Making Knoxville better

By Sandra Clark

You’d think Sandy Lay was running for office. But the West Knox-based contractor with a degree in architecture says he’s about making Knox County a “better place to raise families and educate our kids.” Best known as a construction manager, Lay also advocates political positions most strongly to get the Public Building Authority exited and a new school for Carter Elementary.

“Neither was popular when I started the initiatives, but both issues became popular,” he says. “I am not getting any financial benefit out of either campaign and didn’t even ask for a proposal on it because I didn’t want to reap financial gain from my public support of it.”

“I have probably lost business trying to keep PBA, which is why others haven’t done it before me. That said, I am optimistic that the audit will expose waste, if correct, will correct it. I have a tax increase for several years to balance the budget despite our debt. Lay’s next campaign will be to ‘attack the costs of school construction.’ He says. “While I am a supporter of the new Carter school, it is costing too much money to build it. There are better ways.”

Those “better ways” are construction management and design build, he says, and he has quotes from area architects to back his claims.

Sandy Lay may not be building local schools yet (although he has built award-winning schools in other districts), but he can advise residents on how best to use their construction projects. Details are below.

Sandy Lay takes a very professional and personal approach to construction and follows through on the commitments he makes. He is very conscious of his client’s budgets and works hard to meet or exceed expectations without sacrificing quality. I would encourage anyone who is thinking about building to consider Sandy Lay and Construction Plus.

— Stacy Cox, Vice President, Studio Four Design, Inc.

ARCHITECT REVIEW

Sandy Loy is one of the most accomplished professionals in the East Tennessee building industry. His background combines the design and construction expertise that few individuals possess in this competitive field. He is creative in developing multiple approaches to the problems that the typical construction project presents. Most importantly, his direct involvement in the entire process will ensure a good product.

— Danny Brewer, Partner, Brewer, Ingram & Fuller Architects

CLIENT REVIEW

Sandy brings high energy, a sense of great confidence and strong professionalism to every project. He is committed to not only constructing high quality facilities but to developing long-standing relationships with each and every client.

— Russ Watkins, President, Partners Development

ARCHITECT REVIEW

I have known Sandy both personally and professionally. I can honestly say that he is one of the most intelligent people I have ever met. He is also one of the most hard-working and honest men I know. These are the reasons I asked him to build my house, and now I live in a structure that is so well built, I was not worried at all with the recent severe storms we had. The quality of the construction and the solidity of the foundation is unparallel. The best part of my experience was the fact that he delivered on everything he promised. We got first-rate quality, an excellent price and the project was finished ahead of its projected schedule. I highly recommend Sandy and Construction Plus for any construction project, commercial or residential.

— Dr. Thomas Haskins III

ARCHITECT REVIEW

Construction Plus, Inc. functioned as our construction manager for an outpatient medical facility in Ingolwood, TN. Sandy and his team were great. They worked well with our staff, architects and sub-contractors to build a high-quality building at a reasonable cost. It is unfortunate that Linked-In only allows me to choose THREE attributes to describe them because all fit. In addition to the value received by this experienced and personable team, we got great, timely results and COP’s integrity and creativity were never in question. I highly recommend COP.

— Jeffrey Howard, CFO, Cherokee Health Systems

ARCHITECT REVIEW

Cherokee Health Systems asked us to help them in the selection of a contractor for their new rural office building. The selection process yielded a number of highly qualified and qualified contractors. Construction Plus impressed Cherokee Health Systems strongly on a professional level and even more so on a personal level. The executives of CMS felt a connection and trust with those from Construction Plus seated across the table, understanding that those same people were the ones who would actually deliver their new facility. Turned out their instincts were right. Throughout all the challenges and difficulties typical of a construction project, the trust and chemistry between us as the designers, the owners and Sandy and his team were the essential elements to a very successful project delivery. We welcome the opportunity to build together again, both a facility and our relationship.

— David L. Cockrell, AIA, President, Cockrell Design & Planning

ARCHITECT REVIEW

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ARCHITECT REVIEW

Community Tectonics Architects has won with Sandy’s company, Construction Plus, on a number of projects. These projects varied in size from a residence to multiple large school projects. We have worked together in design-build and construction management types of project delivery. Sandy is innovative and has new methodologies which have been successful and saved our clients money.

— Bill Vinson, President, Community Tectonics Architects, Inc.

ARCHITECT REVIEW

I have known Sandy for decades. He never fails to exceed expectations, and makes the construction process flow smoothly and professionally. Building with Sandy is an enjoyable experience that makes you want to come back and do it again and again.

— Tom Wortham, Architect, VP Hollingsworth Companies

CLIENT REVIEW

If you want a job completed with top-notch professionals, expert advice and quality, call Sandy. His company does as he says and at the end of the project, you will still call him your friend!

— Robin Jones

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