



Johnson's Garden Talk

Lawn and garden information for the friends and customers of Johnson's Garden Centers

Johnson's Garden Talk

September 2005



WEST 13th STORE

2707 West 13th St. N.
Wichita, KS 67203
316-942-1443

EAST STORE

6225 E. Shadybrook
(21st @ Woodlawn)
Wichita, KS 67203
316-687-5451

RIDGE ROAD STORE

802 N. Ridge Rd.
Wichita, KS 67212
316-943-0494

LANDSCAPE DESIGN & INSTALLATION NIGHTSCAPING

316-943-6886

CORPORATE OFFICE

316-942-3751

TOLL-FREE NUMBER

888-542-8463

EMAIL

askus@johnsonsgarden.com

WEB PAGE

www.johnsonsgarden.com

Making Friends

Linden Johnson, Vice-President, Johnson's Garden Centers &
Kansas Certified Nursery Professional

Putting your best foot forward ... first impressions ... curb appeal. The transformation at Friends University began with the arrival of Dr. Biff Green and his wife, Bennie. Before their arrival, the importance of curb appeal was not the priority that it is now. It began with the renovation of 1000's of square feet of turfgrass in front of the Davis Administration Building to establish a beautiful park-like green space; and it has progressed to new buildings with well-thought-out landscape plantings. We've had the pleasure of working with Friends during this transformation.

Landscape Planning

The landscape committee at Friends, consisting of Bennie Green, Hervey Wright and Mark Furry, spends many hours developing landscape plans for all new building construction. Not only are views from the street considered but also the view from inside the building looking out. Plant selection is given a great deal of thought, looking for plant material that is suitable for the site considerations (sun, shade, drainage, texture, deciduous, evergreen, broadleaf evergreen) and plants that are unusual. We have been able to evaluate some of these unusual varieties at Friends to see how they perform in the Wichita area. One of those plants that we have added to what we offer through our stores is the Nigra Yew.

Installed by Johnson's

Our first major landscape installation was around the Olive White Garvey Business and Technology Building, located on the north side of the campus along Maple. Following the removal of many old houses, the transformation began with the construction of this building. Since that time, there has been an addition to the Science and Fine Arts Building, construction of the Marriage and Family Therapy Building on the south east corner of the campus (can be seen from Kellogg), the removal of the road leading up to the Davis Administration Building and the installation of rose beds and sodding to connect the north and south sides of the campus. The Green Residence Hall, located on the southwest corner of the campus, is the most recent construction project completed. Presently, construction is nearing completion of the new IT Building. Each of these projects have included landscape installations which have been well planned and thought out.

During this transformation, we have planted 1000's of shrubs, 100's of trees, over 100,000 yards of sod, making the campus at Friends University an asset to the Wichita community. According to Paul Winchester, Director of Physical Plant

continues...

continued...

at Friends, "People don't know what we have here" referring to the beauty and uniqueness of the campus landscape. If ever given the opportunity to walk the campus, I think you will agree that the investment made in the landscape definitely adds "curb appeal" to the campus and should have a positive effect on the learning experience.

Paul Winchester's father, Ray, also worked at Friends and dealt closely with my father, Harold Johnson. The Johnson and Friends University relationship has spanned decades and we are proud to have been a part of this new transformation. ■