

Herald-Citizen

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Trimming Harms Courthouse Trees

EDITOR:

I recently visited with friends in your city. During this visit, I noticed that the large, old trees at the Courthouse had been topped. Better terms for this procedure are hat rack and tree butchery.

A common enough practice, it is, however, much abused and is generally a bad bill of goods. It is just plain unnecessary as well as harmful to the health and lifespan of an otherwise healthy tree.

The topping of the Courthouse trees was akin to a doctor chopping off a finger to solve the problem of a hangnail. Whatever the problems that were used or stated as a reason for topping these

trees, they are now much worse off.

The flush of growth that will soon appear produces an ugly, unmistakable, unnatural, poodle-like appearance that marks the beginning, not the end, of the trees' problems. More broken branches, decay and decline will follow.

My purpose in writing is to make you aware that what was done is unprofessional, unnecessary and has devalued the progressive look that Cookeville would like to project to the outside world.

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