

## Leann Monk

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**From:** Maria Angel, Architect <Maria.Angel@thc.texas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 12, 2025 9:57 AM  
**To:** Leann Monk  
**Subject:** RE: Tyler County Courthouse Lawn

Dear Treasurer Monk, I am the contact for your region.

Please provide some details about the tree to be donated. The Montezuma Cypress does not produce "knees" and would be the better choice. The cypress tree can grow as tall as 60' which would make it taller than the existing oaks.

Also, if you have an intended location, describe that as well.

I look forward to hearing from you,

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Jervention  
Le Land*



**Maria Angel, Architect**  
Project Reviewer, Courthouse Preservation Program  
Division of Architecture  
P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711-2276  
Phone: +1 512 463 6167  
[thc.texas.gov](http://thc.texas.gov)

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**26 REAL PLACES** 2026 CONFERENCE  
PRESERVING HISTORIC TEXAS

**From:** Leann Monk <lmonk.cotreas@co.tyler.tx.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 10, 2025 2:02 PM  
**To:** Maria Angel, Architect <Maria.Angel@thc.texas.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Tyler County Courthouse Lawn

**CAUTION: External Email** – This email originated from outside the THC email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon, Ms. Angel,

I am forwarding you the email I sent to James Malanaphy as I was unaware he had retired. He gave me your information to reach out to.

Please review the attached message. I would appreciate your help. Along those lines, if you are not the correct contact, please direct me to that person or department.

Kind regards,

*Leann Monk*

Tyler County Treasurer  
PO Box 2070  
Woodville, TX 75979  
409-283-3054, office  
409-200-1866, cell



**From:** Leann Monk  
**Sent:** Monday, November 10, 2025 1:57 PM  
**To:** James Malanaphy, AIA <[James.Malanaphy@thc.texas.gov](mailto:James.Malanaphy@thc.texas.gov)>  
**Cc:** Burtis Conner <[bconner.maint@co.tyler.tx.us](mailto:bconner.maint@co.tyler.tx.us)>  
**Subject:** Tyler County Courthouse Lawn

Good afternoon, Mr. Malanaphy,

I hope this email finds you well. It's a blue bird day over here!

I am writing to get your direction on a donation that was made to Tyler County. A local tree farm has donated a cypress Christmas tree that would be planted in the front lawn of the courthouse. The idea is that the tree would serve annually as our official Christmas tree (and save money!). However, before we accept this donation, I want to make sure we can actually plant the tree on the grounds of the courthouse. I know there's been previous folks who have removed some shrubbery or planted a few ornamental trees...but that was before me, and I want to make sure we are good!

I'd appreciate our input and direction. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Kind regards,

*Leann Monk*

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**From:** Maria Angel, Architect <Maria.Angel@thc.texas.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 12, 2025 3:00 PM  
**To:** Leann Monk  
**Subject:** RE: Tyler County Courthouse Lawn

Dear Treasurer Monk, thank you for the additional information. The characteristics of this hybrid tree sound well-suited for the use.

The composition of components at the entrance is pleasing and well-balanced as it is. In addition, the monument is so large it will partially obscure the tree as it will be viewed from the street level.

In my opinion, the magnolia tree location is ideal. It gives the new tree a dedicated area for additional holiday decorations or gatherings without disrupting the formality of the courthouse entrance.

Thank you for your assistance with this,

**Maria Angel, Architect**

**RP JOIN US APRIL 8-10**  
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PRESERVING HISTORIC TEXAS

**From:** Leann Monk <lmonk.cotreas@co.tyler.tx.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 12, 2025 2:41 PM  
**To:** Maria Angel, Architect <Maria.Angel@thc.texas.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Tyler County Courthouse Lawn

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Thank you for your quick response.

The tree to be donated is an Ovensii – which is a hybrid between the bald and Montezuma. According to the grower, because we are not planting it in wet or swampy soil, it is most likely this tree with its Montezuma traits will not produce knees. Additionally, the height of the tree will be kept at 20 ft. – which is shorter than the oaks that we have. The grower has assured us that he will keep it trimmed and will train our maintenance and grounds department on how to best care for and trim the tree. The idea is for the Christmas tree to serve our citizens for years to come.

We do have an intended location – which would be in the front, center lawn, behind the Veterans Memorial stone and the courthouse. We had considered placing it to the west side, but still in the front, of the courthouse, as we have a dying magnolia tree. But that tree is still barely hanging on. So, we are thinking in the front but are open to alternatives if that doesn't work. I've attached a sketch of the proposed location.

Thank you again, for your assistance.

Kind regards,

*Leann Monk*

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