

Karinestova (continued)



Darrell Hovland in the doorway of Karinestova, home of his ancestors, during a 2019 visit to Norway.



Darrell Hovland is flanked by wife Linda and sister Arlyss Bergrud in front of Karinestova.



Darrell and Linda Hovland, Arlyss Bergrud, and Norwegian relatives in front of Karinestova.

(continued from page B1)
planted a huge, beautiful grove of trees on the west and north side of his yard. Great wind protection. Martin was married to Ida Nelson and they had nine children. Martin died on March 26, 1929. Ida died Sept. 6, 1955. Their son LuAllen took over the farm and lived there until his death. The big house and farmstead are still there in great shape and are owned and lived in now by Ron and Lori Keller.

Anton Hovland was the next brother to immigrate to America. His trip over was a little different as he first went to Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1894, then to North Dakota the same year. He worked on various farms until 1903 when he homesteaded in Fram Township, three miles east of Wellsburg on the hill above the Sheyenne River. This farm is 111 years old. He built a big house exactly like Martin's and a huge farmstead with a large grove of trees on the south, west and north sides. Anton never married and died on June 7, 1950. After Anton's death, his nephew Norris Hovland acquired the farm and the house and farmstead are still in great shape and are lived on.

The next brother to immigrate to America was my grandfather, Severin Hovland. He was 17 years old and went through Ellis Island, then to Stony Brook Township to work for his future father-in-law, Nils Vigen. Severin married Nils's daughter Clara on Nov. 23, 1905. She is my grandmother. The newlyweds then left Stony Brook Township and homesteaded on a farm in East Fork Township, Benson County, and lived there until

1909 when they built a large farmstead in Fram Township, Wells County, a few feet from the Benson County line. This is the farm I grew up on. He, too, planted lots of trees and there was a huge grove of them on the north, west and south side of the yard. And there was a huge barn. The house was small, but larger than the one he grew up in, in Norway.

Severin and Clara had eight kids, one of them being my dad, Elmer. Severin died on July 10, 1960 and Clara died on Feb. 8, 1941. My dad, Elmer, lived on this farm and farmed it all his life except for the years he served our country in World War II. The farmstead is still there and in great shape. The house was expanded in 1959 and then again in the 80s. The big beautiful barn blew down in a windstorm several years ago. There are still people living on the farm.

A little Hovland family trivia info: Severin and his dad Johannes both had birthdays on August 16. My son Kelsey and I share birthdays on August 9. A wonderful coincidence.

I believe the brothers Reinert, Matt and Christ all immigrated to America together or in the same timeframe. They entered through Ellis Island, more than likely went to Stony Brook Township, then to Plentywood, Mont., but I don't know the year.

Reinert and Christ lived together, and Matt lived a quarter-mile away. They shared the same well. Reinert and Christ never married but Matt did and I believe his heirs still live on the land.

The brother who stayed in

Norway, Johannes, was much younger than his older brothers and didn't know them very well. John and Martin came to America a year before Johannes was even born!

So in 1950 his brothers treated him to a trip to the USA. He took a ship to New York and from there went to Chicago where he met several of his brothers. Johannes was in America visiting for six months.

There are hundreds of stories throughout North Dakota like the Hovland brothers' story. People who came here on the dream of a better life. The Scandinavians who settled the east side of the state and the Germans, Russians, Polish and other Europeans who settled the west side. All of them came here to become Americans. They worked hard, adapted, persevered, and relied not only on themselves but each other to

achieve their dreams. And they were successful! They not only made a better life for themselves but also for their descendants. I know my life is better because of the accomplishments and the foundations set forth by my grandparents.

Sources for this story are the Bemlo Museum Newsletter 2008, *The History of Stony Brook Township* by Louis O. Foss, and Hovland family records.

Donate to Fillmore Cemetery

Fillmore Lutheran Cemetery is seeking donations or memorials to cover upkeep expenses. Send them to Joel Braaten, treasurer, 628 6th St. SE, Rugby, ND 58368.

Celebrate the contributions of people of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage

The population of North America has been richly influenced by individuals from various countries who have emigrated and ultimately called both the United States and Canada home. The estimated number of Asian alone or in combination residents in the United States in 2021 was 24 million, according to the US Census Bureau. Statistics Canada says more than seven million residents of Canada report having Asian origins.

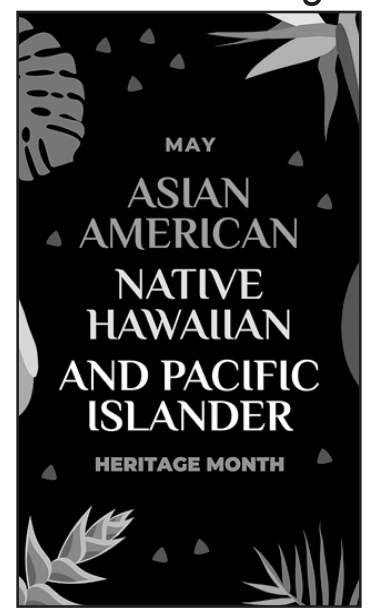
In 1992, the US Congress established May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in commemoration of two different events: the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants in May 1843 and the pivotal role Chinese workers played in building the transcontinental railroad, which was completed on May 10, 1869. There have been many notable individuals who can trace their heritage to Asia or Pacific Island nations. These people have made various contributions to the country and world. Here's a look at a few such individuals.

Lue Gim Gong: Lue Gim Gong was a horticulturalist who learned pollination techniques from his mother during his childhood in China. As an adult in the U.S., Gim Gong used those techniques to breed many valuable varieties of fruits. He earned the nickname "The Citrus Wizard," and it is believed the Florida citrus industry owes a lot to Gim Gong since he focused on cultivating plants that were resistant to early Florida frosts.

Louis Lee: Lee was a waiter working in Portland, Oregon when World War II began. However, the war brought new opportunities, and he segued into becoming a staff photographer for the Kaiser Shipbuilding Company, where he documented special events and daily work at the shipyards. His works document a fascinating time in the country's shipbuilding history.

Tony Hsieh: A Taiwanese American internet entrepreneur and venture capitalist, Hsieh is perhaps most famous for serving as the CEO for the online shoe website Zappos for 21 years. Before working with Zappos, Hsieh founded an advertising network that he sold to Microsoft for \$265 million.

Cristeta Comerford: Comerford began serving in the



White House as a sous chef during President Clinton's tenure. She was appointed executive chef by First Lady Laura Bush in 2005. As a Filipino American, Comerford became the first Asian American White House Executive Chef, as well as the first minority and first woman ever to serve in the position.

Katherine Sui Fun Cheung: Cheung came to the US from China intending to pursue a career in music, but she fell in love with aviation. She worked toward obtaining a pilot's license, which she eventually earned, becoming the first Chinese woman to be granted one in the United States. She was inducted into the Aviation Hall of Fame for her long career of doing tricks like barrel rolls, dives, loops, and even flying upside down.

Philip Vera Cruz: Vera Cruz, who was of Filipino heritage, was a labor organizer and farm worker. He was integral in founding the United Farm Workers Union, and is best known for his role in the Delano Farmworkers strike and boycott.

Celeste Ng: A Chinese American author, Ng explored the complex concepts of race and gender in a Chinese American family in her debut novel "Everything I Never Told You." Her second novel became a Hulu miniseries, and Ng remains one of the world's bestselling authors.

-metrocreativeconnection

Lebanon donations

Lebanon cemetery donations may be sent in care of Steve Stevenson, 2312 13th Ave. SW, Devils Lake, ND 58301.

63258
ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
of the
Federated Life Insurance Company
In the state of Minnesota
Total Assets 2,717,568,408
Total Liabilities 2,066,547,267
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds 2,587,600
Common Capital Stock 4,000,000
Preferred Capital Stock 0
Aggregate write-ins for other than special surplus funds 0
Surplus notes 0
Gross paid in and contributed surplus 4,000,000
Unassigned funds 640,433,541
Total capital and surplus 651,021,141
Total Liabilities, Capital and Surplus 2,717,568,408
NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2023
Total Life and Annuity Premiums Written 1,715,605
Total Life and Annuity Direct Losses Paid 277,347
Total Accident & Health Direct Premiums Written 1,973,350
Total Accident & Health Direct Losses Paid 277,347
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
I, Jon Godfread, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true Abstract of Statement, as officially filed by the Company in this office.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of this office at Bismarck, the first day of May, A.D. 2024. (SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY
WHEREAS, the above corporation duly organized under the laws of its state or country of domicile, has filed in this office a sworn statement exhibiting its condition and business for the year ending December 31, 2023 conformable to the requirements of the laws of this State regarding the business of insurance and
WHEREAS, the said company has filed in this office a duly certified copy of its charter with certificate of organization in compliance with the requirements of insurance law aforesaid,
NOW THEREFORE, I, JON GODFREAD, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named company is fully empowered through its authorized agents and representatives, to transact its appropriated business of authorized insurance in the state according to the laws thereof, until the 30th day of April, A.D. 2025.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Bismarck this first day of May, A.D., 2024. (SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
(Publish May 2, 9 & 16, 2024)

63290
ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
of the
Fidelity Life Association,
A Legal Reserve Company
In the state of Illinois
Total Assets 421,445,826
Total Liabilities 327,096,535
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds 0
Common Capital Stock 2,500,000
Preferred Capital Stock 0
Aggregate write-ins for other than special surplus funds 0
Surplus notes 0
Gross paid in and contributed surplus 550,000
Unassigned funds 91,299,291
Total capital and surplus 94,349,291
Total Liabilities, Capital and Surplus 421,445,826
NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2023
Total Life and Annuity Premiums Written 479,000
Total Life and Annuity Direct Losses Paid 21,899
Total Accident & Health Direct Premiums Written 1,410
Total Accident & Health Direct Losses Paid 0
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
I, Jon Godfread, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true Abstract of Statement, as officially filed by the Company in this office.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of this office at Bismarck, the first day of May, A.D. 2024. (SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY
WHEREAS, the above corporation duly organized under the laws of its state or country of domicile, has filed in this office a sworn statement exhibiting its condition and business for the year ending December 31, 2023 conformable to the requirements of the laws of this State regarding the business of insurance and
WHEREAS, the said company has filed in this office a duly certified copy of its charter with certificate of organization in compliance with the requirements of insurance law aforesaid,
NOW THEREFORE, I, JON GODFREAD, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named company is fully empowered through its authorized agents and representatives, to transact its appropriated business of authorized insurance in the state according to the laws thereof, until the 30th day of April, A.D. 2025.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Bismarck this first day of May, A.D., 2024. (SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
(Publish May 2, 9 & 16, 2024)

63657
ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
of the
Garden State Life Insurance Company
In the state of Texas
Total Assets 144,350,696
Total Liabilities 88,421,820
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds 0
Common Capital Stock 3,000,000
Preferred Capital Stock 0
Aggregate write-ins for other than special surplus funds 0
Surplus notes 0
Gross paid in and contributed surplus 41,152,500
Unassigned funds 11,776,376
Total capital and surplus 23,475,678
Total Liabilities, Capital and Surplus 65,964,832
NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2023
Total Life and Annuity Premiums Written 23,790
Total Life and Annuity Direct Losses Paid 0
Total Accident & Health Direct Premiums Written 173
Total Accident & Health Direct Losses Paid 11,936
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
I, Jon Godfread, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true Abstract of Statement, as officially filed by the Company in this office.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of this office at Bismarck, the first day of May, A.D. 2024. (SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY
WHEREAS, the above corporation duly organized under the laws of its state or country of domicile, has filed in this office a sworn statement exhibiting its condition and business for the year ending December 31, 2023 conformable to the requirements of the laws of this State regarding the business of insurance and
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NOW THEREFORE, I, JON GODFREAD, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named company is fully empowered through its authorized agents and representatives, to transact its appropriated business of authorized insurance in the state according to the laws thereof, until the 30th day of April, A.D. 2025.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Bismarck this first day of May, A.D., 2024. (SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
(Publish May 2, 9 & 16, 2024)

63967
ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
of the
Government Personnel Mutual Life Insurance Company
In the state of Texas
Total Assets 773,649,914
Total Liabilities 692,464,764
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds 400,000
Common Capital Stock 0
Preferred Capital Stock 0
Aggregate write-ins for other than special surplus funds 0
Surplus notes 0
Gross paid in and contributed surplus 0
Unassigned funds 80,785,150
Total capital and surplus 81,185,150
Total Liabilities, Capital and Surplus 773,649,914
NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2023
Total Life and Annuity Premiums Written 69,106
Total Life and Annuity Direct Losses Paid 0
Total Accident & Health Direct Premiums Written 11,436
Total Accident & Health Direct Losses Paid 0
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
I, Jon Godfread, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true Abstract of Statement, as officially filed by the Company in this office.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of this office at Bismarck, the first day of May, A.D. 2024. (SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY
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IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Bismarck this first day of May, A.D., 2024. (SEAL)
JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
(Publish May 2, 9 & 16, 2024)

64149
ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
of the
Epic Life Insurance Company (The)
In the state of Wisconsin
Total Assets 23,350,477
Total Liabilities 5,840,018
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds 0
Common Capital Stock 2,000,000
Preferred Capital Stock 0
Aggregate write-ins for other than special surplus funds 0
Surplus notes 0
Gross paid in and contributed surplus 11,000,000
Unassigned funds 4,510,458
Total capital and surplus 17,510,458
Total Liabilities, Capital and Surplus 23,350,476
NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2023
Total Life and Annuity Premiums Written 0
Total Life and Annuity Direct Losses Paid 0
Total Accident & Health Direct Premiums Written 2,746
Total Accident & Health Direct Losses Paid 0
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
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JON GODFREAD
Commissioner of Insurance
(Publish May 2, 9 & 16, 2024)

64696
ABSTRACT OF STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
of the
First Continental Life & Accident Insurance Company
In the state of Texas
Total Assets 12,546,780
Total Liabilities 2,467,148
Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds 0
Common Capital Stock 1,100,000
Preferred Capital Stock 0
Aggregate write-ins for other than special surplus funds 0
Surplus notes 0
Gross paid in and contributed surplus 4,439,489
Unassigned funds 4,540,143
Total capital and surplus 10,079,632
Total Liabilities, Capital and Surplus 12,546,780
NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS ONLY FOR THE YEAR 2023
ACCIDENT AND HEALTH
Total Premiums Earned 852
Total Amount Incurred 0
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
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