



Member Update

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By Tony Burton • Aug 31, 2026

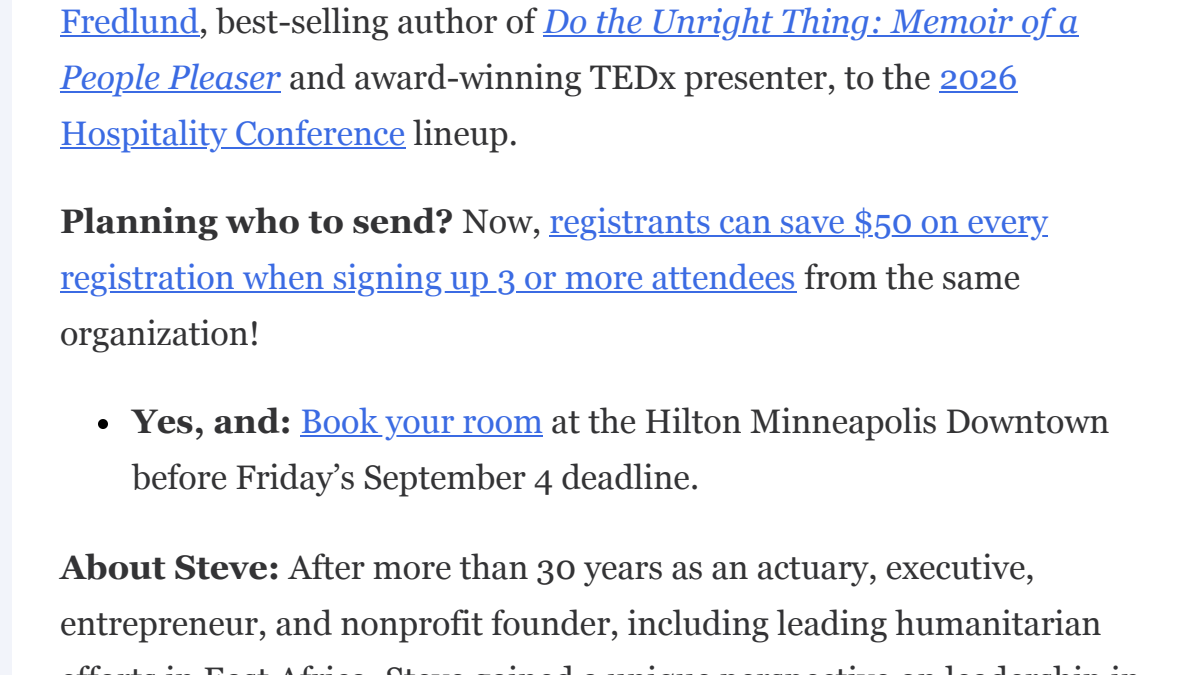
Smart Brevity® count: 3 mins...835 words

In today's August 31, 2026 Update:

- **2026 Hospitality Conference:** [Steve Fredlund Joins Speaker Line-Up](#)
- **September 1 - National Hotel Employee Day:** [Access AHLA-Member Toolkit](#)
- **September 14 - Hospitality Minnesota Golf Tournament:** [Join Hospitality Leaders at Legends Golf Club in Prior Lake](#)
- **Now Accepting Nominations:** [Submit Your Hospitality Trailblazers for our Stars of the Industry Awards](#)
- **Next Week - USI Insurance Webinar:** [Complying with the FMLA](#)
- **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.

Steve Fredlund, Best-Selling Author and Award-Winning Presenter, Joins 2026 Hospitality Conference



The big picture: Hospitality Minnesota is excited to welcome [Steve Fredlund](#), best-selling author of *Do the Unright Thing: Memoir of a People Pleaser* and award-winning TEDx presenter, to the [2026 Hospitality Conference](#) lineup.

Planning who to send? Now, [registrants can save \\$50 on every registration when signing up 3 or more attendees](#) from the same organization!

- **Yes, and:** [Book your room](#) at the Hilton Minneapolis Downtown before Friday's September 4 deadline.

About Steve: After more than 30 years as an actuary, executive, entrepreneur, and nonprofit founder, including leading humanitarian efforts in East Africa, Steve gained a unique perspective on leadership in uncertain conditions.

- **The bottom line:** You and your team will not want to miss this opportunity to hear from Steve and [our other speakers](#).

Register Now!

September 1 - National Hotel Employee Day



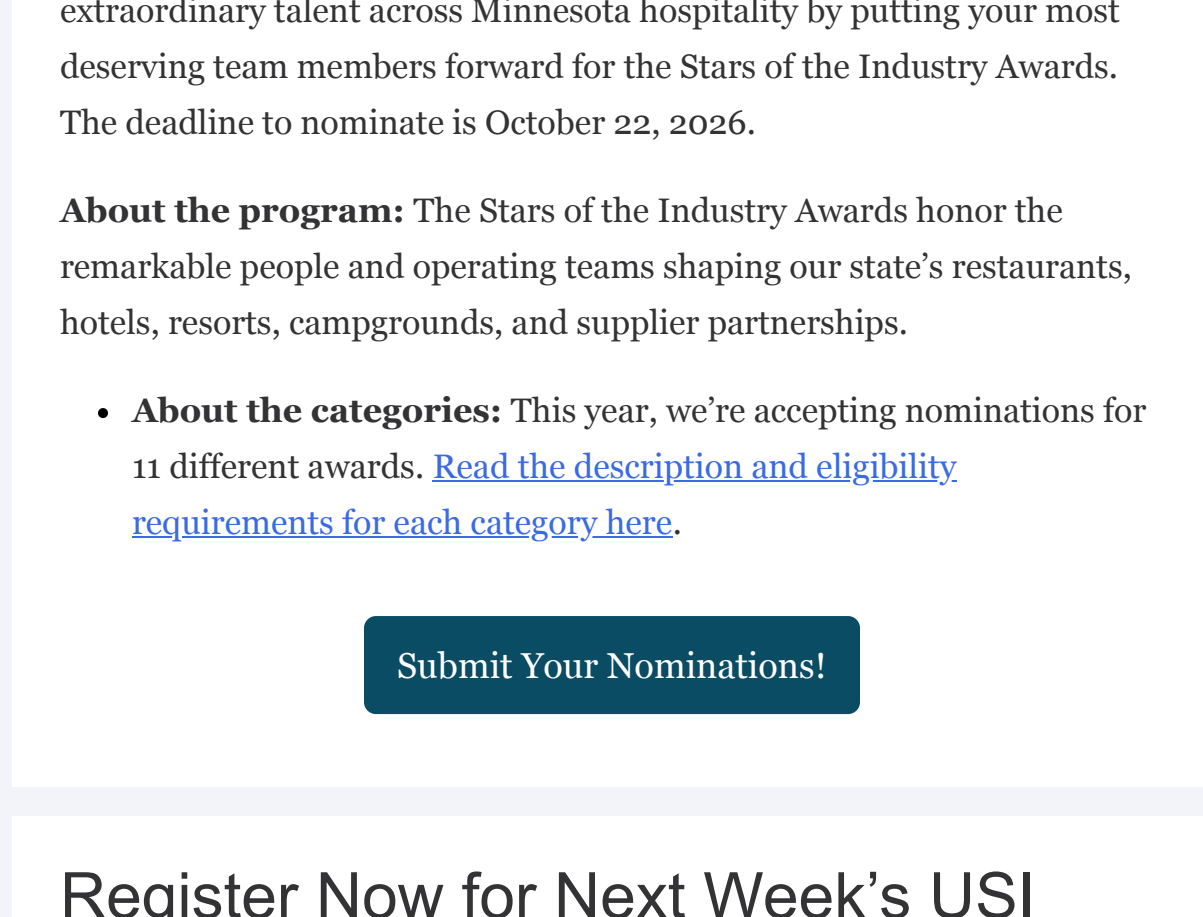
Acknowledging our hospitality champions: On September 1, we celebrate National Hotel Employee Day and honor the more than 2 million employees who work in America's hotel industry.

- **About National Hotel Employee Day:** September 1 celebrates and thanks hotel employees for their hard work and dedication. On this day, we recognize the integral role hotel employees play in American tourism and communities nationwide.

This year's theme: "A Place to Start. A Place to Grow," reflects the true heart of hospitality - a welcoming environment where people from all backgrounds can begin, grow and build meaningful careers.

- **Utilize AHLA's Resources:** Log into your AHLA member profile to access AHLA's [National Hotel Employee Day Engagement Kit](#).

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



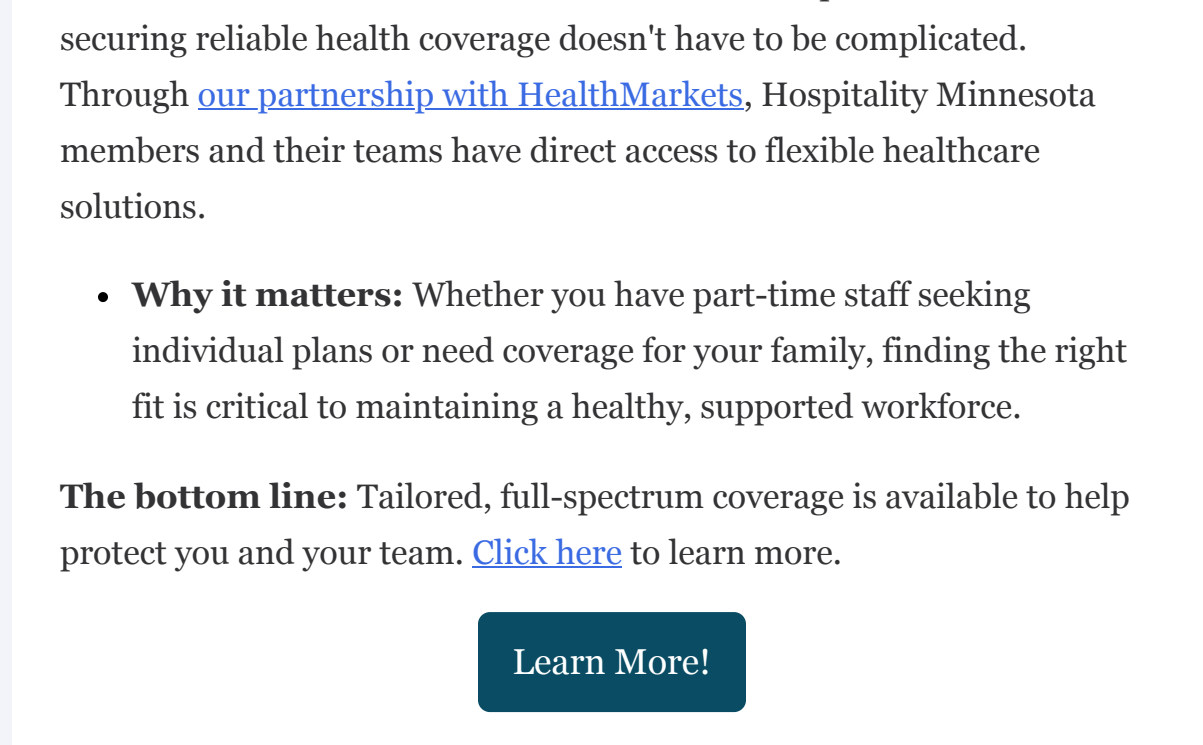
Secure your spot today: Join Minnesota's hospitality leaders at the [2026 Hospitality Minnesota Golf Tournament](#) on September 14 at the [Legends Golf Club](#) in Prior Lake.

- **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 today—spots are almost gone!

Register Today!

Nominate Your Trailblazers for Stars of the Industry Awards



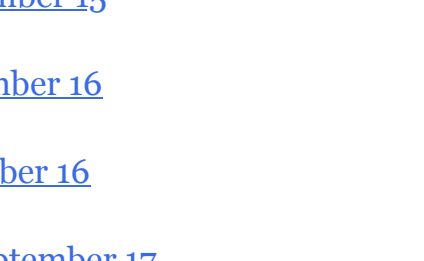
Call for Stars of the Industry Nominations: Help us celebrate the extraordinary talent across Minnesota hospitality by putting your most deserving team members forward for the Stars of the Industry Awards. The deadline to nominate is October 22, 2026.

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!

Register Now for Next Week's USI Webinar on FMLA Compliance

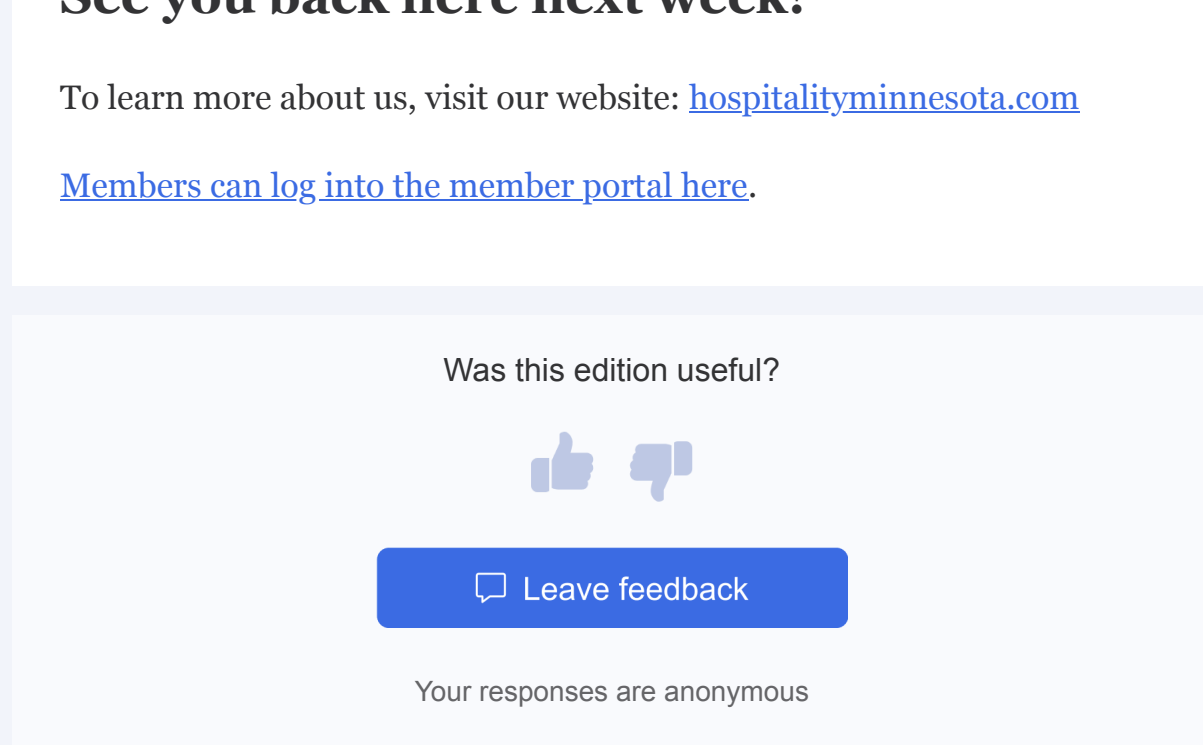


September 8 USI Employer Solution Webinar: [Forgive my Last Absence - Complying with the FMLA](#)

- **Why it matters:** Many employers don't properly count time as FMLA when they should, don't properly document leaves, and make mistakes when returning (or not returning) employees to work at the end of leaves.

Register Now!

Navigating Health Insurance: Streamlined Options for Your Team



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.

- **Why it matters:** Whether you have part-time staff seeking individual plans or need coverage for your family, finding the right fit is critical to maintaining a healthy, supported workforce.

The bottom line: Tailored, full-spectrum coverage is available to help protect you and your team. [Click here](#) to learn more.

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!

- [Plymouth - September 15](#)
- [St. Cloud - September 15](#)
- [Windom - September 16](#)
- [Winona - September 16](#)
- [Minneapolis - September 17](#)
- [Minneapolis - September 18](#)

Find a Class Near You!

In the News

- [Dara's Picks: Best New Foods at the 2026 Minnesota State Fair](#) | Minneapolis / St. Paul Magazine
- [How local restaurant owners redirect surplus food across Minnesota](#) | Axios
- [Inside the opening of Sameh Wadi's Saffron in Mpls.](#) | Star Tribune
- [The Westin Minneapolis Completes Renovation](#) | Lodging Magazine
- [Award-Winning Presenter and Best-Selling Author Steve Fredlund Joins 2026 Hospitality Conference](#) | Hospitality Minnesota

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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