√ Capitola water shuttle expands to daily service

Sentinel staff report

SANTA CRUZ — A new water taxi service isn't just for weekends anymore.

Starting Friday, the Sea Rocket began shuttling passengers daily between Santa Cruz and Capitola, said Krista Lighthall, the skipper.

The bright yellow, pink and white 34-foot Nordic speed boat is a novelty in local waters, making stops at the Small Craft Harbor (on the Crow's Nest side), the Santa Cruz Municipal Wharf and the Capitola Wharf.

"You get the marine tour on the way," Lighthall said.

She calls it an "inexpensive lim-

ousine ride."

It's a unique way to travel without the hassles of traffic and parking, she said.

Local residents have also enjoyed bringing their out-of-town guests out on the boat for a quick ride, she said.

Since the shuttle began in May, there has been good response from the public, according to owner Jim Beauregard of Santa Cruz. He is also a co-owner of the Chardonnay II sailboat.

The Sea Rocket service begins at 10 a.m. with runs every other hour. The final run is at 7 p.m.

For more information about the Sea Rocket, call 427-9465.



Shmuel Thaler/Sentinel file

The Sea Rocket makes round trips between the Santa Cruz and Capitola wharves.