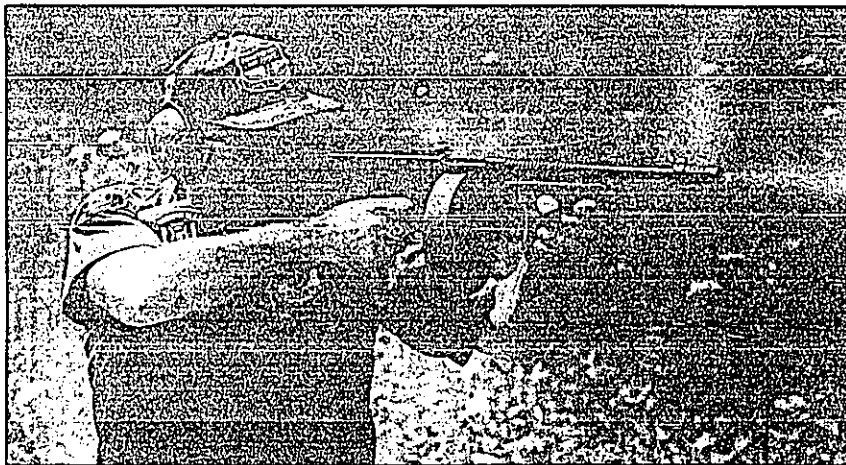


Business roots

Tradition joins new events at Founders Festival



A Farmington Hills police pistol team fires a Thompson .45-caliber submachine gun during a firearms demonstration at the Founders Festival. No demonstration is planned this year.

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community. It hasn't changed that much. They've retained the dignity of the thing."

RICHARDSON RECALLED one very different year, in 1967, when the festival was planned in the midst of the Detroit riot. He was then acting president of the chamber of commerce, which decided to postpone the festival two weeks until mid-August. "It was a tense situation," he said. "People didn't know what to think of the whole thing. Detroit was smoldering."

Richardson's records show budgets of \$2,400 and \$3,900 for festivals in the late 1960s, costing about one-tenth what it costs to put on a festival today. He said he expects the annual tradition to continue as long as there are leaders interested in keeping it going.

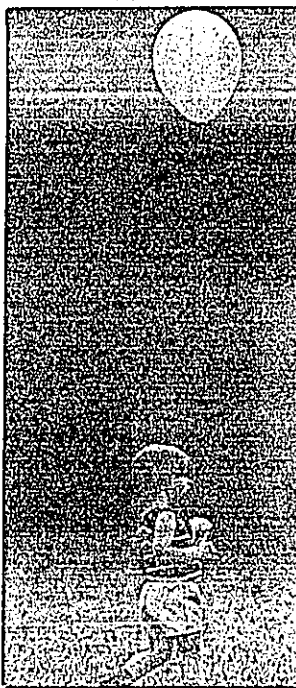
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Tim Woland walks across Farmington's Shiloh Park, with a balloon and a snow cone in hand, during Kids Day.



Karyn Henlon and her grandfather, Ray Lustig, react to the sound of gunfire during a Farmington Hills Police Department firearms demonstration at the Founders Festival.



Tots swim through a sea of plastic balls in the plastic ball event at Kids Day.