

Teachers

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those vacancies, according to Mary Stadick Smith, a spokeswoman for the department.

The state Board of Regents central office compiles an annual report on the teacher-preparation programs at the five state-supported universities that offer teaching degrees. Since 2008 they have expanded emphasis on high-need subject areas.

The four traditional areas of need — math, science, special education and speech — now also include art, career and technical education, English as a new language, health, music, physical education, social science, language arts and world languages.

The universities also are trying to fit more teachers with rural districts. The 2013 report noted, "(S)ome rural districts are, in fact, unable to attract qualified applicants for any teaching position."

The most recent data collected by the regents show elementary education was the largest area of interest system-wide with 495 students, followed by early childhood education with 282. Special education ranked No. 3 with 181.

Only two other areas — history with 112 and physical education with 103 — had 100 or more students enrolled.

The resolution, HCR 1002, points out that teacher salaries are higher in neighboring states and some teachers leave South Dakota for those jobs.

The resolution also argues that "fewer and fewer" college students are seeking education degrees with plans to enter the teaching profession.

The resolution is offered by the interim education funding formula study committee. Its 15 members voted 10-4 to support the resolution. Its prime sponsor is Rep. Jacqueline Sly, R-Rapid City. She is a retired teacher and is chairwoman of the House Education Committee.

Ketterings

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Services of America at the end of 2013, and Pam retired as executive director of United Way in 2012. With more free time ahead of them, the two said they have made travel plans, but they don't anticipate a life of total leisure.

"We're still getting adjusted to the idea (of retirement)," Pam said.

Don said he will seek a job.

"I want to stay involved," he stated. "I don't want to fully retire. I just don't want to go to work all the time."

The couple was married more than 47 years ago. They have two children, Lance and Heather, and five granddaughters.

"We grew up two miles apart and went to the same church," Pam said. "Our folks are both farmers. We've always been involved and worked. It's part of that heritage."

Seeing Pam drive a tractor in a halter top during their early years got Don's attention, he jokes.

Both would end up attending what is now Northern State University.

At the conclusion of Don's military service, he interviewed with Farm Credit Services of America in Yankton and got the job.

"We were only going to be here five years, because we hadn't really settled," Pam

recalls. "Now, it's 38 years later."

Don said Yankton has been a great place to live.

"We're blessed to be here," he stated.

During her years with United Way, Pam said she was often asked how many volunteers there are in Yankton.

"You can't count them, because they're on top of each other doing five or 10 things at a time," she stated. "Once you get involved, it's like a web. You just get more and more involved."

"We thought there were lots of needs in our community over the years, and we've tried to do our best to react to those needs."

DON KETTERING

"There are wonderful people here," Pam added. "I suppose there are in other communities, too, but there is a lot of work that gets done."

The couple said their first community involvement came through their church, and it went from there. In those early years, Don became a part of the Lewis and Clark Behavioral Health board and Pam joined the Contact Center board.

"If you want to get involved, this is a great town," Don said. "It's easy to get involved."

They said they have had good role models throughout their lives who have reinforced the importance of community involvement.

"(Our parents) taught us we have responsibilities to country, community and church," Don said.

Marian Gunderson, who spent 34 years on the South Dakota State Water Manage-

ment Board and volunteered for various area efforts, had an important influence on Pam.

"She is a good friend of mine, and she has been a terrific role model for me," she said. "She's had a lot of wisdom to share, and I appreciate her involvement."

Don believes that individuals have to give to get, and the more they give, the more they get — community involvement is its own reward.

"We thought there were lots of needs in our community over the years, and we've

tried to do our best to react to those needs," he said.

A reception for the Ketterings will be announced at a future date.

Sponsors of the 2013 Citizen of the Year Award include: Yankton Elks, Yankton Rotary, Yankton Kiwanis Club, Federated Women's Club, Yankton VFW Post 791, Association of Retired Teachers, Lewis & Clark Shrine Club, Yankton College, Yankton Catholic Development, Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health Sciences, Yankton Area Mental Wellness, Knights Of Columbus, Interchange, Inc., Women Of The Moose, The Center, American Legion Auxiliary, the Yankton County Historical Society, VFW Auxiliary, Morning Optimists and the *Yankton Press & Dakotan*.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/.

Fire

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and sweep the premises, said Assistant Minneapolis Fire Chief Cherie Penn.

Penn said 14 people were taken to hospitals, and six were considered to be critically hurt.

Ten victims, including three in critical condition, were taken to Hennepin County Medical Center suffering from burns, broken bones or both, hospital spokeswoman Christine Hill said.

Penn said victims also were taken to Fairview University hospital, where a spokeswoman said she couldn't release any information.

Officials said it wasn't immediately clear what caused the fire. CenterPoint Energy spokeswoman Becca Virden said there were no natural gas leaks in the area.

Plumes of thick, whitish-gray smoke could be seen rising from the building Wednesday morning, which has a grocery store on the ground floor and two levels of apartments above it. Flames could be seen through third-story windows, and the frigid air was filled with the acrid smell of smoke.

Abdikadir Mohamed, whose uncle owns the grocery store, watched the scene in silence, struggling to put his thoughts into words.

"This is bad," he said.

Firefighting efforts were hampered by the cold weather. As firefighters aimed their hoses at the flames, water gushed from windows and doorways, forming icicles on window frames and leaving the street slick and icy.

The facade of the building and trees out front were also

coated with a layer of ice.

Ball said the frosty conditions were creating an additional set of hazards for the 55 firefighters on the scene.

"While heat-related illnesses are common for firefighters, now you combine that with the rapid onset of frostbite or hypothermia when they come out and they're wet and exposed to bitter cold temperatures," he said.

Minneapolis Fire Chief John Fruetel said the fire was essentially out by late Wednesday afternoon. He said none of the fire crew members was hurt, saying they did a great job under "extreme conditions."

Abdi Warsame, a Minneapolis City Councilman-elect for the area, said the victims were members of the city's large Somali community. He called on other residents to come together to support the victims.

Outgoing Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak told reporters he was "deeply concerned" about the fire.

"I'm also deeply grateful for the firefighters and other crews who came out here and kept it from getting worse," he said.

A mosque that is next door to the gutted building appeared to escape any obvious structural damage. Abdisalam Adam, the imam at Islamic Civic Society of America & Masjid Dar Al-Hijrah, watched the firefighting efforts and said he was praying for those affected by the fire.

"It's devastating and very sad," he said.

The Minnesota chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations said it was monitoring the fire in case the mosque was targeted, said MN-CAIR board member Zuhar Ahmed.

Award

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- safety measures;
- teamwork;
- knowledge and implementation of the specifications of the project;
- up-to-date with erosion control measures and documentation; and
- timeliness of review response.

Peterson said that, while the Yankton Area office treats all the criteria as equally im-

portant, it is particularly adept in contract relations.

"Our folks are really good at dealing with the contractor," he said. "The have good people skills, good organizational skills and are very good at dealing with the day-to-day operations of our construction projects."

The Yankton Area office's territory includes Yankton, Clay and Union counties, as well as parts of Lincoln, Turner, Hutchinson, Bon Homme and Charles Mix counties.

The office completes between 20 and 30 projects of

various sizes each year, Peterson said. Notable projects in 2013 include construction along Interstate 29 and Highway 50, asphalt work on Highway 44 near Parkston and work on the bridge over the Vermillion River near

Davis, he said.

Peterson added that he believes the list of projects completed by his office, as well as its latest recognition, is impressive given the size of the staff.

"What we lack in quantity,

we make up for in quality," he said.

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