



## Summer 2024 Newsletter

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### Leading Ladies: Women Shaping Ag-Related Business

Kandi Acres, Hawick | Clean Chickens & Co. and Happy Halal, Willmar |  
Woody's Trucking, Inc., Willmar  
Final Farewell from Executive Director Aaron Backman

#### On a Wing and a Prayer

It is a business success story that owners Becky and Greg Wierschke say started 'on a wing and a prayer,' a statement that could be applied to the two-business operation building a processing plant in the Willmar Industrial Park. Their operation, Clean Chickens and Co. LLC., is a mobile poultry processing service that will also expand to include a Halal goat processing plant named Happy Halal.

A wing and a prayer reflect these unique operations, which recently received a construction grant from the Meat and Poultry Processing Extension Program (MPPEP-2) from the USDA.



[Read the full story](#)



#### Women in Ag Elevated at Kandi Acres

Tiffany Farrier, goat farmer, creator of homestead products, Elevate Community Business Academy (CBA) graduate, and advocate for women in agriculture, continues her bold quest to change how women are perceived in the ag industry while creating an equitable shared kitchen space in Kandiyohi County for fellow new business owners *and* bringing a quality Halal product to local citizens.



The KCED is no stranger to the [Kandi Acres story](#), but its growth continues to impress.

[Read the full story](#)

## Woody's Trucking, Inc. of Willmar named Women-Owned Small Business of the Year

Woody's Trucking, Inc. has a naturally adopted logo of a ready-to-work woodpecker, but this year, the logo could very well be replaced with a golden 'W' for the Women-Owned Small Business of the Year award this Willmar-based company received from the U.S. Small Business Administrations (SBA) Minnesota District Office.

This story shows how women can leverage their strengths in the trucking industry and highlights a family-owned business that serves the local community and national market. Their story is a progression of family and evolution.



[Read the full story](#)



## A Fond Farewell

After 8-years of service to Kandiyohi County as the Executive Director of Kandiyohi County Economic Development, Aaron Backman held his retirement farewell at the end of June. Backman is pictured at his final board meeting to the left.

Thank you, Aaron, for your service!

Read the [West Central Tribune story](#) about Aaron's retirement and career.



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