon was a huge success with more than 200 Spartans gathering in Shaw Hall to cheer on the team.

Don’t miss our next event. Culinary Services will provide “gameday food” from concessions, including popcorn, ice cream and a special menu item for each away game. There will also be games, music and prizes throughout the event.

We’ll be holding more tailgates on the follow days and locations:

- Oct. 11 vs. Purdue — South Neighborhood
- Oct. 18 vs. Indiana — East Neighborhood
- Nov. 15 vs. Maryland — Brody Neighborhood

Students are encouraged to come out and share in the excitement as our Rose Bowl Champions press through the season hoping for the first college football playoff championship title.

RESIDENT ASSISTANT RECRUITMENT

The Residence Education and Housing Services department at MSU is on the lookout for applicants for the resident assistant positions across campus during the 2015-2016 academic year. Applications will be accepted this fall and training will take place during the spring semester and over the summer. RAs are an important part of campus life and enhance the student experience by promoting learning and development through interaction.

Interested students can begin applying Oct. 13, 2014. Information sessions will also be held Oct. 20-24 and Nov. 10-14 where students can learn more about the job responsibilities and ask questions.

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

www.liveon.msu.edu/employment/resed
SNAPSHOT: RESIDENT ASSISTANTS

Moving into new surroundings can be challenging. There may come a time when your student needs directions. Or maybe they just need some advice on the best places to eat or find entertainment. For questions like these and more, it’s always good to have a neighbor who is familiar with the campus and willing to help out.

That neighbor is the resident assistant. RAs are students who are in at least their second year of college and can provide valuable information to other students who may need guidance — whether it’s school-related advice, personal relationships or tips on how to get around town.

RAs 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 conflicts and emergency matters and also learning how to balance the added responsibility with their own academic goals.

RAs have one of the best jobs on campus. They meet and form relationships with many Spartans and serve as the ties that bind our campus neighborhoods together. Whether it is with floor dinners, movie nights or study sessions, your student’s RAs help to make on-campus living feel more like home.

HOUSING SIGN-UP: WHAT’S BEST FOR THE STUDENTS?

Michigan State University advocates for policies and procedures that are in the best interest of our students. 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 having to choose housing for next year.

Students told us that they felt pressured from both MSU and off-campus options to make a housing decision for the following year too soon after moving into their residence hall. So we’re taking a step to alleviate that pressure.

Sign-up for fall 2015 on-campus housing will begin one month later this year. Here is the sign-up process timeline for you to reference as you discuss options with your student:

- **Nov. 4 to 10**: Students may sign up online to live in their current space for the following year.
- **Nov. 12 to Apr. 1**: Students may sign up online to live in any available space on campus for the following year.
- **After Apr. 1**: Students may contact the Housing Assignments Office to sign up for on-campus housing the following year.

We believe that this change is a step in the right direction to alleviate pressure on students when it comes to housing. We are hopeful that by providing students with more time to make an informed decision about their housing plans for next year that they will spend those first crucial weeks of the fall semester laying the foundation for academic success.

We encourage students to explore campus, experience all of 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](http://www.liveon.msu.edu) or contact the Housing Assignments Office by phone at 517-884-5483 or by email at liveon@msu.edu.
Being away from home is never easy, but we’d like to share some tips that may help your student adjust to campus and keep a smile on their face.

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 and events.
- Get to know the RA 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 — like tutors in the engagement center. RAs and intercultural aides can also be very 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. 22**
End of tuition refund period for all courses

**Sept. 27**
MSU Homecoming

**Oct. 11**
Live On Away-Game Tailgate
Spartan Football @ Purdue

**Oct. 18**
Live On Away-Game Tailgate
Spartan Football @ Indiana

**Oct. 25**
Home: Spartan Football vs. U of M

**Nov. 4**
On-campus Housing Sign-Up Begins

**Nov. 6**
Live On Fall Festival

**Nov. 15**
Live On Away-Game Tailgate
Spartan Football @ Maryland

ACADEMIC BREAKS AND IMPORTANT DATES

Fall semester is underway, starting off the 2014-2015 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. 27-28**
University Closed for Thanksgiving

**Dec. 5**
Classes End

**Dec. 8-12**
Final Exams

**Dec. 12-13**
Commencement

**Dec. 13 to Jan. 11**
Winter Break

**Jan. 12, 2015**
Spring Semester Begins

EXPLORE ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS

THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE. LEARN MORE AT [STUDENTLIFE.MSU.EDU](http://STUDENTLIFE.MSU.EDU) with your student.
EATING AT STATE: RECIPE TO TRY AT HOME

One of the most beloved and requested MSU recipes that gives Spartan alumni nostalgia is the Spartan Sausage Bread. Culinary Services has received many requests for the recipe, so now you can try it at home. Bon appetit!

**Spartan Sausage Bread**  –  Serves 8

**Ingredients:**
- 1/2 lb. Italian sausage
- 1/2 lb. breakfast sausage
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 tsp. dried parsley
- 1 cup grated Swiss cheese
- 1/2 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 2 eggs, whisked
- 1 loaf of bread (recipe to the right)
- 1 egg, whisked
- 1 tsp. water
- 2 Tbsp. fresh parsley, chopped

**Directions:**
- Brown the sausages. Add onions and dried parsley. Cook 10 minutes to soften the onions. Drain the grease and let cool.
- In a bowl, combine the Swiss cheese, parmesan cheese and eggs. Mix well. Stir into the cooled meat and combine.
- Spread the mixture onto the rectangle piece of dough (see dough recipe), leaving a one-inch edge on all sides. Roll it jelly-roll style, being sure to pinch the ends and sides to completely seal.
- Place on a parchment-lined sheet tray.
- Combine the whisked egg and water to make an egg wash. Brush over the loaf. Using a knife, score the loaf to let the steam escape.
- Bake at 325˚ for 25 – 30 minutes, or until golden brown and it is heated through.
- Let rest 5 – 10 minutes before slicing.

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**Bread Dough**

2 1/2 – 3 cups bread flour
1 egg
1 Tbsp. nonfat dry milk
2 Tbsp. shortening
3 Tbsp. sugar
1/2 tsp. salt
2/3 cup water
2 1/2 tsp. instant yeast

**Directions:**
- In a mixer, combine all ingredients except the yeast. Add yeast after one minute.
- Mix dough for two minutes on low, then increase the speed to high for eight minutes. Add flour as needed.
- Roll dough into a ball and let rest for 15 minutes.
- Roll it out into a rectangle for the recipe.

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**CAN’T BE THERE TO CELEBRATE WITH YOUR STUDENT?**

Make their day special with a personalized, freshly baked treat from MSU Bakers!

For birthdays, finals week, get well or good luck packages, or whatever the occasion, MSU Bakers can help!

Order online at [www.msubakers.com](http://www.msubakers.com) or call 517-353-9310. Deliveries are available to residence halls, so order your student’s favorite today!
With an increased academic workload, busy social calendar and other changes that occur in the transition from home to college living, we sometimes see a good student fall behind academically.

To help, the MSU Neighborhood Engagement centers offer many resources. Engagement centers are conveniently located in each campus neighborhood (North, South, East, River Trail and Brody) and are open for all students to use at no cost. MSU Neighborhood Engagement Centers are more than just another quiet study space on campus. They are teeming with resources that cater to academic achievement, community and intercultural involvement and students’ health, wellness and safety needs.

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](http://www.neighborhoods.msu.edu) or email nhds@msu.edu.

From yoga and Zumba to fitness centers and cardio kickboxing, there are many options to enjoy good health across campus when students participate in our Live On and Be Fit program. Whether your student jumps on a machine for a run or gathers some friends for a group exercise class, there is something for everyone to complete their workout in a fun way!

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](http://www.liveon.msu.edu/befit) for a current schedule.
LANDON AND BUTTERFIELD HALL RENOVATIONS

Renovations are complete in Landon and Butterfield halls. Both halls were closed in June 2013 to complete a variety of upgrades. The upgrades in both halls include:

- Wireless Internet access
- Kitchenettes on each floor in the living wings
- Community bathrooms
- Carpet
- Lighting
- Paint
- Heating and vents
- Windows
- Blinds
- Furnishings

Butterfield Hall features a new Michigan-themed design using reclaimed, local lumber and artwork featuring Michigan’s tourist spots. There is a Spartan helmet incorporated into the design of the first floor lobby area and additional gathering and study spaces were added throughout. One of the most anticipated upgrades is the meditation room, complete with glass tiles, seating and a foot sink.

Four soundproof music rooms were installed in the basement of Landon Hall, each complete with their own baby grand pianos. There were also study and gathering spaces added to the residential wings in the building. The biggest upgrades came in Landon’s dining hall, now known as Heritage Commons.

Heritage Commons features three easily-accessible, themed levels complete with four specialty concept restaurants: Sizzle, Landon Bistro, Global Flavors and Grains and Greens. The new dining hall now seats 360 guests. For more information about Heritage Commons at Landon, visit www.eatatstate.com/landon.

Akers Hall is next on the list for renovations and is currently receiving upgrades in the dining hall which is set for completion by spring semester of 2015.

NEW DINING OPTIONS FOR FALL

TAKEOUT IN ALL DINING HALLS

Students may now use Combo-X-Change to get takeout from all dining halls. Culinary Services implemented takeout to provide students with additional convenience and portability as they venture to classes and on-campus activities.

Takeout is available 7 a.m. to midnight, Monday through Friday. In order to use takeout, students must request the Combo-X-Change option before the MSU ID is scanned at the host station. The host will provide the guest with a beverage cup, silverware and a dated ticket. This ticket may be turned in at any one venue for a complete meal from that venue. Takeout containers for entrées are at the venues and may only be used at one venue. A small salad and dessert may also be added to the takeout container. The container must be able to close. For more information, visit www.eatatstate.com/takeout.

NEW COMBO-X-CHANGE LOCATION IN INTERNATIONAL CENTER

On Aug. 4, the UP Pizzeria opened at Crossroads Food Court in the International Center. Operated by Culinary Services, the new UP Pizzeria location accepts Combo-X-Change, adding more options for on-campus students who have classes in the center of campus.

Housing Assignments Office
Wilson Hall
219 Wilson Rd. Rm C101
East Lansing, MI 48825-1208

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