



Member Update

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By Tony Burton • Aug 24, 2026

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

In today's August 24, 2026 Update:

- **2026 Hospitality Conference:** [Blois Olson Joins Speaker Line-Up](#)
- **Tuesday at 9 AM:** [Join Us for a Member Briefing/Data Deep Dive](#)
- **Now Accepting Nominations:** [Submit Your Hospitality Trailblazers for our Stars of the Industry Awards](#)
- **September 14 - Hospitality Minnesota Golf Tournament:** [Join Hospitality Leaders at Legends Golf Club in Prior Lake](#)
- **September 8 - USI Insurance Webinar:** [Complying with the FMLA](#)
- **Healthcare Open Enrollment:** [Learn More About Hospitality Minnesota Options](#)
- **ServSafe Offerings:** [Find A Class Near You](#)
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Is your organization interested in sponsorship? [Email us](#) to learn more.

Blois Olson to Talk Fact vs. Fiction at 2026 Hospitality Conference

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT
BLOIS OLSON
FOUNDER OF FLUENCE MEDIA

2026 HOSPITALITY CONFERENCE

New Hospitality Conference speaker alert: We're excited to welcome [Blois Olson](#)—Founder of [Fluence Media](#) and long-time WCCO Radio host—to the [2026 Hospitality Conference this September 27–29 at the Hilton Minneapolis Downtown](#).

- **About Blois:** Often called "Mr. Minnesota" for his uncanny ability to read the state's economic trends and political dynamics, Blois has influenced news across the country for three decades.

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 the September 4 deadline!

Go deeper: Learn more about Blois and his fact vs. fiction session [here](#).

[Register Now!](#)

Join Us Tuesday: Member Briefing on Recent Polling Data

Join us for a data deep dive: On [Tuesday, August 25th, 9 - 9:45 AM](#), [Hospitality Minnesota is hosting a virtual member briefing](#) on recent polling results, how members can use it, and how we will implement the results moving forward.

- **Why it matters:** For many of us, the numbers only cement what we know. For candidates, media, and the public - this data further supports our legislative strategy.

[RSVP to Our Data Webinar](#)

Nominate Your Trailblazers for Stars of the Industry Awards

MINNESOTA HOSPITALITY HALL OF FAME

STARS OF THE INDUSTRY

STARS OF THE INDUSTRY NOMINATION FORM

NOW OPEN

NOMINATE HOSPITALITY TRAILBLAZERS TODAY

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 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.

How to make your nomination count:

- **Highlight quiet excellence:** Some of our strongest nominations are for the unsung heroes who have never been publicly thanked—from housekeeping and dishwashers to night audit and grounds crews.
- **Nominate early and often:** Have more than one standout team member? Multiple nominations across categories and departments are warmly welcomed.
- **Share their story:** Tell us what makes your nominee exceptional, how they support their team, or how they go above and beyond for our industry.

Submit your nomination today and make sure the people who keep our industry moving get the recognition they deserve!

- **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!](#)

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

HOSPITALITY MINNESOTA GOLF TOURNAMENT

LEGENDS GOLF CLUB - PRIOR LAKE | SEPTEMBER 14

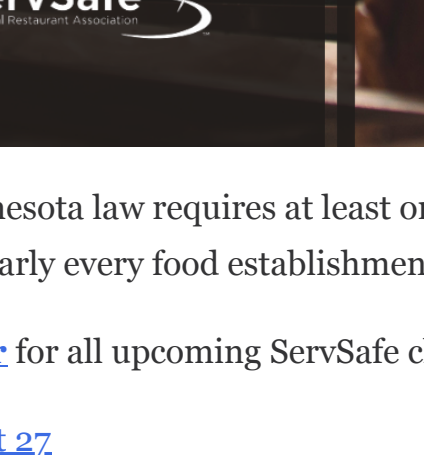
Secure your spot today: Join Minnesota's hospitality leaders at the [2026 Hospitality Minnesota Golf Tournament](#) on September 14 at the [Legends Golf Club](#) in Prior Lake.

- **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 today—spots are almost gone!

[Register Today!](#)

Register Now for September 8'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

Find Your Health Insurance

health markets *Hospitality-Health*

Let's talk health insurance: Open enrollment is approaching, 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

SERVE WITH CERTAINTY:

MINNESOTA SERVSAFE CERTIFICATION CLASSES

NOW AVAILABLE

Hospitality Minnesota **ServSafe**

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!

- [Roseville - August 27](#)
- [Rochester - August 28](#)
- [Bloomington - September 1](#)
- [Fridley - September 1](#)

[Find a Class Near You!](#)

In the News

- [2026 Hospitality Conference Speaker Spotlight - Blois Olson](#) | Hospitality Minnesota
- [December 10, 2026 - City of 10,000 Flavors Culinary Competition](#) | Kelber Catering
- [Happy Joe's Brings the Party to Mendota Heights](#) | Restaurant News
- [Peek inside the historic Alonzo Ward Hotel in Aberdeen](#) | Aberdeen News

See you back here next week!

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