

Steven Bankler, CPA

Client Spotlight: Bahama Buck's Leon Springs

Who are the coolest parents in San Antonio? Without a doubt, it's Jason and Colleen Benavides. The couple is transitioning from positions in a large corporate environment to proud owners of a Bahama Buck's Original Shaved Ice franchise. And their three children under 7 years old (with another on the way), couldn't be more excited.

Side by side since middle school, the couple has had plenty of experience taking risks together. But the path to entrepreneurship was a road they nearly missed.

"We had a long standing joke between us that we would quit the corporate world and open a Bahama Buck's, if only to wear shorts and t-shirts every day," laughs Colleen. "But it always seemed just out of reach. When another couple beat us to our dream at a location close to our home, we really started to explore what it would take."

After deciding to take the plunge, the couple locked in a location in Leon Springs and started their journey.

"It has been a much longer road than we planned, with site selection alone taking almost a year due to our desire for a drive-thru," explains Jason.

Another unexpected bump for Jason and Colleen has been in managing the financial aspect of opening a franchise. For corporate professionals handling complex multi-million dollar budgets and VIP accounts, the day-to-day accounting of a small business was surprisingly daunting. They knew they needed the help of a



financial expert with complex startup experience. That's how they found Steven Bankler, CPA.

"We sought out Steven before signing up for the franchise because of his expertise with startup capital issues. He was very familiar with our needs, and even put us in touch with a lawyer he uses regularly for our scenario," says Colleen.

"Together they built the financial plan for us to open the franchise. His company will serve as a full-service financial and accounting resource for us, both as we get established and into the future."

And help on the day-to-day details?

"Steven's team has been amazing: Propelling us forward with plenty of caution mixed with just the right amount of hand-holding. Their assistance with QuickBooks, in particular, has been very

helpful. We now feel comfortable managing our own books each month," says Jason.

Be on the lookout for San Antonio's newest Bahama Buck's location in Leon Springs in December 2014. When you visit, Jason and Colleen recommend starting with Red Raspberry and Crème Sno. For a more adventurous palate, ask the Benavides kids for their favorites. By then, they'll have likely tried them all!

To learn more about Bahama Buck's Leon

Springs, visit the corporate site at www.bahamabucks.com or visit (and LIKE) the franchise's [Facebook page](#).

