WELCOME HOME, SPARTANS

We know move-in day can be draining, but you and your student pulled it off! We hope your student’s academic year is kicking off with a strong start, that they’re settling in comfortably to their new home and that you’re getting plenty of catch-up time via phone calls and Facebook and Twitter posts filling you in on the start of their exciting experience here at Michigan State.

It’s important to us that move-in is a fun and comfortable process for our students and their families. The support of so many smiling students, staff, parents and volunteers makes that possible.

This year, 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 questions and a few tidbits to help make your student’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.

With each issue of Live On Family News our goal is to keep your family in the loop while offering some helpful tips to make your student’s year a success. GO GREEN!

AWAY-GAME TAILGATES

School spirit is what drives Michigan State Athletics. Live On supports this school spirit by hosting tailgates for students during MSU football away games. For the last three football seasons, rather than watching away games alone in their room, students have enjoyed away games on campus with their fellow Spartans. Away-game tailgates take place in various residence halls and classrooms throughout campus.

The aim of away-game tailgates is to bring Spartan fans together to create lasting memories for every student. Live On offers an authentic tailgating experience by providing prize drawings, games, music and food that mirrors what the stadium serves, all free to students with a valid MSU ID.

Away-game tailgates bring students together to celebrate being Spartans.

Schedules

MSU AWAY GAME SCHEDULE

- September 17 vs. Notre Dame
- October 1 vs. Indiana
- October 22 vs. Maryland
- November 5 vs. Illinois

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

SNAPSHOT: RESIDENT ASSISTANTS

Resident assistants (RA) are many students’ first point of contact when they need a helping hand. RAs have the benefit of experience and are happy to pass it on to your student. They’re trained to resolve conflicts and even know the best places to eat or find entertainment. Plus, they can give directions on how to get there. Most importantly, they’re 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.

SNAPSHOTS: RESIDENT ASSISTANTS

Resident assistants (RAs) are an important part of the Spartan experience, and now is the time to think about becoming part of the team for the 2017–18 school year. Applicants will be accepted this fall with training taking place during the spring summer semester. 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 at liveon.msu.edu/employment/resed.

MEET ANNEKA ROSE HART

Resident Assistant, Residence Education and Housing Services

First impressions are the longest lasting. Student employees play an essential role in the Division of Residential and Hospitality Services (RHS). Environmental engineer junior, Anneka Hart, is a Resident Assistant (RA) for North Case hall. Anneka’s role as a student team member is influential in shaping the experience shared by students and their peers when they first arrive on campus. As an RA, Anneka’s bubbly personality and initiative embody the Spartan spirit.

No two days are the same in the life of a RA and that’s how Anneka likes it. As an RA for North Case Hall, Anneka provides general support for students, enforces the rules, mediates disagreements and is responsible for creating a sense of community within the hall.

“I try to be a welcoming person. I want my residents to know they can always come talk to me as well as know that our floor is a peaceful place,” Anneka explained.

One of the most important parts of Anneka’s role as an RA is relationship building. Anneka seeks out common ground between herself and her individual floormates.

“I try to find something in common with every single person I interact with and I think that getting to know other people and seeing them blossom into themselves is my favorite part about the job.”

This will be Anneka’s second year as an RA and as one of the many students who are part of the divisional effort to create outstanding Spartan experiences.

“If you want to be an RA, I encourage you to talk to your RA right away. I have definitely had a great experience with it. It’s the perfect way to meet people as well as get leadership experience while becoming closer to MSU all at the same time.”
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, campus housing sign-up for fall 2017 will kickoff October 24, giving students several months to settle and become familiar with the benefits of living on campus.

Outside of certain housing priorities that must be met, 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 swift and smooth.

We believe that this is a step in the right direction to alleviate pressure on students when it comes to 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 liveon.msu.edu or contact the Housing Assignments Office at 517-884-5483 or at liveon@msu.edu.

On Aug. 15, 2016 Michigan State became a tobacco-free campus. The University banned tobacco products in order to ensure the health of the MSU community. Implementing a tobacco free policy aligns with efforts to create the healthiest academic and workplace environment possible at MSU. The new ordinance prohibits tobacco use on property governed by the Board of Trustees and includes not only the main campus but also all MSU sites across the state, nation and globe.

In addition to traditional tobacco products such as cigarettes and chewing tobacco, the ordinance also prohibits e-cigarettes and vaporizers. All FDA-approved nicotine replacement therapy products are permitted for cessation use.

Tobacco-free MSU FAQs, information about enforcement, copies of the ordinance, policy, toolkits, and more are available at tobaccofree.msu.edu.

1855 PLACE NEW STUDENT HOUSING

The site, named 1855 Place in honor of the year MSU was founded, and located on the corner of S. Harrison Road and Kalamazoo Street across from the Breslin center, will retain its convenient event parking while also offering student and student families a vibrant community with revitalized apartment housing, engagement areas, scenic plazas and a marketplace to fulfill every Spartan’s need. The project will replace Spartan Village housing with new studio and two- and four-bedroom apartment-style housing and townhouses. Student family housing opened in August of 2016. Student apartments and townhouses at 1855 Place will be available fall 2017 with offices, retail venues and community space also opening then.

Visit future.rhs.msu.edu and stay tuned to liveon.msu.edu for information on how your student can sign up to live at 1855 Place.
BETWEEN-SEMESTER HOUSING
With the fall semester already in gear, it’ll be winter break before you know it! During this time, MSU provides housing beginning Saturday, Dec. 17, 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 at liveon.msu.edu to stay in their residence hall rooms during winter break. Students who visit home during winter break will be welcomed back when the halls reopen Jan. 9, 2017.

ENGAGEMENT CENTER RESOURCES
No matter where your student lives on campus, there’s an MSU Neighborhood Engagement Center nearby. These engagement centers are hubs of information, entertainment and ways to get involved on campus. 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’re full of resources that cater to academic achievement, community and intercultural involvement. Students’ health, wellness and safety needs are also addressed.

Visit neighborhoods.msu.edu or email nhds@msu.edu to learn more.

Student engagement centers provide:

- Academic advising
- Fitness and recreational classes
- Sparty’s convenience stores and cafes
- 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

DINING HALLS
Students at Michigan State have a variety of dining options available to them. Many Spartans choose the convenience of dining in one of MSU’s nine residential 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 residential dining hall nearby. Each Neighborhood offers vegetarian options, comfort food, grill items, salads, desserts, international cuisine, a gluten-friendly area 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 other team members willing to assist with navigating menus, addressing dietary restrictions and more. Brody Square Sous Chef James Cummings says the staff at each dining hall truly care about ensuring customers have a great experience. “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 says that one of his favorite things about his job is working with students. “I really like the students who work for us, and I really like the diversity of Michigan State in general.”

The multitude of menu options and the wonderful staff who help provide memorable customer experiences come together to make dining 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
Wayne Burmeister, 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
Dien Ly, Executive Chef, The Gallery at Snyder/Phillips
Melissa Martinez, Sous Chef, The Gallery at Snyder/Phillips
Eric Batten, Executive Chef, Heritage Commons at Landon
Brian Guadagnini, Sous Chef, Heritage Commons at Landon
Jim Cummings, Sous Chef, Heritage Commons at Landon
Wayne Burmeister, 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
Bryan Latz, Executive Chef South Neighborhood
Jonathan Hughes, Sous Chef, South Pointe at Case
Kari Magere, 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 quarterly 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 liveon.msu.edu.

VISIT US ONLINE: LIVEON.MSU.EDU

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East Lansing, MI 48825-1208

Equal Opportunity Housing