

# Lakeland-Lanier Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet Brings Recognition

By Carol A. Gasser Moore

LAKELAND, Georgia – The Threatte Center was the setting for the Thursday, February 22nd honorment of a number of local citizens. It is in the Chamber Banquet setting in which each year, our community takes its hat off to these people who have proven themselves worthy of our community’s recognition.

The Flatlander of the Year award, which is given from the Lanier County Lions Club was given to Sylvia Ragan. She also was recognized with the Wendy Moore Service Award.

Other award winners, along with their awards, are:

- Danny McGill and Cass Register, NMAPA Fender Motors, Small Business of the Year
- Justice Roe, Kommon Scents, Entrepreneur of the Year
- Noah Tuten, Milltown Outdoors, Significant Business Expansion of the Year
- Diane Westberry, Mary Carol Green and Amy Bennett, Nell Roquemore Volunteer Award
- Phillip Connell, Community Networks, Community Vision Award
- JD Walden and Jack Paulson, Public Service Awards

The Lanier County News wants to wish each of those citizens that were recognized the very best and a hearty “Congratulations”!



# Georgia Flood Safety Preparedness Week is March 11-15

By Carol A. Gasser Moore

LANIER COUNTY, Georgia - The Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMHSA) have teamed up with the National Weather Service (NWS) for remind citizens that our Flood Safety Preparedness Week occurs from March 11th -15h. It is the week in which Georgians are encouraged to think safety and act now to prepare for flooding before a severe weather event and flooding happens.

GEMA/HS Director Chris Stallings has stated, “Individuals and families are left with little or no time to prepare or evacuate due to flooding happening at any time of the year.” Stallings emphasizes that early preparation for this event is vital in order to prevent severe impacts of flooding to life and property.

Nine large-scale flooding events made the list of ‘Billion-Dollar Disasters’ nationwide over the last five (5) years. The nine events list did not include an additional 17 flood-producing, land falling tropical systems.

According to GEMA, Georgia alone has documented more than 780 flood reports, amounting to \$12.8 million dollars in damage to homes and infrastructure.

Flood Safety Preparedness Week, according to Stallings, showcases a new tip each day to inform you and your family on flooding hazards, safety, and preparation. FSPW highlights the risks of flooding in the state each day and provides an opportunity for residents to learn how to take proper safety precautions.

The tips are as follows:

- Monday, March 11 – Flood Safety, Preparedness, and Awareness: Make a plan, build a ready kit and communicate with your household and community so you’re

prepared in case of a flood.

- Tuesday, March 12 – Turn Around, Don’t Drown: Never attempt to drive through floodwaters. Two feet of moving water can carry away a full-sized car.
- Wednesday, March 13 – Flood Hazards: Stay out of floodwaters if possible. The water can be contaminated or electrically charged. However, if your car stalls in rapidly rising waters, leave the vehicle and seek higher ground.
- Thursday, March 14 – NWS Water Resources and Services: Try to prepare for the next flood event now. Understand the products and services the National Weather Service (NWS) provides to alert you of changing river and weather conditions and use tips and resources from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help make a plan!
- Friday, March 15 – Partners and Partner Services: Get ahead of the next disaster by knowing all the important players before, during and after floods — including flood insurance. Many homeowner’s policies don’t cover floods. Be financially ready for a flood event by visiting [fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program](http://fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program) and remember, flood insurance takes 30 days to take effect!

The new NWS National Weather Prediction Service (NWPS) website that will be replacing the current Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service currently in use.

The official NWPS is expected to roll out March 27, 2024.

Georgians are encouraged to get more information and resources. You are encouraged to visit [gema.georgia.gov/plan-prepare/ready-georgia/](http://gema.georgia.gov/plan-prepare/ready-georgia/) and follow @GeorgiaEMAHS on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook for preparedness tips and emergency information.

## “CORRECTION” — continued from page 1

between parties, as each person involved in the situation attempted to better understand state law, and how it applied to a specific Ray City corner. The difference of opinion by one councilman with the other appears to be whether or not the “letter of the law” has been met or whether or not constituent concerns should be addressed over and above the “letter of the law”.