The first Gold Coast Executive Forum of the year was held Jan. 23 at the Westlake Village Inn with the evening’s discussion centered on the outlook for mergers and acquisitions as well as financing for the year.

One opinion expressed several times during the evening: transactions and financings are continuing at a strong pace, despite a fair number of predictions of an economic slowdown. Valuations, at least for some substantial companies, can hit 12 times or more of annual earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization – more than double the rate of perhaps 20 years ago. One the other hand, the recent partial shutdown of the government delayed transactions that needed federal approvals, some pointed out.

A panel discussion was the highlight of the dinner meeting. Panelists were Jeremy Holland, managing partner of the Riverside Co., Alex Rubalcava, general partner and co-founder of Stage Venture Partners, and Jim Vieceli, managing director, business development, GE Ventures. The moderator of the panel was Brent Reinke, a corporate partner in the Westlake Village law office of Musick, Peeler and Garrett. Musick, Peeler and the San Fernando Valley Business Journal are co-producers of the Gold Coast forum. The Business Journal’s publisher, Charles Crumpley, made opening and closing remarks.
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What Workers’ Compensation Means for California Business Owners

By Justin J. Grooms, PHR
Senior Loss Control Consultant at Gaspar Insurance

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We are honored to be a sponsor for this Gold Coast Executive Forum. It is truly a pleasure to work with The San Fernando Business Journal and contribute to other efforts involving the San Fernando Valley that we call home.

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RANDY CHURCHILL // MANAGING DIRECTOR, TECHNOLOGY BANKING
310.883.7146 // rchurchill@square1bank.com
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Mike Dinardo
Wealth Advisor
NMLS ID 1211649
805-777-8389 (Office)
805-551-6033 (Mobile)
michael.dinardo@wellsfargo.com

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AT THE EVENT

1. Lindy Pearson and Rick Pearson of Cross, left, with James Kim and Mike Dinardo of Wells Fargo Private Bank.
2. Steve Nishio of Meisei Tools.
3. Ross Duverb of Z Power asks a question of the panelists.
4. Tim Fadderson of Gaspar Insurance, left, with Dave Stevens of MobiSense.
5. Cary Locino of Gaspar Insurance, center, with Rubakova, left, and Randy Churchill of Square 1 Bank.
6. Marc Bishara of Mulholland Investment Group, left, with Kevin Pittman of Halfhouse Carlin & Van Trigt and Howard Kaufman of Mulholland Investment Group.

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