

## **Monterey County Entrepreneurs Receive Top Honor from National Bookkeeping Franchise**

*Local couple earns title of 'Franchisee of the Year' within BookKeeping Express system*

**Monterey County, Calif.** – Less than two years ago, Ileen and Barry Groves opened the first BookKeeping Express location in California in Monterey County. Earlier this month, the national franchise model for outsourced bookkeeping and financial intelligence consulting announced the couple as the “Franchisees of the Year.” The Groves were recognized with this honor for being leaders both within their own local communities as well as within the BookKeeping Express system.

Originally from the Midwest, Ileen and Barry have entrenched themselves in their new northern California community. At the helm of their local BookKeeping Express Franchise, Ileen belongs to over seven chamber and networking groups, holds educational business seminars throughout the year and is involved in several volunteer organizations. She is a board member of Meals on Wheels of the Salinas Valley, Inc. and was named the “Volunteer of the Month” by both the Monterey Peninsula and the Salinas Valley chambers in 2012. Ileen is also a graduate of Leadership Salinas Valley (class 30); recognized by the California legislature, the 20-week program consists of various exercises and local projects designed to further inform leaders who can help enhance community problem solving and development.

“Despite entering a market that was uncharted territory for both the Groves and for our brand, Ileen and Barry have gone above and beyond to become a major presence within their region,” said CEO of BookKeeping Express Greg Jones. “They have dedicated themselves to investing in their business community and have done so with the utmost professionalism as evidenced by client satisfaction and recognition among peers. In only a year, they have more than quadrupled their client base.”

Aside from the Groves’ representation of BookKeeping Express within their territory, Ileen participates within the franchise system as an active member, providing constructive input to improve the system and assisting other franchisees with marketing and business operations. She partakes in all corporate functions and has been chosen to be part of special internal teams to help analyze and improve operations on the franchisee level.

“We feel incredibly honored to receive this award from BookKeeping Express, especially knowing how many other talented and dedicated franchisees are part of the organization,” said Ileen. “When we first opened in Monterey County, we had zero business contacts but have really enjoyed building these invaluable relationships within our community and having the opportunity to contribute to the entire franchise.”

For more information about BookKeeping Express Monterey County, contact Ileen Groves at 831.776.8914 or visit their website at [www.monterey.bookkeepingexpress.com](http://www.monterey.bookkeepingexpress.com)

### **About BookKeeping Express**

BookKeeping Express, a national company that provides businesses with professional bookkeeping services, was founded in 1984 in California and grew to over 150 locations through licensing agreements. In 2007, Greg Jones, along with Bob Stocker and Merritt Green, purchased the company and launched the new business model in January 2008. The company is based in Vienna, Virginia.. For more information about services from Bookkeeping Express or to inquire about franchise opportunities, call 877.525.5337 or 703.766.5757, or visit [www.bookkeepingexpress.com](http://www.bookkeepingexpress.com).