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# Vote for Democracy! Dorothy Piquado for State Representative



- I will fight for **affordable healthcare** for ALL NH citizens!
- I will work tirelessly for a **solution to the opioid crisis.**
- I will fight to **uphold voter rights.**
- I will **STRENGTHEN** our public schools, NOT weaken them!
- I will **promote economic development** in Belknap County.

Contact: dorothypiquado@gmail.com

Paid for by Dorothy Piquado for NH State Representative Fiscal Agent John Piquado



Donald Blajda opened KOAL, an architecture, planning and design firm, in 2015, and earlier this year he opened an office in Gilford. (Adam Drapcho/The Laconia Daily Sun)

## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Picture yourself running an architecture firm in Gilford

By ADAM DRAPCHO  
THE LACONIA DAILY SUN

There are a few ways to become a board-certified architect in New Hampshire. The most common is to attend a four- or five-year program at an architecture school, work for a few years, then take the certification exam. But that wasn't a feasible option for Don Blajda. He needed a more affordable path, and one which could keep him closer to his parents, so he went to work.

In New Hampshire, it's possible to become certified as an architect without any degree, as long as a candidate has 13 years of experience and can pass the certification board's wide-ranging test. Blajda passed on his first try.

Blajda was born in Manchester, grew up in Gilmanston and then went to NHTI, where he earned his associate's degree in architectural engineering. Then he went to work, and spent the next 13 years as a project manager at the Department of Transportation.

"That was the perfect place to be," Blajda said. "I

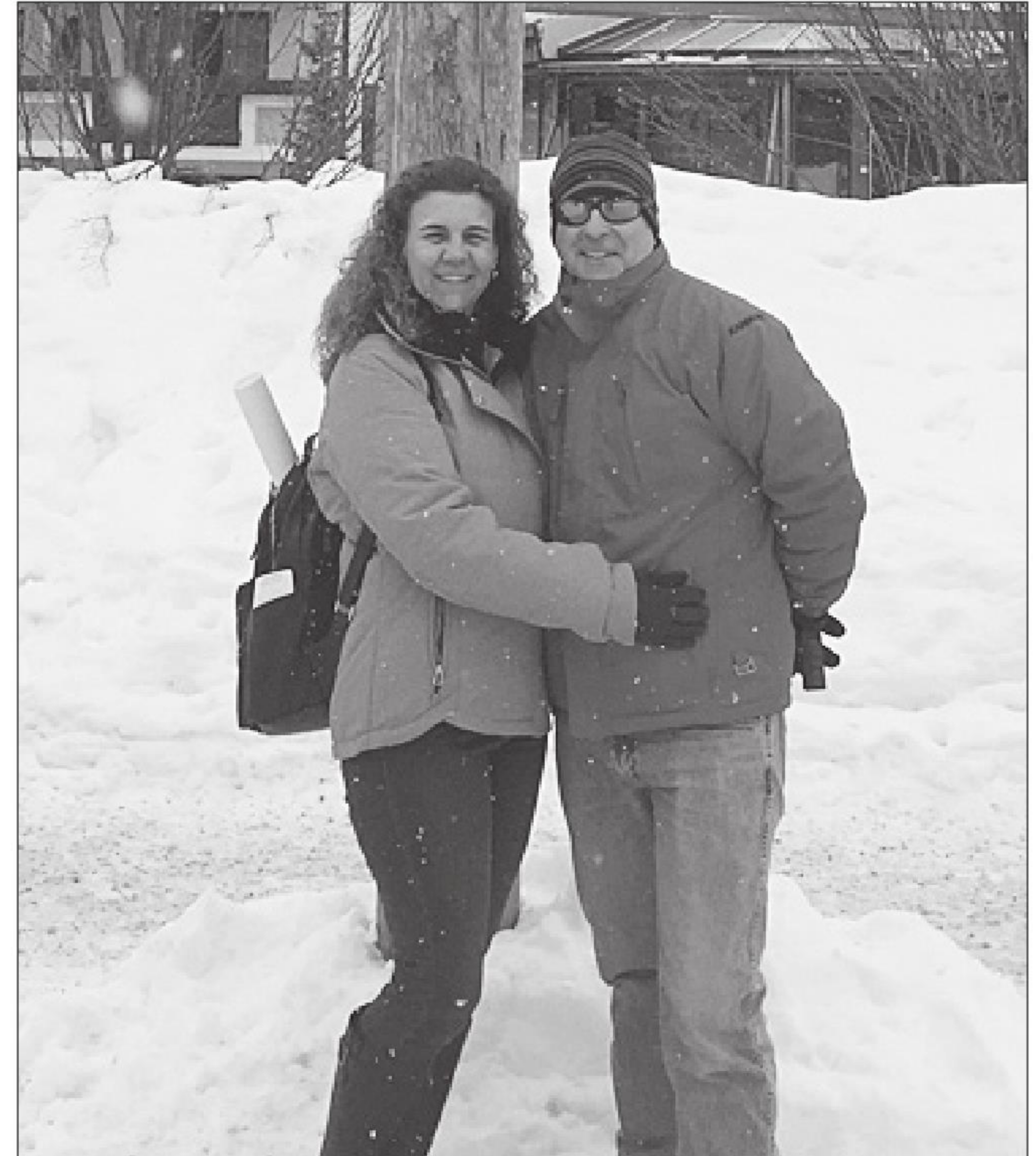
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was exposed to a diverse amount of projects," he said. "We had everything from smaller projects to huge multi-million dollar projects,"

he said. Some of those projects required some creative problem solving, such as replacing the roof and windows at the observatory atop Mount Washington, which famously has the worst

weather in the world. "It was a significant amount of research that went into making that project successful," he said.

In 2000, when he had enough work experience, Blajda earned his



Don and Michele Blajda on a skiing vacation in Austria. (Courtesy photo)

certification from the state. He took that certification to the private sector, working as a senior project architect for Opechee Construction Corporation, and in 2015 he launched his own firm, KOAL (Client-oriented, architect-led).

Blajda operated KOAL out of his Canterbury home while he got his firm going, then in March of this year he moved into an office building on Gilford East Drive. His growing firm has also hired a full-time project designer and an office administrator.

Living in Canterbury, he could have easily located his firm in Concord or Manchester. Blajda said the Lakes Region made more sense, though.

"This particular office space is very affordable, it's a nice area," he said. "The scenic drive, coming down the bypass is far better than driving into Concord."

There's also a good business decision. Blajda sees KOAL designing or renovating large residential

### LIVE-WORK-PLAY

in the LAKES REGION

properties, such as those around Lake Winnepesaukee. He also sees a burgeoning market for "age-in-place" additions, which will allow residents the ability to remain in their homes even as their mobility decreases.

"We are hoping to target both residential high-end and commercial. Commercial is really my forté," he said. "I like doing the age-in-place because it requires some expertise that other architects wouldn't have."

KOAL is currently working on a proposed 50-room hotel and function hall in Twin Mountain, has designed a home on Belknap Point Road and an age-in-place addition in Epsom. He is also working on two proposed buildings

for state agencies.

Blajda and his wife, Michele – the two were high school sweethearts – raised two children in Canterbury. When he's not working, he takes advantage of what the Lakes Region has to offer. They ski in the winter, and in the warmer months they boat, water ski, hike and kayak. "Really all outdoors stuff, which is why I live out here."

And working near his home offers an important perk. His house is 50 feet away from the home he grew up in, and where his mother still lives.

"A big part of it for me is my mom, who is 86 years old. I take her out to lunch every Wednesday. If I was traveling to Boston or someplace else, I couldn't do that. And that's important."

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
JUDICIAL BRANCH  
NH CIRCUIT COURT

6th Circuit - Family Division - Hooksett  
101 Merrimack Street  
Hooksett, NH 03106

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CITATION FOR PUBLICATION - MARITAL

Case Name: In the Matter of Francis Dumont and Sondra Dumont  
Case Number: 647-2018-DM-00107

On August 14, 2018, Francis Mark Dumont of Manchester, NH filed in this Court a Petition for Divorce with requests concerning:

The original pleading is available for inspection at the office of the Clerk at the above Family Division location.

UNTIL FURTHER ORDER OF THE COURT, EACH PARTY IS RESTRAINED FROM SELLING, TRANSFERRING, ENCUMBERING, HYPOTHECATING, CONCEALING OR IN ANY MANNER WHATSOEVER DISPOSING OF ANY PROPERTY, REAL OR PERSONAL, BELONGING TO EITHER OR BOTH PARTIES EXCEPT (1) BY WRITTEN AGREEMENT OF BOTH PARTIES, OR (2) FOR REASONABLE AND NECESSARY LIVING EXPENSES OR (3) IN THE ORDINARY AND USUAL CAUSE OF BUSINESS.

The Court has entered the following Order(s):

Sondra Lee Dumont shall file a written Appearance Form with the Clerk of the Family Division at the above location on or before **December 17, 2018** or be found in DEFAULT. **Sondra Lee Dumont** shall also file by **December 17, 2018** a Response to the Petition and by **December 17, 2018** deliver a copy to the Petitioner's Attorney or the Petitioner, if unrepresented. Failure to do so will result in issuance of Orders in this matter, which may affect you without your input.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT  
*Nancy E. Ringland*  
Nancy E. Ringland, Clerk of Court

October 16, 2018

(647292)  
NHJL-2281-F (07/01/2015)

PAID POLITICAL AD

## RE-ELECT JOE KENNEY

for  
Executive Councilor District 1  
Tuesday, November 6th

**Priorities**

- Continue to Fight Opioid Crisis
- Constituent Service
- Community College System to create job training opportunities to develop our new workforce
- Support our Travel and Tourism Industry
- Reduce business regulation to assist small businesses
- Work with state and local officials on the development of "Old State Property" and Colonial Theatre

**Accomplishments**

- Supported override of SB 365 for the BIOMASS Industry
- Supported the creation of the Lakeshore Redevelopment Planning Commission
- Voted on funding for Hub and Spoke Model for Drug Treatment
- Voted for over \$30 million for School Safety/ Security Infrastructure Grants statewide
- Voted to support Rural Community Health Centers funding
- Voted to accept Additional Funding for roads and bridges

*I ask for your vote.*  
**Sincerely, Joe Kenney**

Paid for by the Friends of Joe Kenney, PO Box 201, Union, NH 03887

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