

## **Community Unity Rochelle Comes Together at Spring Lake**

Have you ever noticed how people seem to hibernate in the winter in the Midwest? I joke that if you drive through my neighborhood in February, you wouldn't know kids lived there. However, when that first warm Spring weekend hits, there are kids galore ~ drawing with sidewalk chalk, riding bikes, playing basketball, and jumping on trampolines. I feel that way about Spring Lake and summer in Rochelle. Everyone comes out and comes together – young and not so young, alike. Spring Lake is a gathering place in Rochelle.

The Spring Lake Marina has been a hot spot this month, filled with graduation parties and baby showers. I wish you could all see the wonderful remodeling work recently completed at the Spring Lake Marina. It's bright, fresh, and modern.

Summer Day Camp is just a small example of Rochelle residents coming together that makes me happy to be a part of this community. We've had summer day camp participants from every grammar school and the middle school. It doesn't matter whether you are a Leopard, Tiger, Mustang, Crusader, or Cougar in the fall, come summer everyone is a "Day Camp" Kid. Moreover, when Summer Day Camp participants get to the Middle School, something amazing happens. They know other students! Their circle is immediately expanded, and, therefore, their comfort zone increases, too. Just imagine how much better the first day of school can be when your child looks around and recognizes more faces. Summer Day Camp runs from June 4<sup>th</sup> – August 10<sup>th</sup>. We'd love to invite your child to be a part of the Summer Day Camp family. (Ages 5 – 13).

Spring Lake Pool is open for the season and everybody wants to go to the pool! Have you heard the news? The daily rate has been decreased to only \$5 (ages 4 and up). The hours are extended, too. Spring Lake Pool is now open Monday-Thursday 12:30-5:30pm with adult swim from 5:30-7. The pool is open 12:30-5:30pm on Saturdays and Sundays. On Fridays, we stay open till 7pm, with "Friday Fun" from 5:30-7. We'll have Alfano's Pizza, music, games, and a great time for the whole family!

Join us on Friday July 6<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-7pm for our Pool Party! We are excited for our rededication and ribbon cutting, along with music, games, contests, treats, and more! We invite you and your family to spend the day with us at this free event.

Nothing says "Community Unity" like community swim nights at Spring Lake Pool. We are incredibly thankful to our amazing sponsors who are hosting FREE Swim Nights at the pool. All Rochelle residents are invited to the

pool. Come and enjoy an evening of free fun, from 5:30-8:30pm. We are fortunate to have four Community Swim Nights this summer: Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup>, sponsored by Rochelle Community Hospital, Saturday July 14<sup>th</sup> sponsored by Anytime Fitness, Saturday July 21<sup>st</sup> sponsored by The City of Rochelle, and Sunday July 29<sup>th</sup> by Central Bank. Just picture spending an evening at the pool with friends and neighbors, after a warm day of working in the yard or running to activities with the kids. Sunset at Spring Lake Pool is a happy time.

I'm continually impressed with Rochelle's generosity and neighborliness. Not only do we have FOUR Free Community Swim Nights this year, thanks to our terrific sponsors, many business have also been kind and are supporting our Summer Day Camp and Swim Team. Moreover, we are very thankful for the Rochelle Area Community Foundation for their monumental support of our Engage Financial Scholarship Program. Engage is the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District's new financial scholarship program, in which our goal is to have no individual be turned away from recreational programs. The Rochelle Area Community Foundation generously donated \$3,000! Our goal is to raise another \$3,000 to assist members of our community. We have been blown away by donations from our patrons! So many of you have helped this cause, with donations ranging from \$1 to \$20! Please continue to support the Engage Scholarship Program when checking out at the office or by phone. Residents of Rochelle have a fantastic habit of helping their neighbors in need!

I look forward to seeing you and your family at the Spring Lake Marina and the Spring Lake Pool. Thank you for helping us to create a feeling of unity within our community. And don't forget your sunscreen.

Jillian Wise

Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District