

Pewaukee school creates Hammock Garden

By Karen Pilarski
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PEWAUKEE — In a true team effort, Horizon Elementary students, local businesses and Pewaukee High School construction students lent a hand to create Horizon's brand-new Hammock Garden. The project was led by third-grade teacher Emily Jasinowski who presented a project report along with students during the April 28 Pewaukee School Board meeting.

"A Hammock Garden is an outdoor learning space for learning, for students to be a part of nature while enjoying their love for learning," Jasinowski said.

The garden has 25 hammocks which are attached to wooden posts for the entire class to swing and enjoy their reading experience outside.

"It's a great way to make our school unique and creatively enhance the learning experience at Horizon," Jasinowski said.

Real-life learning experiences

Colleen Rooney, learning coach at Horizon, said the project was started in February and students were asked to think about what a Hammock Garden could look like. Students factored in questions about storing the hammocks, shade location and other elements. Students worked in all of their classes to come up with designs and think of the most efficient way that they could arrange the hammocks in the space and in the best, cost-effective way.

Students had a big hand in designing the ambience and aesthetics of the garden.

Students used Makerspace in the classroom to design different layouts.

"We also talked a little about having spaces that would be accessible to students (who) might have mobility issues," Rooney said.

The students and teachers also discussed having a little library or a rock garden.

The beauty of the project was that students had real-life learning experiences. Jasinowski told The Freeman about the math problems kids would solve that dealt with the project. They looked at the budget, material costs and other aspects that they would use in real life.



Caden Maki, third-grade student at Horizon Elementary, enjoys a book and a shady spot on a hammock. It is part of the brand-new Hammock Garden at the school.

Photo courtesy of Emily Jasinowski

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Celebrating 2025 Kettle Moraine High School graduates

WALES — The Kettle Moraine School District celebrated graduation on May 31 for Kettle Moraine High School, the High School of Health Sciences, KM Global, KM Perform, and KM Connect) at Vock Field at Culver’s Stadium. There was a fireworks display after the graduation ceremony.



Stephen Plum, superintendent of Kettle Moraine School District, presents a diploma to Ryan Wolfe of Kettle Moraine High School on May 31.

*Photos courtesy
of Kettle Moraine
School District*



The fireworks following the Kettle Moraine High School graduation ceremony on May 31.



Justin Bestor, Kettle Moraine High School principal, presents a diploma to KMHS student Kiera Geeleher during graduation on May 31.



From left: Kettle Moraine High School students Brooke Fieber and Macey Christiansen; KMHS Educator Christina Plasil; and KM Global student Briar Nobel during graduation on May 31.

Hammock

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Arlo Jasinowski, Emily’s son, said during the school board meeting that students took turns trying out the different possible designs for the space. “One challenge we faced was to use fewer posts to allow more traffic flow. We also wanted to include a handicap-accessible hammock so the Hammock Garden is universally designed for learning,” Arlo said. Naitik Agarwal, a third-grader, said using math was a plus. “I love math. In the planning phase of the hammock garden is full of numbers, calculations, and measurements. As you can imagine, I was very excited we had a chance to use our math skills to problem solve in real-life scenarios,” Agarwal said. Jasinowski told The Freeman that students also used their writing skills to create messages to local businesses to ask them to consider donating and writing thank-you notes to people.

Everyone is all in

It wasn’t just Horizon students but also construction students at Pewaukee High School who pitched in. Jasinowski said they helped plot out where the posts were going to go for the project. Parents also helped with donating books, hammocks and money for the project. The Pewaukee Parent Teacher Organization gifted the project \$1,000 from a Pewaukee grant. Jasinowski also was grateful to the larger community. “We Energies, Wellenstein & Sons, CG Schmidt, Sebert Landscape, Natural Solutions, Pewaukee School District (PTO, Christie Johnson, John Stangler), and Amy Schoenemann. This project would not have been possible without their help,” she said. Thanks was given to the ongoing construction at PHS, the project was given support with installing pillars, landscaping the area, and even planting a tree. Every Horizon student also contributed by decorating a rock, now placed in the entry planter to welcome visitors. “This was a true team effort,” Jasinowski said.



Photo courtesy of Emily Jasinowski

Emily Jasinowski, a teacher at Horizon Elementary, and her students planned, designed and completed a brand-new Hammock Garden on the school grounds.

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Images courtesy of City of Pewaukee/Land by Label Development Co.
Land by Label Development included a conceptual rendering of proposed multi-family units in the plan to redevelop the Pewaukee Golf Club land.

Pewaukee Golf Club redevelopment approved

CITY OF PEWAUKEE — A controversial redevelopment project that includes 283 apartments and 27 single-family rental homes has been approved by the Common Council, despite strong opposition from local residents.

The council voted 3-2 on June 2 to approve the project. Aldermen Jerry Wamser and Brian Dziwulski cast the dissenting votes.

The approved development — called Willow Run — will be built on the current site of the Pewaukee Golf Club, located on the north side of Golf Road and east of the Ingleside Hotel. The plan calls for Willow Run to include 283 multifamily units across 34 acres of the northeast corner of the site.

The multifamily units will be distributed across 13 two-story buildings and will include studio to three-bedroom layouts.

Each unit will have a private entrance, and approximately 40% will feature attached garages. Amenities include quartz countertops, stainless steel appliances, in-unit washers and dryers, and hard-surface plank flooring.

Roughly 27 single-family rental homes are planned on the vacant Meadowbrook parcel.

A 3,000-square-foot clubhouse is planned as part of the project and will feature a leas-

ing center, fitness facility, clubroom with patio access, outdoor kitchen, private pool, and resident dog parks.

Traffic and safety concerns

The project has drawn sustained opposition from many residents, particularly over concerns about increased traffic and access points along Milkweed Lane and Fieldhack Drive on the north side of the proposed development. Several residents have voiced fears about congestion and safety.

In response to those concerns, an amendment was added to the approval requiring the installation of an emergency access gate. Additionally, the developer must consult with Pewaukee Fire Chief Kevin Bierce regarding the density and proximity of the apartment buildings to ensure public safety.

The development site sits within the northern portion of the 160-acre Pewaukee Golf Club property. It is bordered by the Meadowbrook Village condominiums, the Meadowbrook Farms neighborhood, and The Ingleside Hotel to the west.

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Teacher was ahead of his time

Oconomowoc educator reunites with students after 6 decades — his lessons about Russia and the Cold War made a lasting impression

By Katherine Beck
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OCONOMOWOC — Starting a new job as a recent college graduate can give anyone jittery nerves, which is how Keith Hogle felt when he first walked into his Park Lawn Elementary sixth-grade classroom in 1960. However, his fresh approach to teaching topics such as Russia and the Cold War had such a lasting impression on his students that a handful of them visited him recently at Wilkinson Woods Senior Living to share memories from that important year of their lives.

Still calling his former students “kids,” Hogle said it meant a lot to him to know he had such a big impact on his pupils when he himself wasn’t self-confident yet as a teacher.

Jane Rolleson, nee Fehrman, said she had read in her church bulletin at Our Savior’s that Hogle was asking for prayers. She said she sent him a prayer card, and in return, he replied with a letter. She said even though he only taught for one year at Park Lawn before moving on to Ashippun where he taught and was principal, she and others were eager to see him again.

“He’s in good shape. He was so complimentary and so thrilled to meet us again and that we were interested in seeing him again,” Rolleson said.

Rolleson and four other former students visited him at Wilkinson Woods, where they shared stories and had lunch.

And since Hogle hadn’t seen his students since they were about 12 to 13 years old, there was a lot of catching up to do.

It was Hogle’s unique approach to teaching that really left an impression on Rolleson. During the four-week lesson on Russia, Rolleson said they spent a whole week acting like Russians. That was in sharp contrast to education methods of the time when most teachers would mostly educate using textbooks and workbooks and there wasn’t a lot of time for independent thinking.

“We cannot understand information for children. They have to understand it and make sense of it for themselves,” Hogle said. “You need to enable them to discover things and find primary source data, as I suppose (I) would call it.”

Former student Sally King said before Hogle, her teachers had always been female and they would just stand in front of the classroom and teach a lesson.

In comparison, Hogle “helped us immerse ourselves in what we were studying,” King said.

In addition to Russia, King said she remembered learning about Greece.

“He was just an unconventional teacher in a good way,” she said.

Through his innovative teaching methods, Hogle became more than a teacher to his pupils. King said he “was a real person to us.”

“He made us feel comfortable and made you feel important,” she said. “Everybody said they could never forget him.”

Hogle said having the support of the Park Lawn principal at the time, Margaret Magnusson, as well as his wife, Doris, helped him to think outside of the box. He also helped to form the Safety Patrol program, of which Rolleson’s husband was a member. After teaching at Park Lawn and Ashippun, Hogle moved on to the junior high for a few years, where he had to handle a lot of the discipline and got burned out. He then went back to college and developed a social studies program for students in kindergarten through eighth grade that he shared in workshops for the next 25 years.

Despite creating a life centered on education, Hogle said he was not sure if during that first year “I had done them any good.” The recent lunch six decades after he walked out of his Park Lawn classroom certainly proved otherwise.



Photos courtesy of Wilkinson Woods

Keith Hogle taught social studies at Park Lawn Elementary from 1960 to 1961 and is remembered by his former students for his innovative teaching methods.

“He was just an unconventional teacher in a good way.”

— Sally King, former student



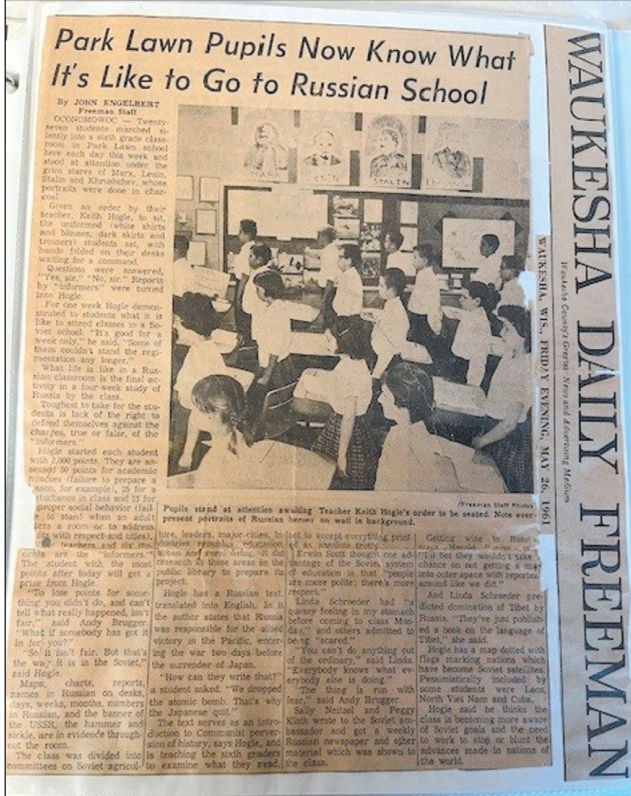
Former educator Keith Hogle, fourth from the left, stands flanked by his former Park Lawn Elementary sixth-grade students, from left, Jane Rolleson, Sally King, Jim Fulmer, Peggy Saeger and Buzz Schoenfeld.



Former teacher Keith Hogle reads documents and stories from his years of teaching in Oconomowoc.



The Enterprise wrote a story about Park Lawn Elementary social studies teacher Keith Hogle in 1961.



Photos courtesy of Wilkinson Woods

The Freeman published a story about Park Lawn Elementary Social Studies teacher Keith Hogle and his innovative teaching methods in 1961.