Beamsville throws big birthday party

LINCOLN — Beamsville — a town that did not lose its community spirit with regionalization — is 100 years old this year, and its residents aren't letting the event pass unmarked

The big birthday party is this weekend, with the lion's share of the events to be held Sunday However, celebrations actually

began April 11 and won't wind up until Nov 17

The events are to commemorate the arrival of the town's founder, Jacob Beam, a United Empire Loyalist who brought his family by covered wagon and horseback from New Jersey in the 1780s.

The community was officially incorporated as a village in 1879

Invitations to the celebrations have been sent to all of Lincoln's 14,500 residents About 4,500 of those residents live in Beamsville.

A special feature of the day will be the "old time prices" for meals. However, if you're not from Lincoln count on paying the regular price The town's centennial committee has sent a book of coupons to all Lincoln residents assuring them of 20-cent hotdogs, 10-cent french fries and five-cent drinks and candy floss. Without the coupons the regular price is

The events get under way Saturday at 10 a.m. with a hit, throw and run tournament at the Beamsville fairgrounds ball diamond.

Sunday, a Centennial church service will open the day's events at the grandstand area at 2:30 p.m.

Races, relays, and games for

the entire family begin at 3 p.m. at the inside racetrack.

Other events include:

• A softball challenge, with Beamsville Lions defending their trophy against teams from Royal Canadian Legion Branch 612, Beamsville Kinsmen and Lincoln town council. Elimination games start at 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The championship game is at 4 p.m.

 A tug-of-war with the Beamsville men's slo-pitch teams against their adversaries at 3:30 p.m.

 At 9:15 p.m. a fireworks display will "mark the birthday with a big bang," according to organizers.



Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

Call Maggie Keates at 563-8511 for tables and further information



Centennial Calendar

June 16 & 17 Giant Flea Market

June 16 & 17 C.W.L. Centennial Cookbook on sale

June 18 & 22 Senior Citizen's Week

Ju 30-Aug 4 Beamsville Merchants Centennial

Celebrations



The winners of the Downtown Beamsville Management Board's Centennial Costume contest pose beside a 1929 Packard Rumble Seat Coupe. From left are Cindy Beaudin, Larry Andres and Nancy Beckett. The car was part of a cavalcade of cars visiting the town for the centennial and organized by the Niagara chapter of the Historical Automobile Society of Canada, and is owned by Paul Smith of Campden.