

Fresh from the Garden



FEBRUARY EVENTS

Employee Discount Days
50% Off

February 10 & 11, 24 & 25

Super Bowl Sunday

February 13

Valentine's Day

February 14

President's Day

February 21



EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

Years of Service	Employee Name	Location
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MANAGERS:

10	Michael Martens	DH
9	Stephanie Wauldron	DH

ASSOCIATES:

21	Stephanie Vanhaverbeck	LC
8	Scott Schultz	LC
3	Ronald Brent	LC
1	Mary Margaret Weeks	PN



OBSERVATIONS

Spring is Almost Here!

by John Darin, President



I know it may not feel like it outside, but it sure feels like it in our stores. The teams are busy filling shelves, tables and racks with fresh products and NEW items to share with our customers for another successful Spring season. It is truly remarkable how much the staff accomplishes in the Winter months, during the transition. I appreciate all the work you put in to make your stores come to life with renewed energy and excitement.

February is also the perfect time to focus on training. During the next month, some of you will attend virtual training sessions, specific to your departments. But every day you have learning at your fingertips, with our Success Training cards. These are important tools to utilize in order to expand your knowledge and renew your focus for all the Spring Products and Services English Gardens has to offer.

We are extremely excited to announce the Corporate Performance Bonuses will be paid out in February again this year, similar to last year, for all the hard work and achievements from 2021. More detailed communication will be sent out regarding specific timelines in the coming weeks.

We have decided to celebrate the 2021 Recognition Awards in a new format this year. Since we are not able to host a large group gathering/banquet as in years past, we still want to have fun and bring the team together to acknowledge all the wonderful successes from 2021. ***We will host a virtual award show during the kickoff of Spring Training in March!*** All teams will be able to watch from a LIVE screen in their home locations or on their personal devices. The live stream will include presentations of the John Darin, Sr. Manager of the Year Award, Enrico and Marie Vespa Associate of the Year Award, Safety Award, and the Landscape Industry Awards. We will also announce the 2021 Milestone Anniversaries during this event. More details to come.

Happy February everyone. Stay safe, stay warm, and thank you for all that you do!



WE'RE HIRING

People Who *Love* People & Plants

CURRENT LIST OF OPENINGS:

CORPORATE

- E-Commerce Coordinator

LANDSCAPE, PONTIAC AND PLYMOUTH

- Crew Foreman
- Crew Members

ALL RETAIL LOCATIONS

- Seasonal Nursery
- Garden Center
- Patio Sales
- Cashier

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

- Manager in Training
- Delivery Driver
- Floral Designer

WEST BLOOMFIELD

- Operations Manager
- Manager in Training
- Floral Designer
- Visual Merchandiser
- Market Driver
- Delivery Driver
- Full-time Cashier
- Full-time Patio Furniture Sales Associate

CLINTON TOWNSHIP

- Manager in Training
- Delivery Driver

EASTPOINTE

- Manager in Training

ROYAL OAK

- Garden Coach
- Receiving Associate
- Market Driver
- Floral Designer

PLYMOUTH

- Delivery Driver
- Greenhouse Lead Associate

Plus... Recruiting Bonus!

EXCITING NEW EMPLOYEE REFERRAL PROGRAM

Information Coming Soon



Tell Us About It



West Bloomfield - Gale, Tracy and Rebecca are very creative! Jim was extremely helpful!

Dearborn Heights - All associates are so friendly and helpful in this location! Love shopping here!

Corporate - Hello Gracie and Julie, the calendars arrived in the mail today. THANK YOU SO MUCH! What beautiful photos, just as I expected. You are awesome. I really appreciate you looking after this during what I'm sure was a very busy time at English Gardens.

\$\$ Scholarship Opportunity Available \$\$

Enrico and Marie Vespa **Scholarship Program**

A Scholarship Program of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

- The purpose of the Vespa Scholarship Program is to assist the employees and/or immediate custodial dependents of English Gardens Corporation to attend post-secondary educational institutions
- Up to four non-renewable scholarships of \$2,500 will be awarded to students entering college in the fall
- The scholarship materials are available online on the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan Website at **<http://cfsem.org/scholarships>**
- Applicants must register by **February 15th** to access the application portal
- **The application deadline is March 15th**

Who May Apply?

Any currently active employee or the custodial son, daughter or legal dependent of a currently active employee of the English Gardens Corporation may apply. Both full-time and part-time employees must have at least two years of employment with the English Gardens Corporation to be eligible for scholarship participation. Part-time employees, however, must complete a minimum of 500 work hours during the prior year and be an active employee at the time of the March 15th deadline. The employee must also be designated as active by the English Garden Corporation when scholarship awards are made. In addition, the legal custodial dependents of former employees who became disabled or died while still employed at English Gardens are also eligible to apply for scholarship consideration.

Employees of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan and their dependents, members of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan Board of Trustees and their dependents as well as the members of the Scholarship Advisory Committee and their dependents are ineligible for scholarship consideration.

What Are The Criteria For Selection?

- Exemplary leadership and character as demonstrated by extra-curricular activities; volunteer involvement in the school and/or community, and work experience. Special consideration will be given to students who have overcome specific hardships in order to achieve their personal and educational goals
- Academic honors received, class rank and standardized test scores
- Application or acceptance as a part- or full-time student at an accredited post-secondary educational certificate/degree program including graduate school. Such institutions must be tax-exempt and educational institutions under the Internal Revenue Code
- All awards will be made without regard to race, creed, color, religion, national origin or sexual orientation, sexual orientation or sexual identification

Employee Health Corner

The Powerful Benefits of

Flowers



Flowers can trigger happy emotions, heighten positive thoughts, and overall positively impact your daily life. A recent Rutgers University study found that flowers are a great natural and healthful way to manage your day-to-day mood.

Flowers have been shown to decrease depression, improve memory and even increase social interaction in seniors. When flowers are present, your day-to-day well-being will be positively impacted.

Displaying flowers in a common area like a foyer, living room or dining room can also help make your guests feel more welcome in your space. It can also help elevate their mood while visiting.

Receiving flowers has shown to trigger an immediate emotional reaction, mostly of delight and gratitude which helps alleviate anxiety and depression over long periods of time.

Giving flowers is just as powerful. The giver is perceived as strong, thoughtful and more emotionally intelligent. By giving flowers you have the power to change someone's perception or brighten their mood. Flowers get a positive emotional response, forging a stronger connection with that person.

Use flowers in your home or office to help alleviate stress or send flowers to a friend to brighten their day. It is a great, natural way to improve your overall health and well-being.

English Gardens has four locations with full-service floral departments and our talented designers can create a special arrangement for anyone on your Valentine's list.



LOVE ♥ LOVE ♥ LOVE

With Valentine's Day right around the corner, I thought it's a perfect time to celebrate all the wonderful ways that love can enrich, transform, and bring so much joy to our lives.

Love encompasses a range of strong and positive emotional and mental feelings and positive state of mind.

Love crosses into so many aspects of our lives, whether it's a deep affection for someone, or a great interest and pleasure in something. Throughout my life, I have always felt that being with my loved ones in the good and even difficult times is the true meaning of love.

But every day, I also try to surround myself and my home with things that I love and bring me happiness. You will always find beautiful fresh flowers and a bowl of fresh fruit and vegetables on my kitchen counter.

Even simple pleasures that I love, like reading and listening to music are always nearby.

I am encouraging you to surround yourself with those you love and those who love you. Find your passion and go after it, you will love the way it makes you feel.

Love, love, love, Florine

In April 2021, Florine Mark sold her Weight Watchers franchise in Michigan and Ontario. She continues to write her monthly column for our newsletter as a Wellness influencer, Author, Motivational Speaker, and Podcast Host. Connect with her at: FlorineMark.com