

The Red, Blue & Green



Immovable Object . . . Irresistible Force

Once again, Glasgow finds itself blessed with an asset that no other community of comparable size or geography can claim. The Jama M. Young Technology Center (JMYTC) is indeed a rare jewel in our community's collection.

Technology centers such as the one recently dedicated at the Glasgow Electric Plant Board normally wind up in much larger cities. More often than not, they are built by very wealthy and forward-looking corporations that have the vision and resources to plan such facilities. They rarely find themselves spending their days in a small town like Glasgow.

After this initial discussion about its completion, we will no longer seek to draw attention to the technology center's existence. The business transactions which will course through the JMYTC, and the essential equipment housed there, will want to remain anonymous. So, henceforth this building will quietly house the largest concentration of computing power between Nashville and Louisville. It will do this task without fanfares or shouting. It will be the wise and ever-present muse of our community.



This building would be at home on the campus of Google or Microsoft, but it is staying right here.

To the casual observer, the JMYTC is just a very stately and beautiful brick building, but in reality it is the most unique and capable structure in Barren County. It is connected to the world through a maze of fiber optic cables leaving the building destined for the four corners of the planet. The electric power to the building is fed to it from multiple circuits coming from diverse directions.

Should all of those fail it has its own diesel-powered generation system capable for providing all of the energy needs of the facility independent of the electric power grid. Further, there is a battery system within the building which is capable of serving the energy needs of the facility for several minutes as power shifts between our commercial grid and the self-sustaining generation in the building. The heating and air-conditioning systems have redundant units such that the equipment in the building will continue to function even if portions of the air-conditioning system fails. The building is built of reinforced concrete and is designed to withstand a direct hit by a tornado packing winds of 250 MPH. This building would be at home on the campus of Google or Microsoft, but it is staying right here.

Within the JMYTC will be the processing systems and hardware necessary to monitor and control the entire electric power grid in Glasgow as well as all of the new electric metering technology which is slowly being installed all over Glasgow. The technology center will house the equipment necessary to provide cable television in Glasgow. It will also house the many pieces of technology required to deliver the high speed internet connections for all of our customers in Glasgow. The same is true for the telephone processing and switching equipment necessary to support the telephone service provided by the Glasgow Electric Plant Board and Cinergy Communications. We know that our community could not survive without these services, so we have taken the extraordinary measure of building this technology center to organize all of this under one heavily reinforced roof. Thus, the JMYTC will become the beating heart of our community.

Beyond housing the hardware for these existing services, the center is also designed to house services which do not even exist today. The building will house large file servers such that we can offer exciting new services to our customers. One of the new services will be remote backup. This service will give locals a way to copy

important information on their home or business computers to another computer in the JMYTC such that they will have archives of their valuable records stored in a secure file server housed in our ultra-secure building. We will also be able to actually house customer file servers in the JMYTC such that local businesses can concentrate on serving their customers instead of maintaining in-house file servers. Since the technology center will ultimately have thousands of fiber optic cables leaving the structure and connecting to individual homes and businesses, the data transport speeds will be so fast that the individual business file servers can be located in the JMYTC without slowing the network activity of any business. These services, and many others that we have yet to even dream of, will be possible from the JMYTC.

Of course, any discussion of the new technology center has to include a few words about the building's namesake, Jama Young. Although she would have hated the attention, we are extremely proud to be able to dedicate the technology center to her. She was at the very center of all of the services we deliver and all of the new services enabled by the construction of the new building. If you want to know more about Jama, simply reread the first part of this article. Everything said about the building could also be used to describe her. Nothing ever made more sense than naming the building after her.



The Jama M. Young Technology Center

So it is in the spirit of fair play that we dedicate this building to Jama M. Young. She was here to see the building planned and for construction to begin, but unfortunately she did not get to see it finished. Had she gotten the number of years

which she should have, she would have been famous for her accomplishments here in Glasgow. Fate put a halt to that process, but we are compensating for that by affixing her name to a building where the future accomplishments of the EPB team will take roots, grow, and flourish.

Maybe the reason why we have all been so diligent in planning and building this structure to be fail-safe and indestructible is that we are all trying to balance our inability to make Jama indestructible. Just more

than six months ago, she left us before anyone thought such a thing remotely possible. We had no plans in place to anticipate such a travesty. The building bearing her name and the people, hardware, and services housed therein will not be allowed to disappear. The JMYTC is an immovable object and Jama was an irresistible force. Finally the question is answered about what happens when the two intersect.

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Feel free to use any of these means to contact me with any questions or comments!

****IMPORTANT PROGRAMMING NOTICE****
On or about April 1st, the Nashville public TV station currently on Channel 8 (WNPT), will expand to two channels, digital channels 198 and 199. A new CBS affiliate (WNKY-CBS) from Bowling Green will then be carried on Channel 8. For information about WNPT and its expanded schedules, go to <http://www.wnpt.net>.