The Middletown News 135 Pears and Counting

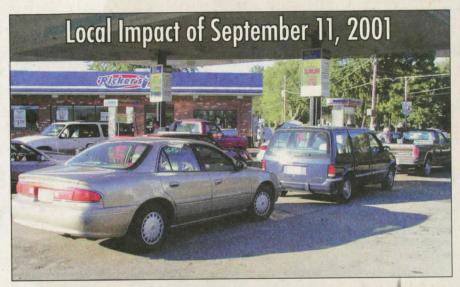
he Middletown News is be- who chose to call Middletown home.

ginning its 135th year with Many things have changed about this issue, notated Volume your hometown newspaper over the 135, Issue 1. The News has years, while some things have stayed just been continuously pub- about the same. Club meeting minutes, lished since 1885 and a obituaries, and police reports are prescopy of most all of those issues are kept ent in issues going back to 1885. The bound in the paper's archive. Those old News used to contain more gossip and papers have a story to tell of the people even published front-page articles about

ugly divorces and drunken fights. The line between news and advertising was a little more blurry back 100 years ago and ads for actual snake-oil could be seen in those old pages.

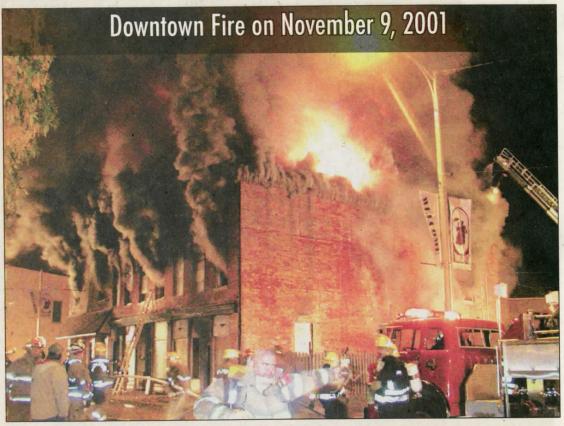
rent owners, Drew and Sue Cooper, along with future partner and their son, Joey Cooper, began the weekly task of

bringing the community their information through the distribution of newsprint. Celebrating nearly 20 years of publishing, the Coopers hope you enjoy this little peek at the last 20 years of Beginning in July of 1999, the cur- your hometown newspaper through five photographic examples of what exciting things have happened and have received a spot in the newspaper.



THE MIDDLETOWN NEWS FILE PHOTOS

P The terrorist attacks in New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C. on September 11, 2001, caused a rush and long line of vehicles as local residents began to worry about the high potential for a price jump at the gas pumps. Pictured is the Ricker's location on the corner of 8th and Mill Streets, just one of many stations unable to keep up with the sudden onslaught of vehicles.



Red Men's Lodge Fire Severely Impacts Downtown Middletown

I dramatically and tragically by a huge early morning fire on November 9, 2001. The fire destroyed two historic buildings and claimed the life of one man. Seven apartment. residents who lived in the old Red Men's Lodge building and the Jacobs' Country Corner Kitchens building escaped with town Fire Department, including aerial

Theskyline of Middletown was changed the clothes on their backs and one resident, Robert Griffith, a retired Navy veteran, was unable to escape. His body was found 3-4 feet from the back door of his

> Fire departments from three counties were called in to assist the Middle-

ladder trucks from Center Township in of his building razed. Dan Jacobs, the Investigators from the State Fire Mar- ner, had a new roof put on his building shal's office later determined that the and rebuilt his workshop inside. cause was electrical.

loss. Delmar Griggs, the owner of the Red corner of 5th & Locust Streets was the Men's Lodge building, had the remainder scene of a great tragedy in town history.

Muncie and Edgewood in Anderson. owner of the brown building on the cor-

Many people who drive through Mid-Both buildings were declared a total dletown now don't even know that the