



J&J CONTRACTORS I, LLC

PETER H. JOHNSON IMAGE AWARD

NARI Milwaukee, Inc.'s Executive Team nominates J&J Contractors I, LLC for the 2021 Peter H. Johnson Image Award.

Image is what people are supposed to see when something or someone is mentioned. It is perception created by doing. When the public hears J&J Contractors I, LLC the perception is a genuine, honest, caring and compassionate company.

J&J Contractors I, LLC is a second-generation company. Jerome Cyborowski started in the roofing business in 1983 as a filler job while laid off from his factory job and continued as a side business upon returning to work. Jerome advertised his business as "Low-Cost Roofing" on painted plywood signs. Over the years, the side business became a family business, with his wife and sons joining in. With the family foundation laid, when Jerry's oldest son Jason turned nineteen, the two went into business together, becoming J&J Contractors. They joined NARI Milwaukee in 2000.

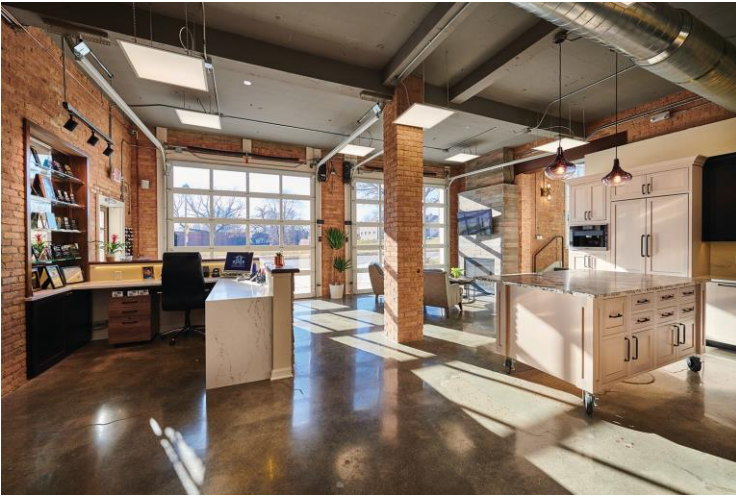
The father/son duo quickly climbed the ladder as home exterior experts, and by 2010, their service offerings included roofing, siding, gutters, and exterior remodeling. The business grew and by 2013, the once two-man team had outgrown their home office and moved into their first brick and mortar location. However, their growth didn't end there. They expanded into interior remodeling providing whole home renovations, additions, kitchens, baths and basements. Today J&J Contractors has over 35 full-time employees and in 2019 new moved into their new home a 10,000-square foot police and fire station in downtown Greendale. They pride themselves on offering incredible value for quality craftsmanship. Although they no longer advertise "Low-Cost Roofing" on plywood signs they still believe everyone is family.

In 2017 Jason was looking for a new location for the business as the company had outgrown its 1,100 square foot office. Jason heard the Greendale Police & Fire Department station was poised to be torn down. The historical 1938 building is located in the heart of the village of

Greendale. Jason thought it would be a disservice to the community to have a landmark having served as the police and fire station, courthouse, jail and community gathering space torn down. In April 2018 Jason bought the building with hopes of renovating it for J&J Contractors new office while keeping its history and community value alive.

Leaving the exterior virtually untouched much work was done internally to meet the new needs yet maintain the history. The courtroom is now offices, the fire departments equipment bays are now the reception and showroom, the chief's office is now a conference room and just off this room are two small jail cells - one being used as storage and other kept as the actual cell. A main hallway is a tribute to the building's history covered in vintage images of the village and police and fire department. They kept a small bay that was used for the police chief car and keep a restored 1939 replica Greendale Police car parked inside.





J&J Contractors moved into their new home November 2019. The building serves as their office and community historical remembrance of the building's past. On wall behind the reception desk are glass shelves full of NARI Remodeler of Year awards, NARI Certified Professional certificates and the NARI Milwaukee Sprit of Education, Image and President's awards.

Wanting to deeper support the community and show Greendale that J&J Contractors believes everyone is family, they threw a one of kind grand opening party. On Saturday August 29 J&J Contractors hosted a family festival for the community. They had pony rides, face painting and rock climbing for the kids. They partnered with the Greendale Lions Club who managed the food, had building tours, raffles for the historical society and construction industry display tables. That evening a live band performed to close out the day. Click here to see an [amazing video summary](#) of the day.



On the following page is a thank you letter from the Greendale Historical Society for not only preserving this historical building, making a donation from the grand opening party raffle but also notes the additional support and giving J&J Contractors is doing on other historical projects.



5680 Broad Street
Greendale, Wisconsin 53129
414.409.2557
greendalehistoricalsociety.org

Jason Cyborowski
J & J Contractors
6600 Schoolway
Greendale, WI 53129

Dear Jason,

Congratulations on your successful grand opening of the restored and repurposed Fire & Police Station this past weekend. The efforts of you, your family, and your organization serve as an example of what inspired, supportive, community-minded people can accomplish. You have vindicated what the Greendale Historical Society said about the building:

"The original Greendale Fire Station and Police Department building has significant intrinsic and historic value. The Greendale Historical Society believes this structure should be restored and maintained for the Village of Greendale, its current residents, and future generations."

You have succeeded with spectacular results where others have tried.

On behalf of the Greendale Historical Society, my sincere thanks for your very generous donation of \$1400 from the raffle. Shannon was very helpful in getting everything organized and ready for the event. Please thank her for us. This money will go directly to our Apple Court Restoration Project.

The raffle donation was just the latest in a long list of ways you and J & J Contractors have been a crucial part of our progress in the restoration of Apple Court. Your team was among the first on the job site with a dumpster and crew to remove the siding. That was a significant first step which really got things moving. Having professional help at that early stage was so welcome!

This donation and your continued interest and concern for Greendale confirms our belief that Greendale has a life-long attraction for those fortunate to work and here. We are proud to share with you continued legacy of our Village.

Sincerely,

Robb Nowak
President

The mission of the Greendale Historical Society is to preserve and promote the buildings, landmarks and artifacts that illustrate the history of Greendale, Wisconsin; to increase awareness, understanding and appreciation of the Village's founding, growth and designation as a National Historic Landmark; and to strengthen the current and future historic character of the Village.

In 2017, NARI Milwaukee developed a relationship with Wisconsin based Aurora Health Care's Aurora Cancer Care Foundation that raises funds for innovative research and individualized care for cancer patients. These two strong local organizations, NARI Milwaukee and Aurora Health Care, had an overall mutual goal – grow branding and awareness in new community circles resulting in organizational support financially and otherwise. A partnership on the 18th annual NARI Milwaukee Tour of Remodeled Homes was planned with NARI Milwaukee naming the Aurora Cancer Care Foundation the events official charity. The partnership added on a Friday night kickoff event to the Tour called the NARI Aurora Cancer Care House. This was to be a VIP event at a NARI Milwaukee member high-end remodeled home. The event showcases the talent of NARI members, the possibilities in remodeling and is geared toward top corporate and individual donors to attend raising money for cancer research.

J&J Contractors are an avid participant and supporter of the NARI Milwaukee Tour of Remodeled Homes. Learning of the new partnership hit very close to home for Jason as his father and co-founder, Jerry, had recently been diagnosed with cancer. Jason immediately reached out to staff to say he had a million-dollar renovated home he would like offer as the first NARI Aurora Cancer Care House and that J&J Contractors would sponsor the event for \$20,000. Over the next two years J&J Contractors was the premiere event sponsor and hosted the event in another home they remodeled. J&J Contractor's support through venues and sponsorship allowed NARI Milwaukee to donate over \$45,000 to the Aurora Cancer Care Foundation.



Television station WITI FOX6 News in Milwaukee has a Contact 6 division that reports on consumer concerns and complaints with local businesses. Typically, the consumer has been allegedly cheated, treated poorly or lead into a scam. The consumer has lost money, didn't receive service or received a poor-quality product for the price. The consumer has made no progress with the business to resolve the concern. They call Contact 6 who investigates the concern, so the consumer is heard and warn and protect others from similar circumstances.

February 2018 Contact 6 did a report about theft by contractor – a non-NARI member. This story was about a man, Erich Berger, who is battling brain cancer. He wanted to remodel this kitchen for his family and instead of a kitchen remodel he was robbed of a \$21,000 down payment by the contractor. The family now didn't have enough money to complete the kitchen remodel with another contractor. They were simply out of luck. Jason saw the news story regarding the Berger's, how Erich Berger was fighting cancer, and how they were taken advantage by a non-NARI member, he felt an obligation to try to help. The next day Jason called Diane Welhouse, Executive Director of NARI Milwaukee, who also saw the story and they agreed NARI needed to help.

Jason reached out to Contact 6 to let them know his company J&J Contractors and the support of NARI was going to help this consumer. Jason was able to pull together the support of NARI member suppliers, sub-contractors, and their own staff to give the Berger's the kitchen they thought they were getting. Jason agreed to charge the Berger family the remaining \$20,000 balance of the initial contractor's contract to give them the kitchen they had originally expected.

Josh Brown, NARI Milwaukee Immediate Past President and Director on the NARI Milwaukee Foundation at the time was part the project. Josh's company, Bliffert Lumber and Hardware agreed to provide some free materials and some at cost. In working through the project with Jason, also a NARI Milwaukee Board member, Josh recommended they should present this community service project to the NARI Milwaukee Foundation for support as well.

The NARI Milwaukee Foundation, Inc. is the charitable arm of NARI Milwaukee, Inc. As the industry's advocate enhancing the remodeling trades, the Foundation also supports the quality of life through home improvement for the community. The foundation typically assists with two community projects in the year and had an opportunity left. Jason and Josh presented the

Berger story to the Foundation board of directors. They told them what happened to the Berger's and how NARI member companies were pulling together to help them out donating and selling at cost materials and labor to achieve the \$20,000 fee to the family, so they could get the kitchen they deserved. They asked the Foundation for any possible financial support of the project. To everyone's delight the Foundation agreed to cover the \$20,000 cost of the project by J&J Contractors and their supporting suppliers and sub-contractors so the Berger's were not burdened with the expense.

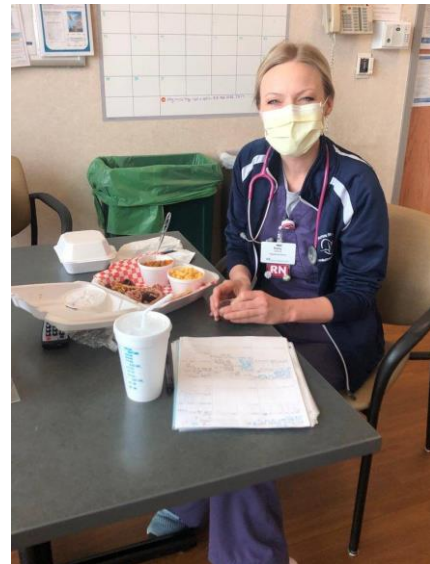
NARI Milwaukee President at the time, Chris Egner, MCR, CR, CKBR, UDCP, CRPM, CCP, NARI Milwaukee Foundation Secretary, Dave Amoroso, and Jason coordinated with Contact 6 to do a surprise presentation to Erich Berger on the remodel of his kitchen as planned by NARI Milwaukee members lead by J&J Contractors and financial supported by the NARI Milwaukee Foundation. Watch the moving check presentation and [video story](#).



J&J Contractors general contracted this job for the Berger's and got started immediately. They remodeled the entire kitchen with cabinets, granite countertops, tile backsplash, electrical and plumbing. This project would have normally taken up to nine weeks to complete. The efforts by the NARI member contractors completed this project in just two weeks.

Besides the kitchen remodel J&J Contractors went above and beyond to install new flooring throughout to eliminate thresholds that were trip hazards for Mr. Berger who was now using a walker. They also installed new grab bars in the bathrooms. They built special washer and dryer lift boxes to make it easier to do laundry and a new coat of paint throughout the main living area.

Outside of these major charitable and public relations efforts thinking of others and giving to the community is a regular activity for J&J Contractors. In April during the height of the pandemic J&J Contractors wanted to show appreciation for frontline health care workers. They knew even in the best of times our health care workers don't have an easy job and work tirelessly to keep us safe. Now, more than ever, they are working day and night to continue to keep us safe. In appreciation of their dedication J&J Contractors partnered with NARI Milwaukee member Schluter-Systems North America, and Double B's BBQ Restaurant and Food Truck, bringing lunches to the St. Luke's Hospital Medical Center 9T Staff with the message of "Thank you for continuing to protect us and yourselves!"



Three years ago, J&J Contractors started an annual scholarship program for the local Greendale High School. They award two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors to pursue higher education.

On Monday, July 6th J&J Contractors I LLC partnered with local restaurant Panther Pub & Eatery to sponsor a meal of choice for lunch or dinner for all Village of Greendale Police Department, Greendale Fire Department, Greendale Celebrations, Greendale Village Employees, Greendale Public Library, and Greendale's DPW employees. J&J Contractors and Panther Pub appreciate all that service providers do for the community, every day of the year. This was their way to say 'Thank You' to the community's servants and employees, and say they appreciate all that they do for the Greendale Community.

J&J Contractors also renovates homes for those in need when they here about people who need a helping hand. J&J Contractors heard of a local veteran whose garage was in despair and didn't have all the funds needed to re-build it. J&J Contractors stepped in and built the veteran a new garage covering the costs the man could not afford. They also learned of a teenager that was paralyzed in an accident. The young man was now bound to a wheelchair. J&J Contractors stepped in to remodel the lower level to make it ADA compliant for the family. They organized other NARI members subcontractors to chip in and help as well.



And Christmas isn't forgotten either. J&J Contractors do an annual Make-a-Wish Wisconsin toy drive. They open their showroom as a donation center for the Make-a-Wish annual needs toy assessment request. Through the generosity of the community and J&J Contractors they filled over six boxes of toys to make a child's holiday special this year.



When J&J Contractors says their business is all about family they are not kidding. Today not only are father and son business partners, but Jason's mother, brother-in-law and wife all work in the business as well. Jason partnered with his mother-in-law to create J&J Custom Real Estate that became a NARI member in 2018 and their newest adventure is J&J Custom Homes who just became a NARI member in 2020. All three business operate out of their offices.

J&J Contractors owner, Jason, is a loving and dedicated husband to wife Kelly and their four daughters. Jason bought and renovated the house next door to him and Kelly that his in-laws moved into and Jason's parents live directly behind Jason and Kelly.



Jason is a NARI Milwaukee board member and officer serving as secretary. He sits on the membership engagement team and Tour of Remodeled Homes teams. J&J Contractors are annual participants in the Remodeler of the Year awards competition, Tour of Remodeled Homes and both consumer shows - Home & Remodeling Show and Spring Home Improvement Show. Several of his employees hold NARI certifications.

Jason is a Greendale Village board trustee, Greendale Health and Wellness board and coaches the little league team two of his daughters play on. Jason as the leader of J&J Contractors is a soft-spoken genuinely kindhearted individual who never says no and only asks when and where. His most common phrase is "J&J Contractors will do it."

NARI Milwaukee has touched on the few things J&J Contractors does related to civic and charitable projects and public relations that enhances the image of NARI and remodeling contractors in the community. Image is what people are supposed to see when something or someone is mentioned. ... it is perception created by doing. When the public hears J&J Contractors I, LLC the perception is genuine, honest, caring and compassionate company. J&J Contractors would be an extremely worthy recipient of the NARI Peter H. Johnson Image Award.

We ask that you consider honoring J&J Contractors for the 2021 NARI Peter H. Johnson Image Award.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

The NARI Milwaukee Executive Team