



Member Update

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By Tony Burton • Apr 07, 2025

Smart Brevity® count: 3 mins...841 words

In today's April 7, 2025 Update:

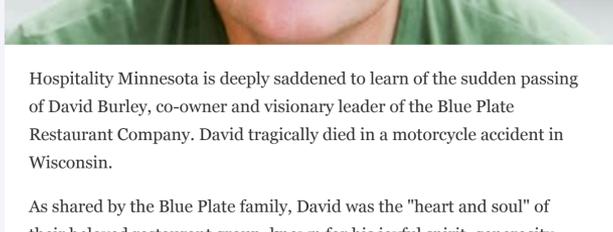
- In Memoriam: David Burley, Owner of Blue Plate Restaurant Company
- **NEXT MONDAY: Vendor Expo + Social Returns to the RiverCentre**
- Access All Past STR Reports via the Member Portal
- Next Month: Join Us for HMEF's 2025 Scholarship Luncheon!
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We would like to thank our Member Update Sponsor - [Ecolab](#) - for their contributions and commitment to Minnesota's hospitality industry!

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In Memoriam: David Burley, Owner of Blue Plate Restaurant Company



Hospitality Minnesota is deeply saddened to learn of the sudden passing of David Burley, co-owner and visionary leader of the Blue Plate Restaurant Company. David tragically died in a motorcycle accident in Wisconsin.

As shared by the Blue Plate family, David was the "heart and soul" of their beloved restaurant group, known for his joyful spirit, generosity, and ability to make everyone feel welcome. Since opening their first restaurant in 1993, David's energy, creativity, and kindness have been instrumental in shaping the success and culture of Blue Plate.

The impact of David's loss is profound for his team. In order to honor his memory and allow their staff time to grieve, all Blue Plate Restaurants will be closed today, Monday, April 7th.

Hospitality Minnesota extends our deepest condolences to David's family, friends, and the entire Blue Plate Restaurant Company team during this incredibly difficult time. We join them in remembering and celebrating the remarkable life and contributions of David Burley to our industry.

NEXT MONDAY: Vendor Expo + Social Returns to the RiverCentre



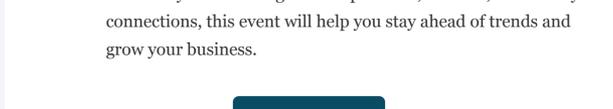
Calling all hospitality professionals! This time next week, over 300 hospitality leaders will embark on the Saint Paul RiverCentre for the 2025 Hospitality Minnesota Vendor Expo + Social.

- **The excitement is palpable:** Last week, we began featuring this year's exceptional vendors twice a day on our social profiles. This week, you can expect to see more featured in the lead up to the event.

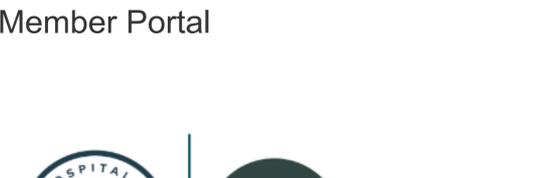
What to expect:

- **Exhibitors:** This year's expo provides your company the chance to grow your network, introduce your products and services, and reconnect with key decision-makers.
 - Whether you're looking to expand your reach or strengthen existing relationships, this event puts you in front of hospitality operators eager for new solutions.
- **Attendees:** By attending, you will get the opportunity to explore the latest innovations shaping the hospitality industry, including a presentation on AI from Peak Financial Performance's [Bruce Nelson](#)!
 - Whether you're looking for new products, services, or industry connections, this event will help you stay ahead of trends and grow your business.

[Register Here!](#)



Access All Past STR Reports via the Member Portal



This STR Report is a publication of STR, LLC and STR Global, Ltd., CoStar Group companies, and is intended solely for use by paid subscribers and their clients.

Did you know: Hospitality Minnesota members have exclusive access to years of STR Reports via the [member portal](#)? We do!

- **Yes, and:** Many members already know this, but Hospitality Minnesota has the capacity to pull tailored STR Reports for members across the state with data all the way back to 1986!

Request tailored STR reporting: Members can reach out to [Tony](#) to access historical data like hotel occupancy, ADR, RevPAR, and more.

- **The bottom line:** By logging into the member portal, you are able to access resources that increase the ROI of your membership.

What's next: Stay tuned for March 2024's STR report, which should arrive in your inbox around the middle of April!

[Log in to the Portal!](#)



PROUD MEMBER OF HOSPITALITY MINNESOTA

Next Month: Join Us for HMEF's 2025 Scholarship Luncheon!



You're invited: Join Hospitality Minnesota Education Foundation for our annual [Scholarship Luncheon](#) on May 22, 2025, at the Sheraton Minneapolis Downtown Convention Center, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

- **Did you know:** Since 2006, HMEF has awarded nearly \$1 MILLION to students pursuing careers in culinary arts and hospitality management.

What to expect: This year is significant because HMEF is launching our newest scholarship, the Sue Zelickson Scholarship, to it's first ever recipients!

- **Why it matters:** Managed through the Hospitality Minnesota Education Foundation in collaboration with [Women Who Really Cook](#), this award provides critical scholarships to students, especially women, pursuing careers in culinary arts and restaurant management.

Yes, and: This year, our scholarship luncheon is coming to the brand-new [Sheraton Downtown Minneapolis Convention Center](#), which opens in April after several months of renovation.

[Register Now!](#)

Federal Advocacy Opportunities: Join HM and National Partners in DC



Hoteliers: Join us at the American Hotel & Lodging Association's [Hotels on the Hill](#) Advocacy Conference May 13-14 to share the issues most impacting your business. ([Register here](#))

What to expect?

- **Meetings with lawmakers:** Advocates at both events can expect to discuss policies that impact your bottom line!
- **Top Political Speakers:** Gain insights from industry experts.
- **Networking Events:** Build connections with your peers.

Questions? Reach out to [Hanna](#) or [Angie](#) for more information.

In the News

- [Revamped Lake Nokomis restaurant aiming for mid-May opening](#) | Bring Me The News
- [Sale of Cragun's Resort on Gull Lake finalized, with new owner revealed](#) | Bring Me The News

See you back here next week!

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