Daily Pilot

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2020 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com

CLASS OF 2020 GRADUATIONS



Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

GRADUATES TOSS their caps into the air after receiving their diplomas from Edison High School during a drive-through graduation ceremony.

Edison High grads feel charged up after receiving diplomas

BY MATT SZABO

Jenny Kottman spent four years in Edison High School's Center For International Business and Communication Studies program.

She learned about innovation. Her senior project was to create a business, and she launched J Kott Collections, featuring handcrafted jewelry organizers.

The future Cal Baptist busi-

uation Thursday.

Kottman, her parents, three of her cousins and her cousin's husband entered in a white Jeep. It was decorated with green and yellow balloons to celebrate.

"I actually like that part of the drive-through graduation, to have my family go through that with me and celebrate and make the whole thing upbeat is really cool," said Kottman, a four-year pole vaulter for the track team.



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

GRADUATE ANDREW SHUTTS, right, laughs as he is met by his cheering aunt, Judy DeCoudres, left, as they exit the Laguna Beach High drive-through graduation at Guyer Field on Thursday.

County refines its mask order

Officials now just "strongly recommend" face coverings if people are unable to keep 6 feet of physical distancing.

BY HILLARY DAVIS

Orange County is peeling back its mask order, county officials announced Thursday.

The mask requirement has been relaxed to say the county "strongly recommends" facial coverings in public if they are unable to keep 6 feet of physical distancing. It supersedes a May 28 order issued by now-former county health officer Dr. Nicole Quick, which said people "shall" wear masks when able to maintain distance, with exceptions for very young children and people with conditions that prevent wearing a face covering.

Vocal opponents have been pointed in their criticism of Quick's mask order and of the doctor herself, who abruptly resigned this week; Orange County Sheriff's Department officials said in May that Quick had received several threats since issuance of the order and expressed concern for her safety.

HCA Director Dr. Clayton Chau said Thursday that the change was not because of the pushback but to be consistent with recent state guidance for reopened business sectors.

"I want to be clear, this does not diminish the importance of face coverings. I stand with the public health experts and believe wearing cloth face coverings helps to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community and save lives. By being consistent with the state, this will give our business community and individuals the ability to make the most appropriate de-

ness major appreciated, then, the uniqueness of the Chargers' drive-through on-campus grad"It's probably less hot than sit-

See Edison, page A4



Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

KIRSTIN BUI, 18 of Huntington Beach, holds her dog, Bailee, after receiving her diploma from Edison High School on Thursday.

L.B. High seniors drive in as students, leave as graduates

BY LILLY NGUYEN

At the corner of Legion Street and Park Avenue in Laguna Beach Thursday, a parade of cars passed by, some with fluorescent markers decorating their windows, others with balloons and streamers.

One car had a cardboard cutout of a student's face pasted to the front of it with two, golden numbers that marked off the year.

One-by-one, each car turned left toward Laguna Beach High School's Guyer Field, where 254 graduating seniors received their diplomas amid the co-ronavirus pandemic.

Originally meant to be a virtual celebration, the high school pivoted toward holding a drivethrough graduation ceremony after receiving guidance from the Orange County Health Care Agency. Students entered in a series of about 25 waves, organized alphabetically by last name. Graduating seniors took photos cision," he said.

"And you've heard me say this over and over again, wearing a face cloth mask is not to protect yourself but to protect your neighbor, to protect others."

Costa Mesa, which passed an emergency mask ordinance in April, will continue to require face coverings in stores, restaurants and other businesses.

Mayor Katrina Foley said that while cities cannot have looser rules than those issued by the county, they can go stricter, so Costa Mesa will.

"This is a common-sense, science-based measure intended to ensure the safety not only of Costa Mesans but of those patrons and employees who visit or work in our city. But our city is not in a vacuum, and the actions of neighboring cities, the regulations of

See Masks, page A3

About 550 Marina High students pick up diplomas

BY MATT SZABO

Alejandra Rosales thought she was going to have to miss her graduation from Marina High School.

Rosales, an accomplished track and field thrower for the Vikings, was set to compete at an international event in Panama. She would have been representing El Salvador, the country her parents Henry and Erika were born in.

The competition was canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"I'm glad I actually get to be at my school, instead of having to pick up my diploma some other day," Rosales said.

She and about 550 others graduated from Marina during a drive-through ceremony Thursday on cam-



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

ILHAN BRONJA poses with his diploma during a drive-through graduation ceremony for Marina High School in Huntington Beach on Thursday.

pus.

Graduates and their families waited their turn in cars adjacent to Edinger Avenue. Once it was their turn, they graduated in the

parking lot, walking out and getting their diploma before hopping back into the car and exiting onto

See **Marina,** page A4

cLASS OF 2020 GRADUATIONS gh Valley Vista High graduates omas defy doubts, achieve success

BY ANDREW TURNER

Genesis Mariscal, a member of the graduating class at Valley Vista High School in Fountain Valley, said that she liked to rearrange things around the house when she was younger.

She would have been in her element if put to task when high schools across the country had to improvise with their graduation plans due to the coronavirus pandemic.

But bumps in the road would be fairly common for Mariscal, who said she attended five high schools and endured a homeless stint in her sophomore year before it was all said and done.

Valley Vista allowed her to cross the finish line to graduation, and several family members packed into the car to celebrate the momen-



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

KENDALL DURANT poses for picture during a drive-through graduation ceremony for Valley Vista High School in Fountain Valley on Wednesday.

tous occasion.

"I want to become an interior designer for homes," Mariscal said. "When I was younger, I would decorate the house and I would move things around. I always decorated and always rearranged and always looked at a room and had a certain

See Success, page A4

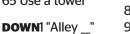
See **Laguna**, page A3

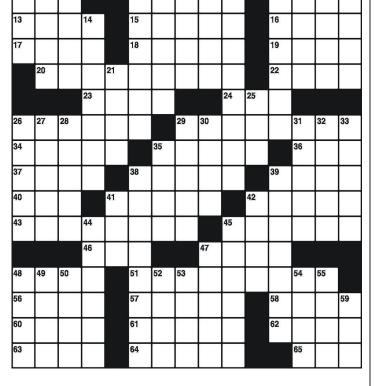
THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

1 Clumsy fellow 4 Part of USNA 9 Performs in a play 13 Paints for Monet 15 Oft-repeated saying 16 Bit of rain 17 Stiffly formal 18 Thinks deeply 19 Cast a ballot 20 Cowardly 22 _ tea 23 Nincompoop 24 Suffix for count or lion 26 Overdue for a haircut 29 Soldiers' social clubs 34 Gives a hoot 35 Feeling blue 36 Rule 37 Baker's need 38 Like a dull speaker's audience 39 Negative reply 40 Came in first 41 Hair color 42 Delhi dollar 43 Dearth 45 Most untainted 46 Promos 47 Without 48 Three biblical kings 51 Most peculiar 56 Problems 57 Pass out 58 Is sorry for having done 60 Detective's tip-off 61 Reason to take Zantac 62 Slangy affirmative 63 Open-_; observant 64 Suspicious 65 Use a towel





SUDOKU

By The Mepham Group

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit. 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk.

	2		4				6	
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For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A3.

10 Swamp critter, 2 Put on _; act snooty for short 3 Turn over **11** Schlep 12 Drove 90 mph 4 To wit 5 One who's not a 14 Tiny bit minor 21 New Year's Eve 6 Bud holder drinks 7 Matures 25 Pig's home 8 Diminished 26 Cargo 9 Give counsel to transport boats

27 Wreak _; create chaos 28 Rome's Colosseum, e.g. 29 Like a stupid ioke 30 Ridiculed 31 Wed secretly 32 Neck parts 33 "_ Caroline"; Neil Diamond song 35 _ point; irrelevant matter 38 Joyous 39 Baby's room 41 A's followers 42 Part of a ladder 44 Elevated 45 Small room off the kitchen 47 Not as nuts 48 "Three Blind 49 Actress Sheedy 50 Stickum 52 Old wives' _; superstition 53 Chex 54 Hauled into court 55 Drop of joy or

sorrow 59 Timid around others

Tribune Media Services



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

AN INSTRUCTOR leads Newport Beach Junior Lifeguards at their training program in 2016.

N.B. Junior Lifeguards program gets a lifeline

BY HILLARY DAVIS

Evolving state and Orange County public health guidelines could loosen pandemic-driven restrictions on the popular Newport Beach Junior Lifeguard program.

The marquee, city-run summer youth program had been feared largely lost just a few weeks ago as organizers said they would limit enrollment to the oldest participants in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. Sweeping statewide social and commercial restrictions were only just starting to relax when local officials, who had already postponed decisions on what if any programming they could offer, said they could only put together a limited camp.

But state guidance released earlier this month on next steps for the hospitality and recreation sectors — including day camps — could salvage what hundreds of area children would call their "super epic summer."

"Although this is extremely exciting for us, it's been a lot of work," Newport Beach Fire Chief Jeff Boyles, whose department oversees the lifeguard divi-

sion, told the City Council on Tuesday. "Trust me, as a parent of two very active teenagers, I would like to see a program exist in a healthy, safe manner as well."

Last month, Fire Department officials said the seven-week program would be pared down to only about 150 of the oldest participants, ages 14 and 15, and canceled for the younger kids who make up the majority of the longrunning program. Junior Guards teaches ocean safety, physical fitness and citizenship every year to more than 1,300 children as young as 9, and has been a local fixture for 36 years.

The program's progress is contingent on approval at the county level, which City Manager Grace Leung said she is anticipating this week.

The revived program would still be modified instruction will be spread out around the Balboa Pier, Newport Pier and Marina Park areas, beyond the usual Balboa Pier headquarters, and require more staff to supervise smaller groups, more equipment and more sanitation. Only the oldest children will get the full seven weeks, starting June 23. Evervone else will be on a five-week plan starting July 6.

In normal years, mild, common bugs blast through the close quarters and large groups. Although children and young adults have been largely spared from severe COVID-19 illness, they can be asymptomatic carriers, and Boyles said last month he had to protect his staff and the community.

Councilman Kevin Muldoon, who has previously spoken in support of maintaining the program this year, praised Fire Department staff for being nimble and responsive. He said they would have overwhelming support.

"There are a lot of lifeguards who bartend who'd probably be happy to be doing lifeguarding this summer since bartending might not be as busy," he noted.

Councilwoman Joy Brenner said the council got about 1,100 emails on the matter and has read them all.

"Although the public pressure was important and it's nice to know how

See Program, page A3

To place an ad, go to

http://timescommunityadvertising.com/

occupation!

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what you need! To advertise in		sold as is where is and must		ER ESTATE OF: NG LEE	will be required to give notice	to interested persons unless they	angela.madsen@costamesaca.gov to obta		
CLASSIFIED		f sale. Sale is subject to		986-PR-PW-CJC		nted to the proposed action.) The authority will be granted unless an	documentation.	VEN that, at the above time	
go to		of a settlement between owner	To all heirs, beneficiaries, credi		interested person files an ob	jection to the petition and shows	and place, all interested persons may be heard by th		
timescommunityadvertising.com	and obligated party. storagetreasures.com. Fina	Auctioneer Listed on al bid at 12:00 noon.	persons who may otherwise estate, or both, of: JU-LONG L		good cause why the court should be a marked on the petition w		City Council on the above item and that all oral and		
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raised, during the public hearing or in written correspondence submitted to the City, during or prior to, the OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

public hearing.

with the Daily Pilot on: 6/05, 6/11 & 6/12/2020

BSC 218287

new occupation!

NEWPORT BEACH filled \$33.2 million in anticipated revenue

holes from lost revenues, especially in sales and bed taxes.

Newport passes balanced budget dented by pandemic

BY HILLARY DAVIS

Newport Beach has officially girded itself for a \$33.2-million gap in next year's budget.

The economic impacts of coronavirus lockdowns led city finance staff to fill the anticipated revenue holes for fiscal year 2021 through a combination of operational savings, a hiring freeze, setting aside less for savings along with dipping into existing savings, and, especially, deferring capital projects — but avoiding service cuts and layoffs.

The City Council unanimously approved the \$219-million fiscal 2021 budget on Tuesday.

MASKS

Continued from page A1

broader mask orders.

the county, have a substan-

tial impact on our residents

and workers," she wrote in a

Thursday letter to county

officials in defense of

"If we are to effectively re-

open our businesses and re-

vive our economy, manda-

tory use of facial coverings

countywide is necessary

and proper to ensure the

protection of the residents

and workers in the city of

Costa Mesa and throughout

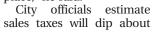
Orange County. The inde-

pendence of the county

Mayor Will O'Neill, who chairs the city finance committee, said the city is historically conservative on its sales and bed tax revenue projections. This year the city went even lower than its consultant's estimates.

"We've always assumed low on our revenue and we've assumed high on our expenses. This is one of the reasons we've done so well long-term on fiscal issues and why we typically have a surplus — and actually we're using last year's surplus to help stopgap this, which is a good mark of why we did it in the first place," he said.

sales taxes will dip about



health officer to ensure our collective public health and safety should not be interfered with by the Board of Supervisors."

Supervisors Vice Chair Andrew Do encouraged wearing a mask when peocannot ple maintain enough physical distancing.

"If you are feeling sick it is strongly recommended to wear a mask and social distance and stay at home," said Chair Michelle Steel. "Public health is of the utmost importance during this crisis.

Meanwhile, the Orange County Health Care Agency reported 260 new infections tests given. Daily updates are preliminary and subject to change as the county receives new information.

Deaths from COVID-19 increased by four, to 202 total. Two of the new deaths were in nursing homes.

Reported hospitalizations were at 294, with 142 in intensive care.

Estimated total recoveries increased to 3,726. Thursday's cumulative case count is significant because it starts a new cycle in the disease's doubling time, which shows a disease's relative growth rate, in the county.

Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

The longer it takes a population to double, the slower the relative growth.

From March 13 to 31 for example, in the pandemic's early weeks, confirmed coronavirus cases in Orange County doubled on average once every four days, according to county data.

After that, while cases grew steadily, doubling times stretched out - to eight days, then 17, then 19, then, as of Thursday, to 28

17% and bed taxes will drop by 66% over the current year, which was also banged up as the pandemic's effects tightened their grip starting in the spring.

Deferred capital makes up about \$21 million of the proposed solution. Dipping into reserves chips in about \$2.3 million.

BOARD, COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

The council selected the following board and commission candidates for terms to begin in July and end in June 2024.

• Board of Library Trustees: Paul Watkins (incumbent)

days.

- By date and case count: March 31: 488 cases
- April 8: 996 cases
- April 25: 1.946 cases
- May 14: 3,937 cases
- June 11: 7,987 cases

Cases will double again when Orange County sees about 16,000 cumulative

positive tests. Here are the latest cumulative case counts for select cities, with numbers per

10,000 residents: • Santa Ana: 1,716 (50.8 cases per 10,000 residents)

• Anaheim: 1,482 (41.2 cases per 10,000 residents) • Huntington Beach: 404

(19.8 cases per 10,000 resi-

• Building and Fire Board of Appeals: Saum Nour (incumbent), Rolly Pullasky (incumbent)

• City Arts Commission: Marie Little (incumbent), Leonard Simon

• Civil Service Board: Robyn Grant (incumbent), Howard Herzog (incumbent)

• Harbor Commission: Gary Williams

• Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission: David Granoff (incumbent)

• Planning Commission: Curtis Ellmore (incumbent), Erik Weigand (incumbent)

hillary.davis@latimes.com Twitter: @dailypilot_hd

dents)

• Irvine: 227 (8.1 cases per 10,000 residents)

• Newport Beach: 166 (19 cases per 10,000 residents)

• Costa Mesa: 159 (13.7 cases per 10,000 residents)

• Fountain Valley: 71 (12.5 cases per 10,000 residents)

• Laguna Beach: 49 (21 cases per 10,000 residents)

Updated figures are posted daily at occovid19 .ochealthinfo.com/corona virus-in-oc. For information on getting tested, visit occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/ covid-19-testing.

hillary.davis@latimes.com Twitter: @dailypilot hd

LAGUNA

Continued from page A1

individually near the entrance where cars entered onto a black-carpeted promenade on the field's track. Seniors walked a short distance to pick up their diplomas before taking another photo on a stage surrounded by white and maroon balloon decorations before getting back into their cars and exiting the stadium.

'[Graduation] gives students some recognition, knowing anything we do is kind of a consolation," Laguna Beach High Principal Jason Allemann said, "but these kids have been thrown an unwelcome and an unwarranted obstacle like what we're dealing with in this pandemic and it's just important to recognize their accomplishments in some way, shape or form."



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

GRADUATE ANDREW FINK walks alongside his grandfather's 1932 Ford hot rod as they participate in the Laguna Beach High drive-through graduation at Guyer Field on Thursday. The car overheated so they decided to push it instead.

added that it was upsetting that her class had to do so under the pandemic. She said she was thankful that the school had switched to a drive-through ceremony as opposed to an online one.

able to experience this ... eventful thing in our life with other people even under a pandemic," Brice said. "I just feel that we have a small enough class compared to other high

Jim Jennings

Custom Masonry Inc

See Laguna, page A4

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

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of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 Thursday and 1,831 additional tests over Wednesday, bringing Orange County to 7,987 known cases of the coronavirus and 172,072 total

Avalon Brice said she was excited to graduate but

"I just feel like it's an amazing experience to be

PROGRAM

Continued from page A2

much everybody loves this program, including my family from almost the beginning, that was not the deciding factor for you. The deciding factor for you was that you could offer a safe program," she told officials. "I think if you didn't feel like you were offering a really safe program it wouldn't have mattered how many emails we got or anything, and I appreciate that."

Newport Beach chief lifeguard Mike Halphide estimated about 1,100 children would sign up this year, based on lower than

usual registration for the eldest cohort. But the second start date

is, appropriately, Ben Carlson Day, when local lifeguards honor the anniversary of the first and only line of duty death of a Newport lifeguard.

Halphide said that despite the abbreviated schedule the program will be more expensive this year with the modifications. The City Council will discuss funding at its next meeting June 23

Registration could begin for the younger age groups as soon as Monday at nbjg.net.

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Small Business Relief Grants



Grants of up to \$10,000 are available to qualifying Newport Beach small businesses to help with costs related to COVID-19.



Application Period: June 12 at 8 a.m. to June 16 at 5:30 p.m. newportbeachca.gov/businessgrants 949-644-3001

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other districts."

wavering.

Continued from page A3

schools in our area. I just feel

like we are grateful and fortu-

nate to do this compared to

first-generation, so ... I'm

glad I got to be here when my parents came from nothing,"

Hailey Cortez said, her voice

school did the best they

could to plan and I think it ...

couldn't have gone any bet-

ter," Hailey said. "I think it

was great to see ... a lot of the

teachers that I had, so I think

online wouldn't do it justice. I

think this was better than on-

line since I got to see other

people and my family got to

"I thought it was great. The

"It's very emotional. I'm

MARINA

Continued from page A1

Springdale Street.

"Even though we know our graduation will look different this year, our district worked closely together to plan a ceremony that we know will be exciting and memorable for our families," Marina Principal Jessie Marion said.

"We are thrilled to be able to watch all of our students walk across the stage in their caps and gowns to receive their diplomas. We are very proud of the class of 2020 and all they have accomplished while at Marina High School, and we are looking forward to honoring them today. We truly believe that this graduation will be a day they will never forget."

Rosales, who plans to throw at Riverside City College next year, had hoped for an unforgettable spring track season, in which she would make the CIF State Meet for the first time. COVID-19 changed those plans, but Rosales, the 2019 Daily Pilot Girls' Track and Field Dream Team Athlete of the Year,



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

FACULTY AND staff members, from left, Rita Peterson, Jennifer Letterman, Brittney Caldwell, Judy Goodhue and Tom Mushaney show support during a drive-through graduation ceremony for Marina High School on Thursday.

going to school altogether.

"One day, I just kind of

had an epiphany, and I was

like, 'I need to get it to-

gether,' and everyone here

helped me with that, and so

Going forward, Ortua said

she wants to pursue nursing

in college with the hope of

one day becoming a physi-

graduation, thanking indi-

vidual teachers for their ef-

The class of 2020 rallied

behind each other in their

chance to make good, even

when a pandemic took

forts on her way out.

She warmed hearts at

now I'm here."

cian assistant.

has adapted.

students said that they did

not always expect to make it

school and its staff a bless-

stemmed from a lack of mo-

tivation after her father's

passing right before high

through a wave of depres-

sion and lack of motivation,"

Ortua said. "I never thought

that I was going to have the

motivation ever to pull my-

self through this, and I kind

of fell down to the wrong

path, and then I just stopped

"I just kind of went

Laila Ortua called the

Ortua said her self-doubt

to graduation.

ing.

school.

She said she picked up a temporary job at Walmart to help support her parents financially. After she graduated Thursday afternoon, she had no big plans, other than to return home to watch her 10-year-old sister Daniela.

"At school, athletes, it's like you're a part of something more special," Rosales said. "You win together, you lose together. The love is still there, and the memories will never fade away."

Katherine Dillman walked across the stage in the morning. Her car featured her parents, her stepfather and her younger sister. Her mother, Kim, stood out of the car's sunroof proudly shooting video, which made Katherine Dillman smile.

"I am happy," Katherine Dillman

them away from their

Hector Gomez Bautista

said that group chats were a

way to establish that cama-

raderie the past few months.

down, saying like, 'Dang, I

don't feel like high school ...

it's not supposed to end like

this,' " Gomez Bautista said.

"I said, 'Well, what can we do

besides finish and move on.

We're not going to stay in

received the individual help

and the "push" he needed to

get through high school at

Valley Vista. He plans to go

Andrew Goodman said he

this time forever.

"Some of my friends were

friends and classmates.

said. "I wish I did a couple more things [in high school], but I'm pretty happy about all of my decisions that have led me to where I am today. I took a lot of classes, I got into a good school [UC Riverside]. I'm just excited for the new chapter."

Dillman, who was a track and field sprinter for four years for the Vikings, had a cap that featured "UCR" written prominently. She said she considered wearing a "Black Lives Matter" mask, but ultimately decided against it.

"I decided not to wear it because my parents wouldn't agree with that and I don't know if the school would either," said Dillman, whose mother is Vietnamese, and father is Hispanic.

Dillman, who attended the protest at the Huntington Beach Pier on May 31, said she is still excited to see many of her classmates and other young people rallying around the cause.

"We all want change to happen immediately," she said.

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to Golden West College and study mechanics.

A lei fashioned out of candy bars was around Goodman's neck, a treat for completing high school.

The journey to graduation also taught him a thing or two that he is not likely to forget as he heads into his next great adventure.

"No matter what's in your way, you can always achieve whatever you want to see, no matter what's going on with the world or [your] personal life," Goodman said.

andrew.turner@latimes.com Twitter: @ProfessorTurner

COVID for my class, I'd say we learned how to have life be slower, which was a huge blessing. This is a generation that schedules event after event, practice after practice. To be able to have time to just be with our family ... has been such a blessing. I'm definitely going to try to implement that into my life more."

matthew.szabo@latimes.com Twitter: @mjszabo

rallying around
ange to happen
aid.also experience what it was
like [to graduate]."
Peri Brennan said she was
super excited and wanted to

super excited and wanted to say a "big thank you" to all the teachers for making a drive-through graduation possible. Caden Capobianco said that he felt that "it's been a long time" in high school but he felt accomplished and was glad to see his teachers again in-person after distance learning for much of his last semester at Laguna Beach High.

Jack Crawford said couldn't believe that high school went so quickly.

"I'm happy to finally be done and I'm excited to see what the future has in hold for me," Crawford said. "It's a lot of mixed emotions. Sad, that it's all over. High school's over. Can't get it back, but I'm happy that I made it through."

"I think this was amazing for them to do," Crawford said. "Our whole senior year, the second half just got completely ruined. We didn't have anything. So for them to do this instead an online [graduation] was a huge difference in my opinion. This made it seem like they actually care because they do."

The ceremony continued into the afternoon, and on a cloudless June day, Laguna Beach High said goodbye to its class of 2020.

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SUCCESS Continued from page A1

idea of how it's supposed to

look." Certain aspects of the graduation were as to be expected. Kerry Clitheroe, the principal, announced over a microphone each student that graduated as they arrived and asked them to move their tassels.

The students were presented their diplomas and then had their photo taken in cap and gown beneath a balloon arch.

Several of the graduating

EDISON

Continued from page A1

ting in the sun for three hours."

Edison graduated 489 seniors during the ceremony. Shannon Stolaruk, who played varsity girls' tennis for four years, was another one of them. Stolaruk participated in the Academy of Sustainability in Engineering for all four years. Working on cool science projects should suit her well for her next stop, as she will major in biology at UC Irvine.

Stolaruk went to the drive-through ceremony with her mother Kazumi, father Randy and 12-yearold brother, Kai. Both of the family's dogs, Tucker and Dewey, also were in attendance dressed in little cap-and-gown outfits.

She planned to attend a gathering with fellow graduates after leaving

campus.

"It should be pretty safe," she said. "I think we'll be wearing masks and trying to keep our distance and whatnot. It'll be fun to see friends."

Sean Fajardo said he appreciated being in the Chargers' basketball program for four years, including two years as a varsity guard. "We're all one family," Fajardo said.

He added that he looked forward to a post-gradua-

tion dinner with several of his classmates, including Kate Davies, Nicole Field, Abby McCollam, Dylan Delaney, Ian Schilling and Jacob Shapiro, as well as their families.

As she moves forward, Kottman classified being in the class of 2020 as an interesting experience.

"I wouldn't say that it was easy, but I would say that you can find beautiful things in any stage of life," she said. "Going through

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