



# Member Update

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By Tony Burton • Sep 28, 2026

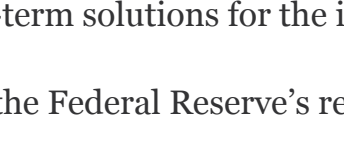
Smart Brevity® count: 3 mins., 844 words

## In today's September 28, 2026 Update:

- **Share Your Perspective:** [Last Chance to Contribute to the September 2026 Hospitality Conditions Survey](#)
- **Oktoberfest - October 1:** [Join Us Thursday at the Hyatt Regency in Downtown Minneapolis](#)
- **Now Accepting Nominations:** [Submit Your Hospitality Trailblazers for our Stars of the Industry Awards](#)
- **Made in Restaurants:** [Join the National Conversation on Restaurant Experiences](#)
- **October Webinars:** [USI Webinar - October 13](#) and [Switch/Xcel Webinar - October 14](#)
- **Healthcare Open Enrollment:** [Learn More About Hospitality Minnesota Options](#)
- **ServSafe Offerings:** [Find A Class Near You](#)
- **In the News**

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

## Take September Hospitality Conditions Survey by Tuesday



### HOSPITALITY CONDITIONS SURVEY SEPTEMBER 2026

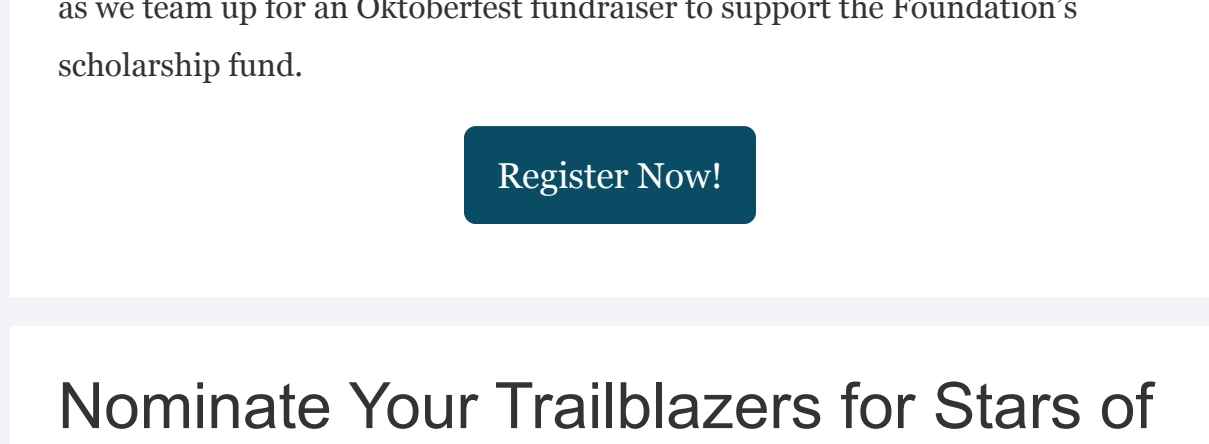
**Share Your Perspective:** Hospitality Minnesota is once again partnering with the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis for this month's [Hospitality Conditions Survey](#).

- **Why it matters:** Your input informs our advocacy efforts and explain our industry's reality to key stakeholders.

**Survey responses thus far have made real impact.** The results of the last survey ([see the Spring 2026 key takeaways here](#)), earned us critical media placements and helped inform several of our key legislative priorities to secure long-term solutions for the industry.

- **Go deeper:** Read the Federal Reserve's review of the Spring 2026 Survey results [here](#).

[Take the Survey!](#)



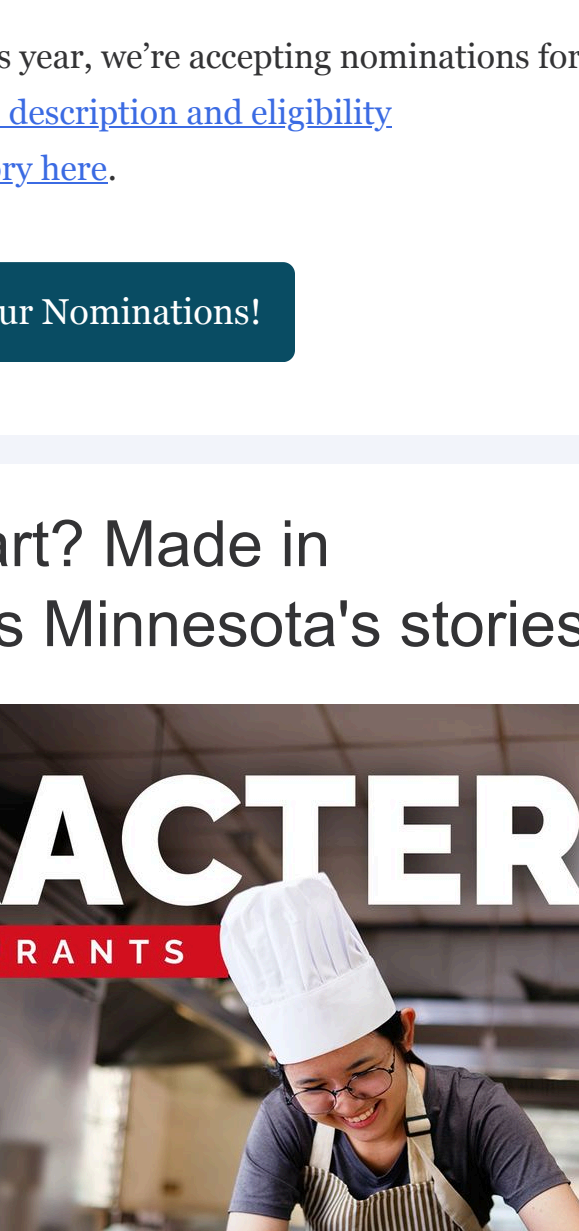
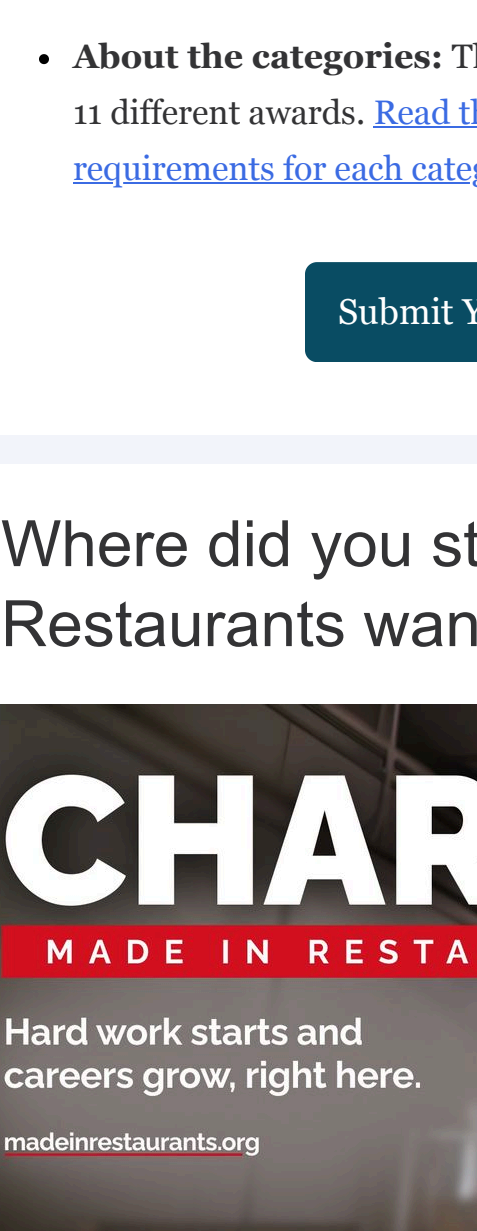
## Oktoberfest Returns Thursday and You're Invited!



**Oktoberfest is back!** Join Hospitality Minnesota Education Foundation, the Greater Minneapolis Hotel Association and the Minneapolis Tourism Improvement District on October 1, 2026 at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis as we team up for an Oktoberfest fundraiser to support the Foundation's scholarship fund.

[Register Now!](#)

## Nominate Your Trailblazers for Stars of the Industry Awards



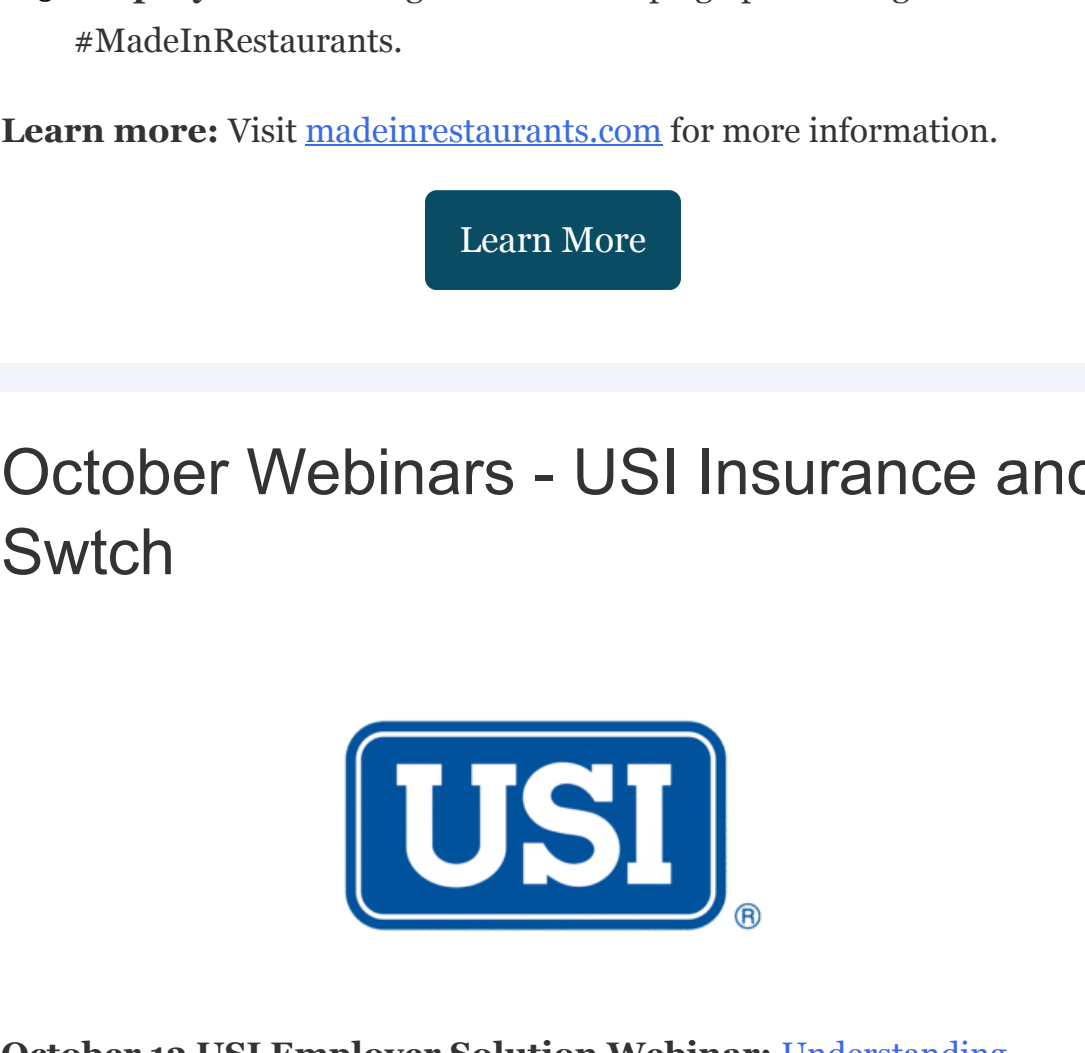
**Call for Stars of the Industry Nominations:** Help us celebrate the extraordinary talent across Minnesota hospitality by putting your most deserving team members forward for the Stars of the Industry Awards. **The deadline to nominate is October 22, 2026.**

**About the program:** The Stars of the Industry Awards honor the remarkable people and operating teams shaping our state's restaurants, hotels, resorts, campgrounds, and supplier partnerships.

- **About the categories:** This year, we're accepting nominations for 11 different awards. [Read the description and eligibility requirements for each category here](#).

[Submit Your Nominations!](#)

## Where did you start? Made in Restaurants wants Minnesota's stories



**The big picture:** The National Restaurant Association has launched [Made in Restaurants](#), a multi-year national campaign about what the restaurant industry builds beyond food: careers, skills, community and economic impact.

- **Why it matters:** One in two Americans have worked in the restaurant industry. Whether they started on the line or at the host stand, it's where many learned the skills that took them wherever they went next.

**How it works:** The campaign tells the industry's story through the people who lived it. That includes films, voices the country knows, and real stories gathered from every state.

**By the numbers:** The new report *Made in Restaurants: Industry Careers in America* found:

- **82%** of restaurant employees say restaurant jobs prepare people for success in any career.
- **93%** say the industry is a good place to get a first job.
- **2,000+** career pathways across more than 70 types of jobs.

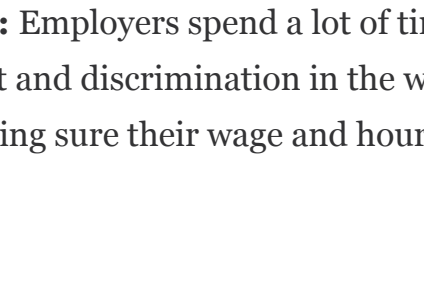
**What we need from you:**

1. **Nominate your people.** Know a team member whose story is worth telling? Point them to [story portal link].
2. **Share your own.** Owners and operators started somewhere too. Tell us where.
3. **Amplify.** Follow along and share campaign posts using #MadeInRestaurants.

**Learn more:** Visit [madeinrestaurants.com](#) for more information.

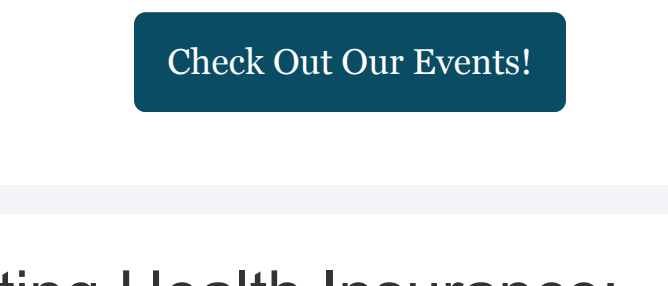
[Learn More](#)

## October Webinars - USI Insurance and Switch



**October 13 USI Employer Solution Webinar:** [Understanding Exempt vs. Nonexempt and Other Difficult Wage and Hour Laws](#)

- **Why it matters:** Employers spend a lot of time (rightly) worrying about harassment and discrimination in the workplace, but not enough time making sure their wage and hour practices are in good shape.



**October 14 Switch EV Charging Webinar:** [Add EV Charging at Your Hotel with Xcel Energy's New Rebate](#)

- **Why it matters:** Xcel Energy is launching the Commercial EV Infrastructure Rebate and Advisory Program in Minnesota this fall. Join [Switch](#) as they break down how the rebate works. We'll guide you through the application requirements, eligibility criteria, and the specific rebate amounts available for your property.

[Check Out Our Events!](#)

## Navigating Health Insurance: Streamlined Options for Your Team

Find Your Health Insurance



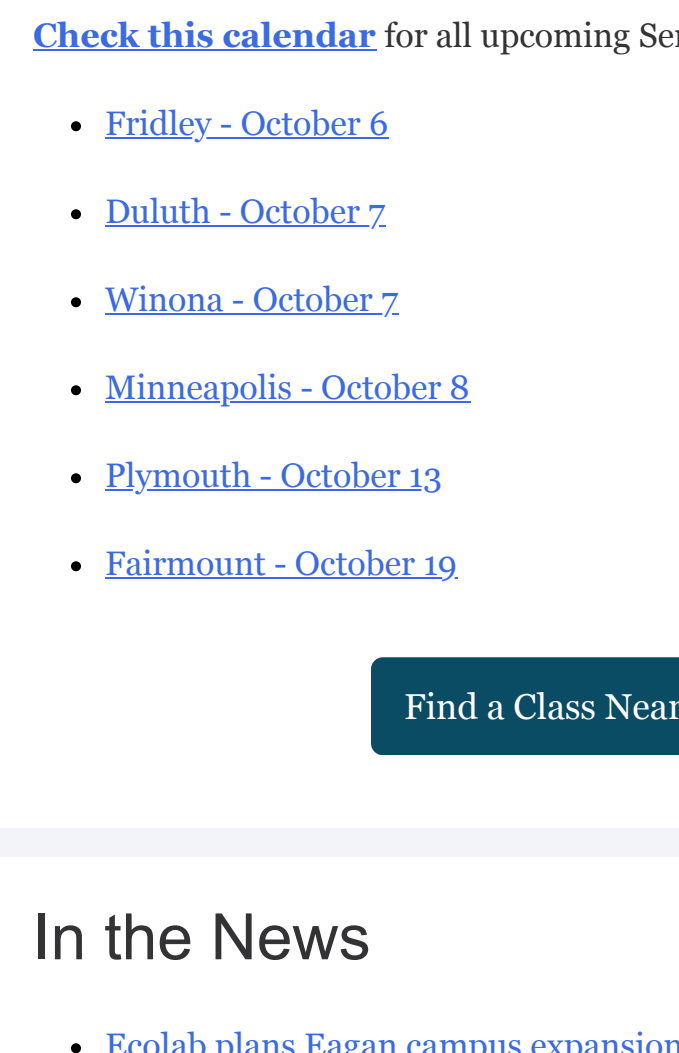
Hospitality-Health



**Let's talk health insurance:** It's the season of open enrollment, and securing reliable health coverage doesn't have to be complicated. Through [our partnership with HealthMarkets](#), Hospitality Minnesota members and their teams have direct access to flexible healthcare solutions.

[Learn More!](#)

## ServSafe Classes Near You



**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!

- [Fridley - October 6](#)
- [Duluth - October 7](#)
- [Winona - October 7](#)
- [Minneapolis - October 8](#)
- [Plymouth - October 13](#)
- [Fairmount - October 19](#)

[Find a Class Near You!](#)

## In the News

- [Ecolab plans Eagan campus expansion, renovation through 2030](#) | MSP Business Journal
- [Tono Pizzeria owners form Veranova Brands, pausing expansion until 2028](#) | MSP Business Journal
- [Stargazer closes as Travail opens neighborhood Italian spot in its place](#) | MSP Business Journal

## 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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