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Wendy Scheck harvests grapes Oct. 12 at Captain Vineyards in Moraga.

Photo Andy Scheck

Lamorinda growers begin grape harvest

By Jennifer Wake

Surrounded by the rolling Lamorinda hills in the morning glow above the vineyard, the leaves on the vines planted in 2005 beginning to change color, wine club members from Captain Vineyards in Moraga met early on Oct. 12 to participate in the annual harvest and crush of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot grapes. "Stepping out into the Captain Vineyards' back-

yard on a beautiful October morning takes your breath away," said Lamorinda Weekly publisher Andy Scheck, who was one of the 10 members invited to the sun-dappled hillside that morning. Participants ranged in age from 22 to over 70. "On a second look you discover the ripe grapes – and a lot of them." For the past 10 years, regardless of the weather, Sal and Susan Captain have invited club members to experience and celebrate the harvest at their vineyard as well as to observe the crush. They have al-

ways had enough members to complete the harvest. "Most of our visitors on that date were harvesting for the first time, except one couple who had been at harvest before," Susan Captain said. "All of our club members have visited Captain Vineyards for wine tasting, as well as purchased wines, plus expressed their interest in participating in a more hands-on experience as an educational endeavor." ... continued on Page A11

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Orinda park gets \$4M in state funds for largest creek daylighting project in Bay Area

By Sora O'Doherty

Working with the East Bay Regional Park District, Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan has secured \$4 million in state funding to daylight and restore an over 2,000-foot culverted section of creek in the upper San Leandro watershed. On Oct 21, Bauer-Kahan held a press conference at the park and handed over an oversized check to park district officials. The perennial creek, known as McCosker Creek, is located in Robert Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve in Orinda. The park, established in 1936, is one of the first three of the East Bay Regional Park District. According to district director Beverly Lane, the park has almost doubled in size in the last couple of years. The area where McCosker Creek is located was donated in 2010 by the McCosker family. Lane said that the project has two main goals: to restore natural habitat and to provide public access to nature. The site has an existing residence from its days as a quarry and a ranch, which will have a resident in time. A total of 3,035 linear feet of creek are being restored, 2,850 of which are being daylighted (culverting removed). ... continued on Page A7



Photo Sora O'Doherty
 Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan and Dave Mason, EBRPD

Lamorinda Weekly production during recent power shut down

To produce this week's paper, the Lamorinda Weekly team members made arrangements around the recent power shutdown by PG&E. The team made every effort to relocate to areas with power to produce stories and edit all the content early. Thank you to our advertisers for being on time with artwork and understanding about the harder deadlines.

Publishers
 Andy and Wendy Scheck
 Lamorinda Weekly



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