Your Lafayette merchants on the Square will be kicking of this year's 'Christmas on the Square' event, this Friday, December 7, 2012 from 5 to 8 p.m.

A tree lighting ceremony and musical entertainment will take place on the courthouse lawn so bring your lawn chairs and settle in for an afternoon of your favorite Christmas tunes!

This year's Christmas on the Square will include holiday art projects inside the courthouse, sponsored by the Macon County Arts Council, free holiday Christmas temporary tattoos sponsored by the *Macon County Chronicle*, storytelling at Macon Department Store, wagon rides around the Square by Kenny Jones, visits from some of your favorite characters and photos with Santa.

New additions to this year's Christmas on the Square event are train rides for both children and adults and Christmas trolley rides with Mickey & Minnie.

There is no cost to participate in any of the 'Christmas on the Square' events.

In the spirit of the holiday season, $500 in cash giveaways will also take place. Winners must be present to collect prizes, and entries can be made by visiting the following participating merchants: Healing Hands of Peace Ministries, Macon Department Store, Citizens Bank, Johnson Jewelers, Cathy's Florist & Gifts, Macon Bank & Trust, McClard's Gifts, Inspirations, the *Macon County Chronicle*, Gibson's Café, Indigo Blues, Inspirations and All About Sports.

Throughout the day, refreshments will be available at participating 'Christmas on the Square' businesses, where early holiday shoppers will find great bargains and specials.

It is important to note that there will be no parking available on the Square. Those attending this year's Christmas on the Square celebration will find ample parking in areas outside of the square.