



Member Update

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By Tony Burton • Aug 10, 2026

Smart Brevity® count: 3 mins...851 words

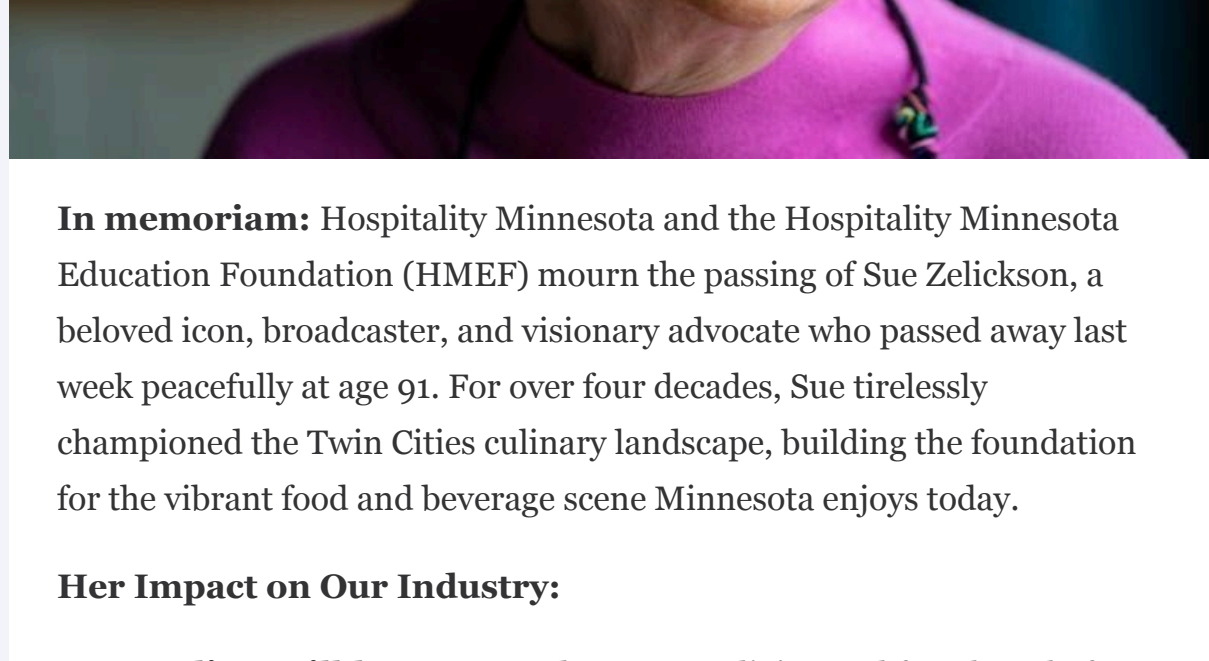
In today's August 10, 2026 Update:

- **Remembering Sue Zelickson:** [Minnesota's Own Hospitality Trailblazer](#)
- **2026 Hospitality Conference:** [Working Schedule Now Available](#)
- **September 14 - Hospitality Minnesota Golf Tournament:** [Join Hospitality Leaders at Legends Golf Club in Prior Lake](#)
- **This Week - August USI Insurance Webinar:** [Artificial Intelligence in the Workplace](#)
- **Next Month - September USI Insurance Webinar:** [Complying with the FMLA](#)
- **ServSafe Offerings:** [Find A Class Near You](#)
- **In the News**

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



In Memoriam: Honoring Hospitality Pioneer Sue Zelickson



In memoriam: Hospitality Minnesota and the Hospitality Minnesota Education Foundation (HMEF) mourn the passing of Sue Zelickson, a beloved icon, broadcaster, and visionary advocate who passed away last week peacefully at age 91. For over four decades, Sue tirelessly championed the Twin Cities culinary landscape, building the foundation for the vibrant food and beverage scene Minnesota enjoys today.

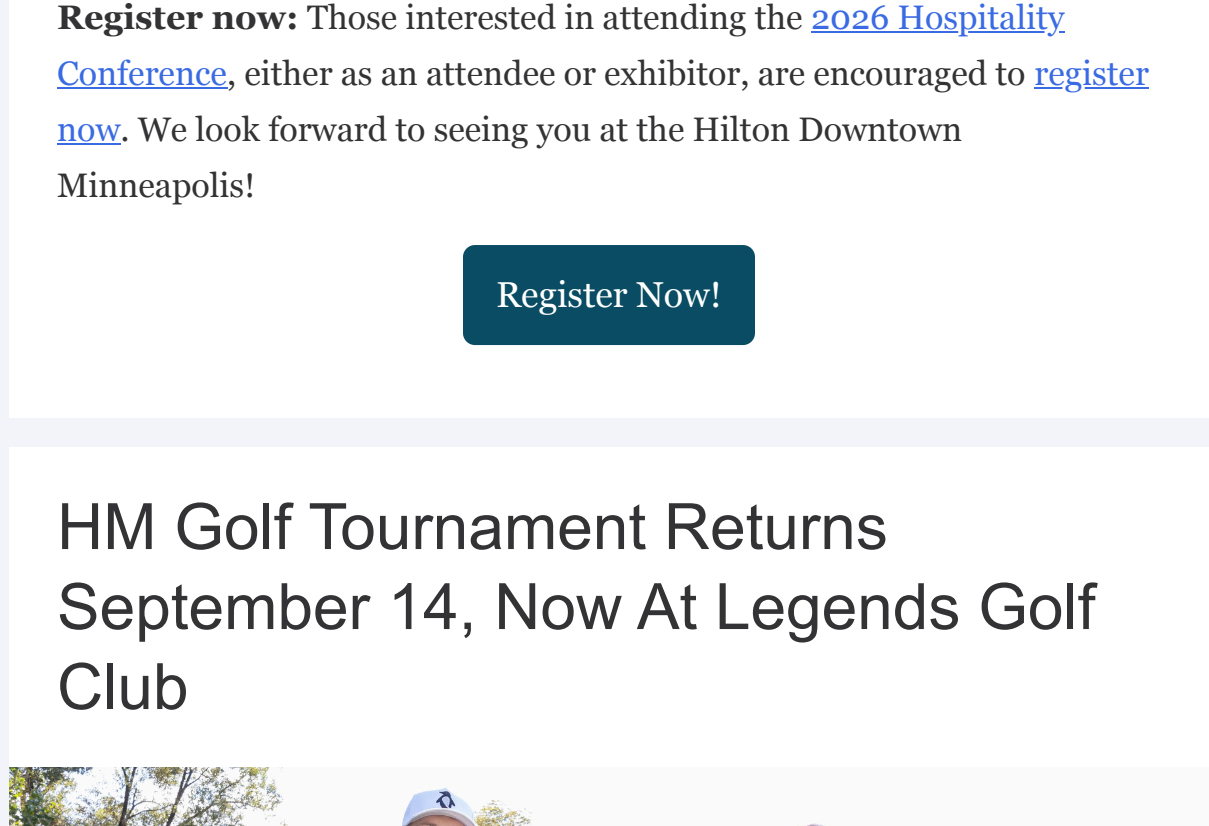
Her Impact on Our Industry:

- **Media Trailblazer:** Hosted WCCO Radio's *Food for Thought* for over 40 years, earning a prestigious James Beard Award in 2005 for her broadcast work.
- **Community Champion:** Founded Kids Cafe at Perspectives, Inc. to provide hands-on cooking and nutrition programs for at-risk youth.
- **Empowering Women:** Founded *Women Who Really Cook*, a vital networking and support group for female food industry professionals.

Continuing Her Legacy: To ensure her impact lives on, Hospitality Minnesota administers The Sue Zelickson Scholarship through HMEF in partnership with *Women Who Really Cook*. The scholarship provides financial support to women pursuing post-secondary education in culinary arts, foodservice, and restaurant management.

[Read More About Sue](#)

Join John Cosgrove at the 2026 Hospitality Conference Next Month!



What does it mean to be truly hospitable? We are excited to welcome [John Cosgrove](#) from [VoiceHive](#) to the [2026 Hospitality Conference](#) lineup.

- **When and where:** The conference is set to take place from September 27-29, 2026, at the Hilton Minneapolis Downtown. [Click here](#) to see the complete working agenda for this year's conference!

About John: John Cosgrove grew up in Ireland, a country and culture built on a reputation for genuine hospitality and friendliness. After a decade working in hotels and pubs (and pubs in hotels) across his homeland, London, and Cape Town, he landed in Minneapolis in 1999.

- **About John's Session, "The Art & Craft of Hospitality":** This session will break down genuine hospitality into something you can see, hear, and practice.

Register now: Those interested in attending the [2026 Hospitality Conference](#), either as an attendee or exhibitor, are encouraged to [register now](#). We look forward to seeing you at the Hilton Downtown Minneapolis!

[Register Now!](#)

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 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!](#)

Tuesday: Meet Your Robot Boss - August USI Insurance Webinar on AI

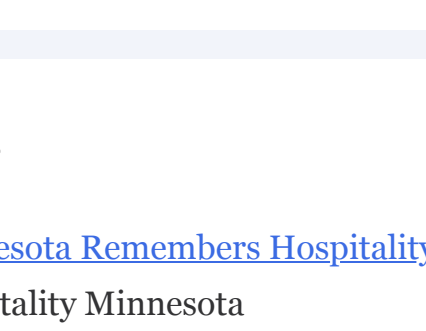


August 11 USI Insurance Webinar: [Artificial Intelligence in the Workplace](#)

Let's talk AI: If newsfeeds can be believed, AI will soon dominate almost every aspect of our lives. And while that may be a bit dramatic, it seems certain that AI is certainly becoming a daily part of the workplace in ways both large and small. Therefore, it is more important than ever for employers to understand the legal implications of leveraging AI.

[Register Now!](#)

Register Now for September's USI Webinar on FMLA Compliance

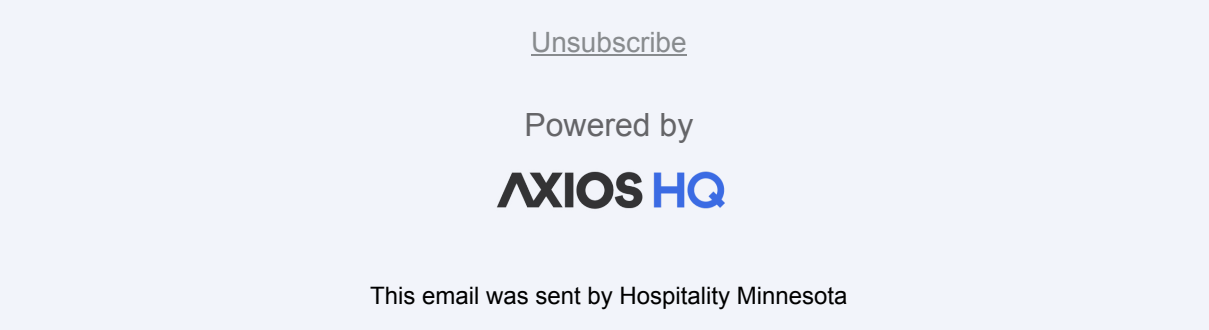


September USI Employer Solution Webinar: [Forgive my Last Absence - Complying with the FMLA](#)

- **Why it matters:** The FMLA provides covered employees with an absolute leave right that doesn't take into consideration employer hardship and the law requires that any time that qualifies be counted as FMLA. However, 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!](#)

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 - August 18](#)
- [St. Cloud - August 18](#)
- [Duluth - August 19](#)
- [Minneapolis - August 19](#)
- [Fairmont - August 20](#)
- [Minneapolis - August 21](#)
- [Mankato - August 24](#)
- [Woodbury - August 25](#)
- [Roseville - August 27](#)
- [Rochester - August 28](#)

[Find a Class Near You!](#)

In the News

- [Hospitality Minnesota Remembers Hospitality Trailblazer Sue Zelickson](#) | Hospitality Minnesota
- [Russia-linked Midnight Blizzard targets hotel Wi-Fi networks in US, Europe](#) | SC Media
- [Hilton Rochester Mayo Clinic Area Earns Hilton's Prestigious 2025 Award of Excellence](#) | Hospitality Minnesota
- [2026 Hospitality Conference Speaker Spotlight: John Cosgrove](#) | Hospitality Minnesota

See you back here next week!

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