

# THE TRIBUNE

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photo by RYAN BERGERON

Greenbush-Middle River senior honor student Kally Wojciechowski reads one of four student speeches during the GMR Twenty-Eighth Annual Commencement on Sunday, May 24— this year held at the Greenbush Race Park parking lot and not in the school gym due to COVID-19 state guidelines. The commencement was broadcast on KQ92 (92.5 FM). More photos are on page five.



photo by MAVIS GONSHOROWSKI

Shelah and Ron Jacobson are pictured on the front porch of their home on Wednesday afternoon, May 20.

## Local couple surprised with 60th wedding anniversary wishes

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For Ronald (Ron) and Shelah Jacobson of rural Greenbush, Saturday, May 16, started out as a typical morning. Little did they know a surprise was in store.

"In the afternoon, around 3:00, we had been invited to come over to the home of our son, Murray, and daughter-in-law, Jessica," Shelah said. "When we were walking over to their place, I could see through the trees some cars were lined up along the township road ... we couldn't figure out what was going on. They came right over to where we were sitting and then we knew what was going on!"

Family members, friends and relatives had gathered in honor of the Jacobson's 60th wedding anniversary.

As the line of vehicles passed by the couple, people were tooting horns, they called out (anniversary) greetings and dropped off gifts and cards.

Shelah added, "We were sitting in special chairs and our kids had put balloons, (hand-made) posters, and flowers by us. They also passed out all kinds of food to those who came. We sure enjoyed it!"

The son of the late Myron and Amanda Jacobson, Ron has three sisters and grew up on a cattle and grain farm west of Greenbush.

Shelah is the daughter of the late Howard and Lorraine Huartson. The family first made their home west of Roseau where they had dairy cows and Howard sold bottled milk to customers in Roseau. When Shelah was five years old, the Huartson family moved north of Greenbush in the Haug-Leo area where they continued with dairy cows and grain farming. Shelah has one sister and three brothers.

Ron attended and graduated from Greenbush High school. Shelah attended first thru eighth grade at the Haug-Leo rural school and completed grades ten thru twelve in Greenbush.

"That's why she thinks she's smarter than I am," Ron quipped with a grin.

"When I saw this tall, handsome, drink of water, I figured he was the man ..." remarked Shelah. "I was kinda bashful so I stayed away and let him come and talk to me."

Ron added, "A bunch of us who were in the junior class play hung around together and that kind of starting the ball rolling."

The two classmates graduated from Greenbush High school in 1959.

Ron said that after graduation he had to decide whether to go to college or go into farming. "Ed Sisler, my Vo-Ag teacher, told me, 'If you're going into farming you've got your best teacher right here - pointing to my dad.'"

"And we were getting married, so that took care of going to college," Shelah added.

Jacobson

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## GMR graduates congratulated from a distance

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The Greenbush-Middle River gym sat empty on May 24— graduation day. Instead on this day, row after row of vehicles filled the grassy parking lot on an overcast day at the Greenbush Race Park parking lot for the Greenbush-Middle River Twenty-Eighth Annual Commencement ceremony, beginning at 2 pm.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the state issued guidance against hosting ceremonies in gyms and stadiums, and on football fields. The rain held off to allow the 31 members of the GMR Class of 2020 to be honored on this day without interruption.

The parked vehicles faced a small stage topped by a podium and microphone and a vase full of maroon-colored Dahlias— the class flower. Off to one side of the stage stood a black-covered table filled by 31 black diploma cases.

On the other side, GMR staff members Mara Gust, Sue Lieberg, and Brad Dahl sat in chairs near the stage, capturing the occasion with photo and video equipment.

On that same side, Greenbush-Middle River Superintendent Larry Guggisberg sat at a table next to KQ92 radio's Jon Michael, who was broadcasting the ceremony on 92.5 FM to those in the parking lot area and beyond.

To begin the program, honor students Sarah Stanelle, Kally Wojciechowski, and Ella Koebernick read their speeches and, following the awarding of diplomas, honor student Abigail Wagner read her farewell speech. Aubrey Berg and Piper Sondreal didn't read speeches, but were also honor students.

The speech readers had ridden up to the stage in a vehicle, climbed the stage steps, and read their speech. When they had each finished reading their speech, car horns sounded. They then walked off the other steps of the stage and got back into their vehicle that then returned to their parking spot. Following any talking at the podium, the microphone was wiped down.

GMR graduates  
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## To open or not to open, that is the question City addresses COVID-19-related issues

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On May 13, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz announced the next phase of COVID-19 response in Minnesota, one allowing for more social interaction.

In reaction to this phase, the City of Greenbush discussed the opening of certain city areas and the hosting of certain events during its May 18 regular meeting via Zoom. As part of its discussion, the city addressed and eventually approved the use of the Welcome Park for the "Thursdays in the Park" meal events this summer.

"It's not going to be norm(al) for a while," Greenbush city council member Shaun Walsh said. "So I just think we need to support and not push nobody away."

When the "Stay Home MN" order ended on May 18,

the Governor replaced it with a "Stay Safe MN" order, one asking Minnesotans to still stay close to home and limit travel to essential, but allowing for group gatherings of ten or less people with friends and family. These gatherings must still follow safety guidelines, including social distancing with masks and handwashing.

Also part of this phase, the Governor made an executive order allowing retail stores, malls, and main street businesses to re-open for in-person shopping as long as they have a "COVID-19 Preparedness Plan" in place, including implementing social distancing protocols and limiting

City

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### MEMORIAL DAY 2020



photo by RYAN BERGERON

Greenbush American Legion Commander Mark Glad renders a hand salute during the playing of "Taps" and after he read the roll of deceased veterans at the Memorial Day program at the Greenbush American Legion Park on May 25.

### Activities page for kids included in this issue of The Tribune

The Tribune has included a special activities for kids page in this issue on page six. It is the hope that this page will give kids something extra to do while they are being confined to home. Feel free to share with us any photos of children working on this page, or holding their completed or partially completed page; they might just end up in the paper! Email photos to tribune@wiktel.com and include the name(s) of the individual(s) in the photo.

Area merchants and events sponsoring the page this week include:

- Roseau County Co-op
- The Tribune
- Border State Bank (Greenbush and Badger)
- KC's Country Market
- LifeCare
- Greenbush Pharmacy

These area merchants, along with The Tribune, hope you enjoy this kids activity page.