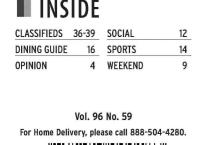
## Ringing in the holidays

Christmas tree lighting kicks off the start of the holiday season



FRAN BALTZER/BELLEVILLE TIMES

Hundreds turned out to start the Christmas season in proper fashion, with a tree lighting and a visit from Santa. More pictures appear on pages 29 and 35.





Paramedic company pulling out of Belleville Page 8

Councilman meets constituents Page 21

Lowe's approval is proceeding Page 24

Prospects look good for development at factory site Page 28

