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Cohn Restaurant Group is vying to bring a 148-foot tall observation wheel to Plaza de Panama in Balboa Park.

Observation Wheel for Balboa Park?

HOSPITALITY: Cohn Group Seeks Approval of Sky Dining Experience

■ By MARIEL CONCEPCION

Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival's famed Le Grande Wheel may soon have a new (temporary) home.

Cohn Restaurant Group, Inc. (CRG) is

vying for the 148-foot-tall rotable wheel to be temporarily housed at Balboa Park's Plaza de Panama. CRG is a hospitality firm founded in 1981 which owns and operates 25 restaurants in Southern California and Maui, Hawaii.

The wheel is owned and operated by Sky Views of America, a Phoenix, Arizona, based company. Sky Views currently has an observation wheel installed at Bayside Marketplace in downtown Miami **→** Observation page 50

Merck Buys VelosBio for \$2.75 Billion

BIOTECH: Acquisition Will Strengthen Merck's Oncology Pipeline

■ BY FRED GRIER

Pharmaceutical giant Merck, will pay \$2.75 billion for San Diego-based **Velos-**Bio, a biotech startup with promising cancer therapies currently in clinical trials in a deal that is expected to close by the end of this year.

The acquisition will strengthen Merck's oncology pipeline with VLS-101, an investigational antibody-drug conjugate in trials for hematological malignancies and solid tumors. As a result, helping boost its market position in the oncology and precision medicine space.

Founded in 2017, by Dave Johnson with

a goal is to develop a novel, first-in-class, ROR1-directed therapeutics to transform the lives of patients with cancer

"We are very pleased that Merck has recognized the value of our first-in-class ROR1-directed investigational therapeutics," said Johnson. "As part of Merck's **→** VelosBio page 52

Qualcomm **Earnings Surge**

TECH: Benefits from Rising 5G Demand

■ BY FRED GRIER

Qualcomm Inc. revenue soared 33% in the fourth quarter, blowing through Wall Street estimates and continuing the company's comeback from a tumultuous sixyear period of legal battles.

The positive report ignited Qualcomm stock, which was up about 80% year to date prior to the Nov. 4 earnings announcement. To date, the Sorrento Valley-based company's shares have climbed 49% this year, valuing it at more than \$145 billion.

For the quarter which ended on Sept. 27, Qualcomm reported revenue of \$6.5 billion,

→ Qualcomm page 52

Viasat Has a New CEO

TECH: Baldridge's Role Is Formalized

■ By BRAD GRAVES

Richard Baldridge has stepped into the

chief executive's job at Viasat Inc., taking the place of founding CEO Mark Dankberg, who held the role for 34 years. The Carlsbad company announced the change when it disclosed quarterly earnings on Nov. 3.



Viasat Inc.

Dankberg will be executive chair-

man and oversee several areas of the business — including the company's technological direction — and will remain chairman of the board.

→ Viasat page 50

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL



LEADERS IN LAW WINNERS ANNOUNCED

LAW FIRMS Pages 25, 26, and 27



It takes more than blah, blah, blah.



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San Diego Business Journal 29 **NOVEMBER 16, 2020**

Congratulations Finalists

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL

BUSINESS WOMEN

of the year awards 2020

Free Virtual Event November 19, 2020 2pm - 3:30pm To Register go to www.sdbj.com/BWOTY2020/

Judges



Chris Bryant President & CEO -San Diego Employers Association (Retired)

Chris Bryant served as President and CEO of the San Diego Employers Association. She came to the organization after spending many years in banking, where she held leadership roles in Business Banking, Sales and Marketing, Lending, Human Resources and Administration at the local, statewide, and national level. Chris volunteers with a number of organizations and is known for her commitment to the San Diego community. She currently serves as the Treasurer for Rest Haven's Children's Health Fund, is the Past President and current board member of the Executives Association of San Diego and she is a member of the Deans Advisory Council for National University's School of Business and Management. Chris also served as the Treasurer for the Nationwide American Lung Association and she is a graduate of LEAD San Diego.



Debra Rosen President & CEO North San Diego Business Chamber

Since assuming her position in 2009, Rosen has built the Chamber into a respected regional business organization, diversifying its programs, membership and Board of Directors.

Lobbying for business and communities in the San Diego region has been a focus of the chamber with an emphasis on job growth, vibrant communities, business retention and expansion. Rosen has aggressively advanced a competitive agenda that includes building strong chamber membership and advocacy for business, strengthening political relationships, developing a sustainable military program, and protecting business interests on a local and state level.

When not working she enjoys spending time with her children, husband of 37 years, boating and a great bottle of Champagne.



Iris Garcia President & Chairwoman Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Recognized for her business savviness and endless non-profit commitments in the community from Senators to Congressional leaders, and local Assembly members to County and State Boards, Iris Garcia is the current Chairwoman of the San Diego Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for 2019-2020.

As a partner at the Troisi Group, her profuse expertise in lending a hand business owners has resulted in a platform to not only enlace but engage enterprises with their society and peers.

Within this continued flourishing growth, members of the Hispanic Chamber and others have furthered their ventures in the County and beyond its borders. Ms. Garcia is keen on striking long-lasting efforts to edify ties with businesses, NGOs, and most importantly with San Diego communities.



Ronson J. Shamoun CEO and Founder

RJS Law

Ronson J. Shamoun is the founder and CEO of RJS LAW. RJS LAW was voted San Diego's Best Tax Law Firm by the UT's best poll 5 years in a row and also in 2020. The firm specializes in tax disputes, estate planning and trust administration. Mr. Shamoun is an adjunct professor and advisory board member at USD School of Law and School of Business. He is the recipient of the USD LAW Distinguished Alumni award; CEO of the Year, SD 50, and SD 500 by the SDBJ; and founded the nationally recognized USD LAW-RJS LAW Tax Controversy Institute. Most recently, he was awarded San Diego Business Journal's 2020 CEO of the Year in the Small Business Category.

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SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL BUSINESS WOMEN

of the year awards 2020

PANEL DISCUSSION

"The Power and Importance of Mentorship"

MODERATOR -



Cheryl K. Goodman

Head of Corporate Communications / Corporate Social Responsibility

Sony Electronics

An award-winning technology, marketing, and business development executive with more than 20 years of experience, Goodman has pushed boundaries of innovation by evangelizing the power of cognitive diversity – an effort that she started at Qcom, carried to Athena and now executes against at Sony.

Goodman's current role as Head of Corporate Communications / CSR at Sony, is to evangelize the broad span of innovations and societal contributions made by the creative entertainment company. She oversees all communications, both internally and externally with a primary focus on 8K televisions, Crystal LED screens, robotics, and immersive 360-degree audio to self-driving cars she ensures that Corporate Social Responsibility that align with Sony's purpose and values which include; Diversity and Sustainability as two key pillars

PANELISTS



Krista L. Goryl
Senior Vice President Pacific South Regional Manager
Wells Fargo

Krista Goryl is an inclusive leader who passionately champions the breadth and com-petitive advantages of the Wealth and Investment Management (WIM) platform, in-cluding comprehensive planning and advice, investment management, estate planning strategies, trust, business succession, family legacy, executive services, real estate management and retirement. As the Pacific South Regional Manager, Krista coaches financial advisors and recruits experienced advisors. Krista began her career as an Analyst in Fixed Income, Currencies, and Commodities with Goldman Sachs in New York City. She relocated to San Diego where she joined a Private Wealth Team at Merrill Lynch as a Financial Advisor for six years, assisting high net worth clients with investment management and financial planning. Krista joined Wells Fargo Advisors 'Western Region in 2010. Krista is frequently called upon to represent Wells Fargo Advisors in media events and public speaking engagements. Krista has been featured in publications such as Invest-ment News, WealthManagement.com, and The Glass Hammer. As an advocate for di-versity and inclusion, Krista sits on national committees for hiring and developing women. Additionally, she supports active military and veterans as the firm's lead for the Camp Pendleton Marine base. Krista graduated from Wake Forest University with a Bachelor of Science in Business. She lives in Del Mar, California with her husband Scott, their son Jack and daughter Ha-ley. Outside of the office Krista enjoys traveling, dance, and spending time at the beach. Shortly after their wedding, Krista and Scott traveled for 5 months around the world exploring 16 countries and flying over 43,000 miles.



Carrie Snyder-Vilaplana Vice President, Private Wealth Advisor The Private Bank

Carrier Snyder-Vilaplana is a Vice President and Private Wealth Advisor for The Private Bank. In this role, she partners with a team of specialists in wealth planning, investments, risk management, trust and estate services, and banking in San Diego. Carrie works with high net worth clients to help them build, sustain, and transfer wealth based on their unique priorities. The Private Bank is an exclusive part of Union Bank® dedicated to the financial needs of high net worth individuals, non-profit organizations, business owners, corporate executives, and professional service firms. The Private Bank is built around teams of wealth management professionals who provide consultative relationships centered on the client's unique goals and dreams. Prior to joining Union Bank, Carrie worked at Lehman Brothers, Wedbush Morgan Securities, and Wells Fargo Private Bank and has 19 years in the industry. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Law, Jurisprudence & Social Thought from Amherst College. Additionally, Carrie holds Series 7, 63 and 65 securities licenses and her California Life Insurance license. Carrie currently is Chair of the San Diego Symphony Notables, member of the La Jolla Playhouse Board of Trustees, member of the Rady Children's Hospital Trust and Estates Council Executive Committee, and member of CREW San Diego. She is also a graduate of the San Diego Jewish Community Foundation Trusted Charitable Advisor Program and a graduate of LEAD San Diego IMPACT Class of 2015.



Marie Zappia-Kuzmack, RN, MSN
Chief Administrative Officer Southern California Permanente Medical Group San Diego
Kaiser Permanente

Marie Zappia-Kuzmack is the Chief Administrative Officer for Southern California Permanente Medical Group (SCPMG) in San Diego. SCPMG is San Diego County's largest medical group, with 1400 physicians serving more than 630,764 Kaiser Permanente Health Plan patients from 26 locations throughout the county. In her role as Chief Administrative Officer, Marie oversees all ambulatory care operations and services, while building effective partnerships and promoting collaborative relationships throughout the San Diego Service Area. She most recently, was the Assistant Medical Group Administrator for the Kaiser Permanente Orange County Medical Center. In this role, she partnered with leaders, physicians and staff to systematically examine and change practices to meet patient expectations for access, service and quality. She promoted integration and close collaboration among various disciplines to align goals and provide continuity and consistency in service and care to all members. Marie started her career at Kaiser Permanente as an RN Assistant Department Administrator at the Barranca Medical Office Building. Before joining Kaiser Permanente, Marie was the Executive Director of Ancillary Services at Saddleback Memorial Medical Center, Memorial Health Services. Marie has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Trenton State College and a Master of Science in Nursing from University of Maryland. Marie has also completed the Executive Leadership Program at Harvard University.

PRESENTERS



Brian C. Lee Region Bank President San Diego Region Wells Fargo & Company

Brian C. Lee is the Region Bank President for the San Diego Region in Southern California. He oversees 76 branches and more than 1,400 team members across San Diego and Imperial Counties.

A 30-year financial services veteran in both Retail and Wholesale banking, Lee started his career in the Real Estate Group. Since joining Retail Banking, he has led markets across the Southern California region. Lee is passionate about the community and currently serves on the boards of the American Red Cross and the San Diego North Economic Development Council. He has served as past Board Chair for the San Diego North Economic Development Council and the Joe and Mary Mottino Family YMCA. He has served on the boards of the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce and the Business Advisory Board at California State University San Marcos. A California native, Lee graduated from Colorado State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration. He earned his MBA from the University of Southern California.



Rodger Dougherty
Senior Director of Public Affairs & Brand
Communications
Kaiser Permanente San Diego

Rodger Dougherty is the Senior Director of Public Affairs & Brand Communications for Kaiser Permanente San Diego, a 625,000-member service area consisting of 30 medical offices, two acute care hospitals with more than 650 licensed beds, 9,700 employees, and 1,400 physicians. Dougherty leads all Kaiser Permanente San Diego's marketing and public relations activities, including: development and execution of their local marketing strategy, internal and external communications, community relations, community health, government affairs, issues management, crisis communications, and brand management.

Dougherty began his career as a firefighter, progressing to the rank of Fire Captain/Paramedic, and also Public Information Officer, with the Rural/Metro Fire Department in the suburbs surrounding Tucson, Arizona. After leaving the fire service, Dougherty led public relations and marketing departments for Rural/Metro Corporation, Cox Communications, and neo-IT, a dot-com startup in the San Francisco Bay Area.



Tina Robinson Managing Director Region Manager Union Bank

Tina Robinson is a Managing Director and regional manager for Union Bank, N.A. She oversees retail branch operations for Union Bank in the San Diego Coastal Region, Ms. Robinson has more than 40 years of experience in financial institution management and an extensive knowledge of public relations, bank security and branch operational administration, including marketing, sales and personnel supervision. She completed Union Bank's Executive Leadership Development program in 2009 and is a 2012 graduate of Pacific Coast Banking School, a Premier National Graduate School for Banking at Washington University in Seattle. Prior to Union Bank, Ms. Robinson worked for California Federal Bank in Retail Branch Management and joined Jackson Federal Bank as Vice President and Head of Branch Banking, Retail Sales and served as the banks Security Officer. Ms. Robinson joined Union Bank in 2005 with the acquisition of Jackson Federal Bank. She also managed branches in the south Los Angeles area until May 2007 when she transferred to Orange County. She has managed South, North and Central O.C until 2015 when she transferred to San Diego.

32 SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL www.sdbj.com NOVEMBER 16, 2020





Valerie Alde-Hayman gap intelligence



Soraya Alexander

Classy



Samantha Anderson Origin 63



Stacey Anfuso La Jolla Logic



Michiko Araki Kelley Sony Electronics, Inc.



Elizabeth Banker Shore Solutions, Inc.



Jennifer Barnes Optima Office



Elizabeth Barrie Barrie + CO



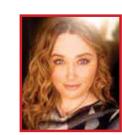
Laura Barry Barry Estates



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34 San Diego Business Journal November 16, 2020





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Seacrest Village Retirement
Communities



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Myra Chack Fleischer Fleischer & Ravreby



Sarah Flocken



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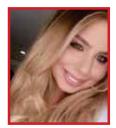
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suitecentric

Congratulations April Holman!

San Diego Business Journal 2020 Business Women of the Year Finalist

Thank you, April, for all of your wonderful work and stellar contributions to our company, customers, and your community.

 $\label{thm:control} \textbf{SuiteCentric provides NetSuite sales and service with transparency.}$

ORACLE
NETSUITE
Solution Provider



ORACLE
NETSUITE
Commerce Partner



April Holman
Chief Solutions Officer
and ERP Practice Director

38 San Diego Business Journal NOVEMBER 16, 2020





Kannan University of San Diego



Laura Katleman Bhu Foods



Karie Kaufmann Action Business Coaching,



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Betzy Lynch Lawrence Family JCC JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS



Nancy Maldonado Chicano Federation of San Diego County



Melissa Marin



Dena Marrinucci



Nichole Mayer



Purvi Mehra Artemis Institute for Clinical Research

On behalf of MWM Retirement Solutions, our partners and clients; we would like to congratulate Melissa Marin, Director of Retirement Plan Services on being selected as a finalist for the San Diego Business Journal's 2020 Business Women of the Year Award.

MWM Retirement Solutions is an independent corporate retirement plan specialist focused on guiding employees, employers, and businesses through the complexities of retirement planning.



MWM RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS Retirement Plans Made Simple



Melissa Marin

CA Insurance License 0D04754 Director of Retirement Plan Services, MWM Retirement Solutions 401 B Street, Suite 2300 San Diego, CA 92101 office: (619) 237-9977 ext. 305 fax: (619) 237-5511 melissa@mwm-401k.com www.mwmretirementsolutions.com



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40 San Diego Business Journal November 16, 2020





Betty Mohlenbrock Reading Legacies



Shawnnah Monterrey Soar Training



Heather Moyer
HNM Systems



Ilo Neukam The Collective



Marie Olesen
La Jolla Cosmetic Surgery
Centre and Medical Spa



Dalcia Paramo Shore Solutions, Inc.



Kathleen Pearson
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Jamie Plemons Plemons & Associates



Diane PowersBazaar del Mundo Shops &
Restaurant Group



Catherine Rells
Gene Tox Lab Solutions, Inc.



Heather Riley Allen Matkins



Reb Risty REBL Marketing



Mia Roseberry Wounded Warrior Homes



Sarah Rotter Allegiance Heating & Air Conditioning Inc.



Kelli Ruby Weatherly Asset Management



Andrea Salazar Biosero







Congratulations to our partner, Marjorie J. Burchett!

A talented member of CGS3's mixed use, distressed assets and finance practice groups, she is well deserving of recognition as a finalist in the San Diego Business Journal's Business Women of the Year Awards.

42 SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL NOVEMBER 16, 2020





Chelsea Sanger



Teri Schroeder ISAFE Enterprises LLC



Kiran Shelat Classics 4 Kids



Kristen SieffertFinance of America Reverse



Megan Storer 211 San Diego



Carolyn Taylor Weatherly Asset Management



Alissa Thompson
Cornerstone Managing



Robin Toft
Toft Group Executive
Search, a ZRG Compan



Mayra Velazquez de León Organics Unlimited



Michele Vives
Douglas Wilson Companies



Jodi Vleck Beta Wealth Group



Tara Weisinger Rowling & Associates LLC



Kristin WigginsFather Joe's Villages

Congratulations to

Yang Cheng

Finalist for San Diego Business Journal's Business Women of the Year 2020





SONY

Congratulations to

Michiko Araki

Finalist for San Diego Business Journal's Business Women of the Year 2020





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