



May 2019

MGGC ELSEWHERE



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## From the Executive Director ...

Dear MGGC members,

Welcome to MainStreet! Thank you for choosing us to be your Association Management Team. As a subsidiary of The Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM) we are able to offer you a full range of member benefits from insurance programs including Health, dental, vision as well as comp, life and disability to HR compliance services including Ask an Expert Hotline, COBRA administration services and ERISA compliance services. Being members of MGGC now give you full SBAM membership and benefits with legislative consulting through MainStreet Legislative Consulting. In this newsletter you will find a full description of your new member benefits.

You can contact me directly by email at [Mainstreet@SBAM.org](mailto:Mainstreet@SBAM.org) with any questions or ideas you may have for the Association.

*Goeff Hansen*

MainStreet Legislative Consulting Services

## Meet our new Executive Director, MainStreet

**President Goeff Hansen**, who brings 30 years of business and 14 years of Legislative experience to the Association.



Goeff comes to us fresh from the 99<sup>th</sup> Legislature as the 34<sup>th</sup> district State Senator and is eager to help us grow and prosper as he settles in to the position. Goeff lives in Oceana county and has a long background with agriculture specialty crops and ag promotion and understands how to help make our brand grow. Goeff spent 30 years in the grocery business, learning it from the bottom up, from bag boy to store owner, he learned about hard work and how to make sure the customer was well served and happy.

Goeff is planning on visiting many of the member greenhouses across the state this year and speaking directly to members to learn of the issues that are important to them.

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### Frequently Asked Questions about the Partnership with SBAM

#### ***What does this mean for me?***

As a member of MGGC, you are now also a member of Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM). These benefits are designed by a small business for small businesses, so that you can all benefit by joining together. You will have all the benefits of a Premium member available to you at no extra cost - a \$229/year value. Visit [www.sbam.org](http://www.sbam.org) for more information.

#### ***Who do I contact?***

Contact [Sherry Bryan](#) and she will get you connected with the right person for your needs. Sherry will be sending out a Welcome Packet in the near future with more information.

## Upcoming Meeting

### Board Meeting – Conference Call

Thursday, May 23

9:00 am



# YOUR MEMBER BENEFITS

## SBAM CONTACT

**SHERRY BRYAN**  
*DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC  
PARTNERSHIPS &  
CERTIFICATION*  
SHERRY.BRYAN@SBAM.ORG  
(517) 267-2210

## PARTNERS IN BENEFITS

THE MICHIGAN GREENHOUSE GROWERS COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE JOINT MEMBERS OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN. WITH THAT MEMBERSHIP COMES THE ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE MEMBER BENEFITS.

## INSURANCE PROGRAMS

- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network health, dental and vision insurance
- TranscendAHP
- Dearborn National Life & Disability Insurance
- Accident Fund Workers' Compensation Coverage
- LifeSecure Accident & Hospital Recovery Coverage

## HR & COMPLIANCE

- Ask An Expert Hotline (Legal & HR Issues) by Bodman Law and the American Society of Employers
- ERISA Compliance Services by Kushner & Co.
- COBRA Administration Services
- Free Summary Plan Description (for members enrolled in an SBAM-sponsored health plan)
- Section 125, HSA, HRA and FSA Administration by Kushner & Co.
- Discounted workplace posters and employee handbooks by ASE

## OPERATIONS

- Talent Development Training Tools by Dale Carnegie
- Discount Tuition at Davenport University
- Discount Office Space at WeWork Detroit
- Information Technology Services by NuWave Technology Partners
- Merchant Services through International Bancard
- SBAM Energy Solutions

## OTHER SERVICES

- FedEx Shipping Discounts
- Office Depot Discounts
- Subscription to Focus Magazine
- Access to online resources
- Subscription to Small Business Weekly and Lansing Watchdog, SBAM's member e-news publications

## AmericanHort Update on Additional 30,000 H-2B Visas

The Departments of Homeland Security and Labor plan to officially release a rule tomorrow that kicks off an application process for an additional 30,000 H-2B visas for fiscal 2019. These visas will be limited to returning workers who received H-2B visas in one or more of the previous three fiscal years (2016, 2017 or 2018).

**Beginning tomorrow, May 8, employers with a valid Department of Labor temporary labor certification for a start date of April 1 can apply directly to the Department of Homeland Security - US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) without re-advertising or going back through the DOL process, provided that their visa petitions are submitted to USCIS before the expiration of their labor certification, which should run through May 14.**

**Employers will also need to submit an attestation form that without H-2B workers, the employer will suffer “irreparable harm” or permanent and severe financial loss.** The attestation form will be available tomorrow from the Department of Labor. It should be posted at this page: <https://www.foreignlaborcert.doleta.gov/form.cfm>. After May 14, employers will need to re-advertise jobs and file a new application for labor certification with DOL.

You can view a pre-publication copy of the rule at: <https://s3.amazonaws.com/public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2019-09500.pdf>.

## Summer Greenhouse Online Courses

### **Heidi Lindberg**

Greenhouse growers that are new to the industry or those that are interested in brushing up on their knowledge can now sign up for the Michigan State University Extension online courses. Sign up now for the summer sessions of three self-paced courses in [Michigan State University Extension Online College of Knowledge](#) greenhouse series: [Greenhouse and Horticultural Lighting](#), [Biological Control for Greenhouse Growers](#) and [Floriculture Root Zone Management](#). This award-winning series serves as an excellent resource for greenhouse growers new to the industry or those who want to learn more about other areas of greenhouse crop production or pest management.

### **Our mailing address is:**

Michigan Greenhouse Growers Council  
120 N Washington Square, Ste 1000  
Lansing, MI 48933-1631