Quotable: Ryan Boblett '00

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'03, are living and working in Greenville. Anne Marie is an attorney in the Upstate and also a USAF Reserve Judge Advocate General, and has been selected for promotion to the rank of major. Eugene earned his doctor of dental medicine degree in May and is a general dentist with Greer (SC) Dental Care.

Brian W. Ticknor has become an R&D staff scientist in the chemical sciences division of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and lives in Knoxville, TN.

Andrew Valkanoff is among those winners earning a place on the Triangle Business Journal’s 2014 class of 40 Under 40 Leadership Awards, which recognizes outstanding professionals for their contributions to their organizations and the community.

Yendeela Neely Anderson of Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton law firm in Atlanta has been selected as a member of the 2014 class of fellows to participate in a landmark program created by the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity to identify and advance the next generation of leaders in the legal profession.

Monica Bell is a Climenko fellow and lecturer on law at Harvard Law School, where she will teach legal research and writing from 2014-2016. She is also working toward a PhD in sociology and social policy at Harvard, writing criminal law, family law, and social welfare policy.

Colleen Carson became a partner in the Florida trusts and estates law firm of Baskin Fleece on January 1. She has been practicing at the firm in the areas of estate planning.

corporate law, probate and trust administration, and guardianship administration since 2007. In February, she joined the board for Lighthouse of Pinellas, a non-profit organization providing rehabilitation and training to blind and visually impaired individuals with the county. She is a trustee for the Clearwater Bar Foundation.

Nathan Hanna received the director’s choice award at the BenefiFocus Engineering Summit held in Charleston, SC, last fall. Hanna joined BenefiFocus in 2011 as a senior interaction engineer and currently holds the position of user experience (UX) engineering manager. BenefiFocus is a leading provider of cloud-based benefits software solutions for consumers, employers, insurance carriers, and brokers.

Amy Schiera, assistant vice president of operations/administration at SANDLAPPER Securities was among those selected for “2013 Best and Brightest: 35 and Under” awards from Greenville Business Magazine and Southern First Bank. At SANDLAPPER she serves as the head of investor processing and service operations, and provides oversight of the investment fund operations for affiliate Sandlapper Capital Investments, LLC.

Natalie The received a $2.6 million, four-year grant from the National Institutes of Health to advance research in diabetes among children and young adults. The project, SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth, is the largest study of youth with diabetes in the United States and is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National

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“I found my love for design during my last quarter at Furman in a .5-hour elective class called ‘Introduction to the Macintosh.’ I looked forward to that class every week, sitting at the computer and creating. After a few weeks, my professor (Ross McClain) gave me his keys so I could come back after hours and work at night. I couldn’t get enough. He saw my passion and told me to check out the Portfolio Center, a finishing school for design, where I went for two years after Furman. I never got to thank Ross for changing the course of my life. So, Ross, if you’re reading this, thank you. Your guidance opened the door to a new career. You also unknowingly introduced me to my future wife, whom I met at Portfolio Center. Our two kids thank you.”

Ryan Boblett ’00 is art director at FITZCO, an advertising agency, where he is currently developing the new campaign for Coke Zero and ESPN College Gameday. At his previous agency, Boblett helped create the campaign for the 2013 NFL sponsorship for McDonald’s®. The campaign produced three national TV spots, which aired throughout the NFL season—including in the Super Bowl.