

# BUSINESS

■ Nation/D2  
■ World/D4,  
■ Deaths/D  
PHONE 441-0507 FAX  
E-MAIL editor@times-s

FRIDAY, FEB. 22, 2013

## Local arborist branches out into tree cutting

Tree Service brings their expertise and care to North Coast trees

John Chiv  
FOR THE TIMES-STANDARD

"Bringing Knowledge and Expertise to North Coast Trees" is the motto of McKinleyville-based Cutting Edge Tree Service and Solutions, which is approaching its one-year anniversary. Owner Erik Tjossem is a certified arborist.

"When someone is hiring a tree service company, they need to look for certain qualifications. One is to see if a certified arborist is on staff and to make sure to check what licenses and certifications and level of training the company offers," said Tjossem. "There are various certifications and I chose the International Society of Arboriculture because it is one of the most trusted certifications. I am also a member of the Better Business Bureau."

Tjossem takes pride in his work and that of his crew. "As far as I know I am one of a handful among the tree services in the area that has a certified arborist on staff," he said. "And as stated on my website, I am the only company where an arborist is present supervising every aspect of the job from start to finish."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Certified arborist Erik Tjossem, above, studied forestry at College of the Redwoods and started his own McKinleyville-based tree-cutting business a little under a year ago.**

Specialists in the art and science of tree care, certified arborists must have at least five years of experience working in the field before they qualify to be rigorously tested. Once certification has been achieved, arborists are required to maintain current

CEUs (current education units) from the ISA, which ensures the progressive and constant education of a tree care professional and that they are current in maintaining the industry's standards. Tjossem graduated from College of the Redwoods and

majoring in forestry. One of his classmates whose family tree had a tree cutting business hired Tjossem. He worked for them for eight years and in March 2012 decided to start his own business. Providing for his family and establishing a business that will allow his children to grow up here and live here as well as creating jobs and a stable future for his employees is very important to Tjossem.

Recently, Tjossem was visiting the Sequoia Park Zoo with his wife and kids and he ended up contacting the Zoo to see if he could volunteer his company's services. There is a new exhibit that required small removals of Redwoods and Tjossem and his crew helped out. "I am so grateful to live in such a beautiful community, and this opportunity allowed me to give back," he said.

Even though the industry is an expensive venture, Tjossem says his love for proper care of trees and his goal to be "Humboldt's premier, trusted tree service company" keeps him going. Cutting Tree Edge Service offers 24 hour emergency service and will take any job from Trinidad to Southern Humboldt.

For more information, call 601-8169 or visit online at [www.cuttingedgetree.com](http://www.cuttingedgetree.com) service707.com

John Chiv is a freelance news and feature writer and local business consultant. John has a local blog, [johnchiv.blogspot.com](http://johnchiv.blogspot.com), and can be reached at 707-832-9990.

### Market

Feb. 21

Dow Jones  
industrials

Nasdaq  
composite

Standard &  
Poor's 500

Russell  
2000

### NYSE

Advanced

Declined

Unchanged

Volume:

Nasdaq

Advanced

Declined

Unchanged

Volume:

U.S. stocks  
keep steady  
on weak  
Fed quarter

### Dani

AP Business

U.S. stocks  
two-day slide  
weak economic  
concern about  
Reserve's  
juicing the  
Signalin  
labor market  
slow recovery  
governments  
people applic  
ment benefi  
four-week  
volatile mar  
highest in

The J

averag

poir

13