



# Member Update

Brought to you by **firnela**

By Tony Burton • Jun 22, 2026

Smart Brevity® count: 3 mins...856 words

## In today's June 22, 2026 Update:

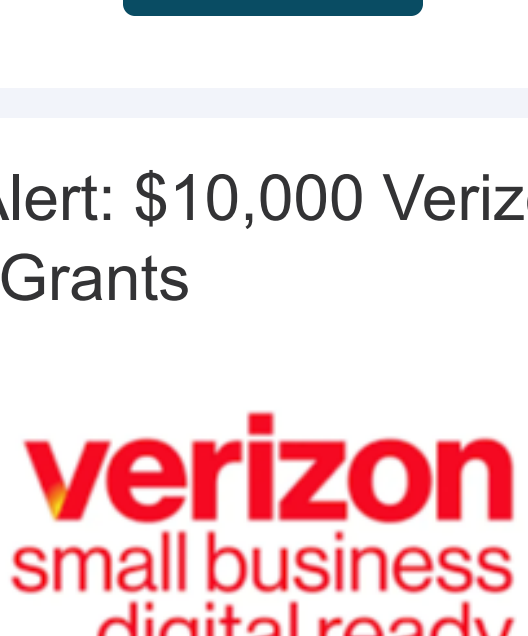
- **Thursday - Hospitality Unplugged:** [Join Whitebox Marketing in Saint Cloud](#)
- **Verizon Digital Ready Grants:** [Apply for Small Business Funding](#)
- **July 14 - USI Insurance Webinar:** [Workplace Harassment Allegations](#)
- **Introducing Your Next Workforce Solution:** [Firnella](#)
- **September 14 - Hospitality Minnesota Golf Tournament:** [Join Hospitality Leaders at Legends Golf Club in Prior Lake](#)
- **September 27 - 29 - Hospitality Conference:** [Join Hospitality Professionals in Downtown Minneapolis](#)
- **ServSafe Offerings:** [Find A Class Near You](#)
- **In the News**

We would like to thank [Firnella](#) for sponsoring this week's Member Update.

- [Click here](#) to learn more about Firnela.

Is your organization interested in sponsorship? [Email us](#) to learn more.

## Thursday: Network with Industry Professionals at Hospitality Unplugged

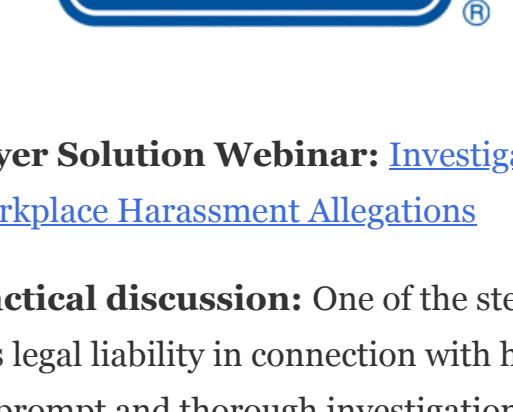


**Calling all hospitality operators:** Join Hospitality Minnesota and Whitebox Marketing [June 25 from 4 - 6 PM in Saint Cloud](#) for a relaxed and engaging networking event designed to bring together professionals from across the hospitality industry.

- **What to expect:** This casual gathering offers a unique opportunity to connect with peers, exchange ideas, and discover valuable partners.

[Register Here!](#)

## Funding Alert: \$10,000 Verizon Small Business Grants



**The big picture:** Verizon, in partnership with LISC, is [awarding \\$10,000 grants to small businesses throughout 2026](#) to help them grow and thrive in the digital economy.

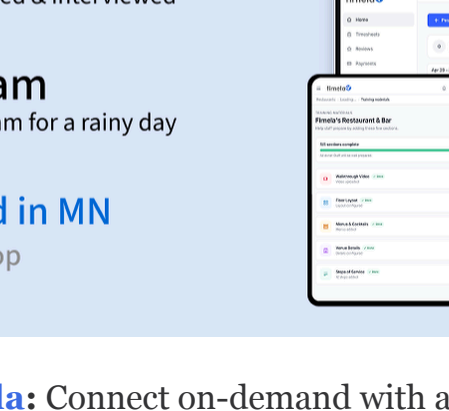
- **Eligibility:** Open to U.S.-based, for-profit small businesses.

### How to Apply:

1. **Register:** Sign up for a free [Verizon Small Business Digital Ready](#) account.
2. **Learn:** Complete any combination of two free online courses, coaching sessions, or community events on the platform.
3. **Unlock:** Completing the two courses automatically unlocks the straightforward, 30-minute grant application.

[Learn More & Apply](#)

## July 14 - USI Webinar on Investigating and Responding to Workplace Harassment Allegations



**July USI Employer Solution Webinar:** [Investigating and Responding to Workplace Harassment Allegations](#)

- **Join the practical discussion:** One of the steps in reducing your organization's legal liability in connection with harassment claims is conducting a prompt and thorough investigation from which you draw reasonable conclusions, take appropriate action, and ensure there is no retaliation.

### Join us for this webinar in which we will discuss:

- The difference between "illegal" and "legal" harassment
- When and how to conduct a formal investigation
- Interviewing and documentation
- Drawing conclusions and taking appropriate action

[Register Here!](#)

Introducing...



## Build On-call Teams for Food, Beverage & Guest Experience

Your on-demand bench of reliable hospitality staff who study your bar, seating, and kitchen from home. Self-starters who jump in when you need them!

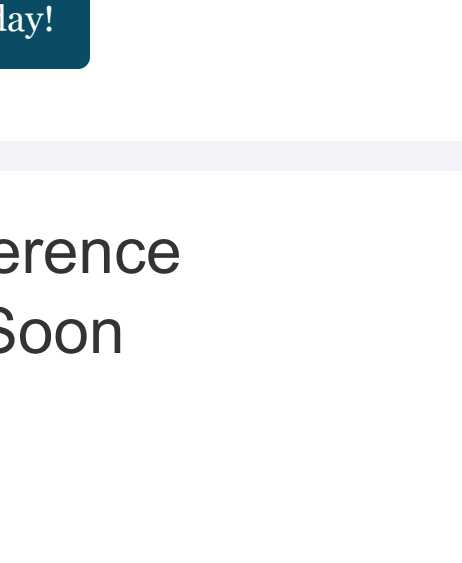
**Post Shifts**  
Offer the hourly salary of your choice

**Hire Professionals**  
Staff get screened, reviewed & interviewed

**Add to the Team**  
Save them to your flex team for a rainy day

**Built & Operated in MN**  
iOS • Android • Desktop

*500+ shifts filled*  
Bartenders, servers, cooks & more



**Introducing Firnela:** Connect on-demand with a network of vetted professionals specializing in food, beverage, and the guest experience. Source, hire, and build flex teams of trusted and reliable workers.

- **You stay in control.** Unlike traditional staffing agencies, you set the pay, and decide exactly who shows up for each shift — full transparency, no surprises.
- **Use with confidence.** Every professional clears a 3-step vetting process, with screening, qualification review, and a 1-on-1 interview with our team.

**Why Firnela?** Restaurants and events have completely different staffing requirements. Our industry isn't one-size fits all, and Firnela was built to reflect how hospitality behaves today.

- **For restaurants.** Create a *training profile* of your venue — menu builds, layouts, and operations — staff arrive ready to jump into a busy night as self-starters.
- **For events.** From buffets and plated events, to operating in silence during speeches — find specialists who understand the standards, pace, and flow of the event service you need.

**Learn More:** Book a demo, or create an account at [www.firnella.com](#)

[Learn More About Firnela](#)

## HM Golf Tournament Returns September 14, Now At Legends Golf Club



### HOSPITALITY MINNESOTA GOLF TOURNAMENT

LEGENDS GOLF CLUB - PRIOR LAKE | SEPTEMBER 14

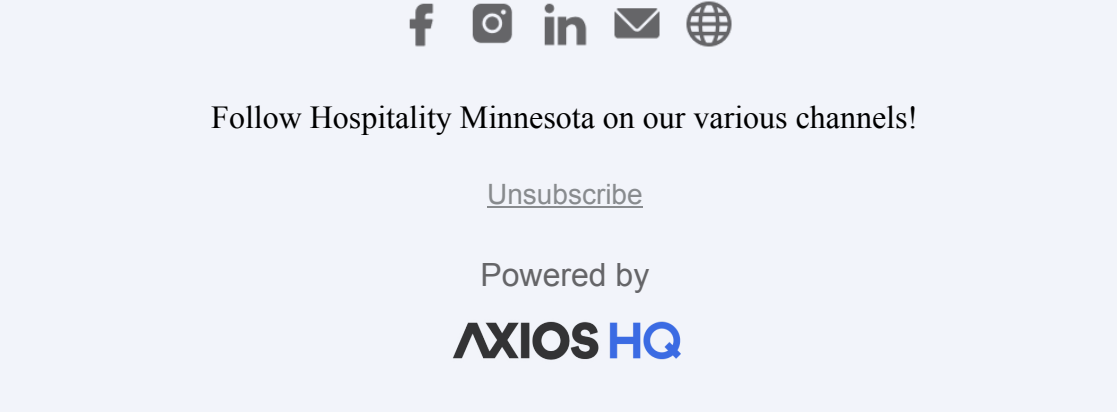
**Secure your spot today:** Join Minnesota's hospitality leaders at the [2026 Hospitality Minnesota Golf Tournament](#) on September 14 at the [Legends Golf Club](#) in Prior Lake.

- **Why it matters:** The [Hospitality Minnesota Golf Tournament](#) is all about connection, collaboration, and community. It's a chance to strengthen relationships, meet new peers, and enjoy a day of relaxed networking with fellow hospitality professionals in a beautiful outdoor setting.

**How to participate:** [Register your foursome](#) or individual slot early—spots fill quickly. Consider sponsoring a hole, beverage cart, or a Bloody Mary bar to showcase your company and engage with members of Minnesota's vibrant hospitality industry.

[Register Today!](#)

## 2026 Hospitality Conference Registration Coming Soon



HILTON DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS - SEPTEMBER 27-29

**Mark your calendars!** The [2026 Hospitality Conference](#) is coming to the Hilton Minneapolis Downtown September 27-29, and you and your team cannot afford to miss this professional development opportunity.

- **The bottom line:** Registration will be opening up soon. Our team is hard at work to provide innovation across hospitality marketing, leadership, and more. Learn more about this year's conference [here](#).

[Learn More!](#)

## ServSafe Classes Near You



**SERVE WITH CERTAINTY:**  
**MINNESOTA SERVSAFE CERTIFICATION CLASSES**  
**NOW AVAILABLE**



**Did you know:** Minnesota law requires at least one certified food manager on staff at nearly every food establishment.

[Check this calendar](#) for all upcoming ServSafe classes!

- [St. Cloud - June 25](#)
- [Duluth - July 1](#)
- [Roseville - July 2](#)
- [Bloomington - July 7](#)
- [Fridley - July 7](#)
- [Rochester - July 7](#)

[Find a Class Near You!](#)

## In the News

- [Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurants eyes Twin Cities expansion](#) | MSP Business Journal
- [New Restaurant and Event Center Planned for Medford, MN](#) | KROC 106.9
- [Restaurant sales held steady in May, as consumers remain resilient](#) | National Restaurant Association
- [Minnesota restaurants come up empty-handed at James Beard Awards](#) | Bring Me The News

## Oh yeah, and don't forget...

- **Enroll/opt out today:** [Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement Program](#).

## See you back here next week!

To learn more about us, visit our website: [hospitalityminnesota.com](#)

[Members can log into the member portal here.](#)

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