

Answer to last month's riddle: What tree is an awful grouch? Crab  
This month: What tree is often found in the mouth?

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**David Hamilton of Mighty Tree Movers Inc. of Los Gatos, CA** works the controls of a tree remover while moving a maple tree from the College of Marin campus in Kentfield. As part of its modernization project, the college is removing trees near the future site of the new Fine Arts Building. (IJ photo/Frankie Frost)

The College of Marin is relocating about 10 large trees on its Kentfield campus as part of its \$13.4 million Fine Arts Building construction project.

Los Gatos contractor Mighty Tree Movers began work Thursday on a plan to move several mature chestnuts and other hardwoods from the site of the new building. College officials said some of the trees would likely be relocated elsewhere on campus, while others would return to Los Gatos with the contractor. "We'll be saying yea or nay to each move based on the tree's size, canopy structure and location," said contractor David Hamilton.

"Several variables factor into each tree." Several other trees, including a large birch, will have to be cut down to make room for the new building, officials said. "The estimate is that at least 10 and possibly more trees will be relocated rather than cut down," said college spokeswoman Cathy Summa-Wolfe. "Some of the trunks of the remaining trees that are too large or unable to be moved will be donated to the art department to be used for various art projects." Several college employees and college Trustee Barbara Dolan had raised concerns last week about the small grove of trees near Circle Drive, arguing that the trees were a valuable resource, and cutting them down did not fit the image of a school that promoted sustainable principles. "People feel really good about the college because it's different from other colleges that are located in cities. We're noted for our mature trees," Dolan said. "Some of those trees are over 75 years old. I think we need to do everything we can to save them." In an e-mail sent last Friday to college President Frances White, Berkeley architect Marcy Wong urged the school to use the money it saved by keeping construction costs under budget to relocate the trees. "By saving the trees, the district may avoid potential turmoil, outcry and bad press about the destruction of the trees," Wong wrote. "The district's commitment to the environment is reflected in the decision on what to do about the trees." Wong did not return calls to her office on Wednesday or Thursday.

College officials said they had planned to relocate the trees in question long before they heard any concerns from residents. The College Board of Trustees is scheduled to discuss the matter at its 6:30 p.m. meeting Tuesday. "It's good that those trees will be relocated on the campus, though I'm not sure where those will be located," Dolan said.

Story from: College of Marin relocates trees in path of construction project [Rob Rogers](#) Posted: 08/20/2009 06:26:30 PM PDT Marin Independent Journal Contact Rob Rogers via e-mail at [rogers@marinij.com](mailto:rogers@marinij.com)

**BIG JOHN** customer **David Hamilton** shares, "It all started from me going up there to "salvage" one nice maple tree and place on my farm. Once they saw how it worked, they signed a \$30k contract to move 20 more trees. They are also applying for "LEED" points for their new "green" campus construction. This is a very interesting development. If we, as an industry, can get integrated into this green movement, by helping qualify developers and owners for even one more LEED point, it would be a huge opportunity for more business.

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