

# **HISTORICAL EVENT TIMELINE**

**(INFORMATION GATHERED BY ALLEN BARKER FROM VARIOUS SOURCES)**

- 1856 - 1860            **RICH WOODS POST OFFICE IN OPERATION.**
- 1879 - 1881            **CHERRY TREE BOTTOMS POST OFFICE IN OPERATION.**
- 1881 - PRESENT        **CURRENT RICHWOOD POST OFFICE BEGINS OPERATION.**
- 1899            **CHERRY RIVER BOOM AND LUMBER COMPANY ORGANIZED.  
LAND FOR THE CITY OF RICHWOOD IS BOUGHT FOR 80¢ PER ACRE.**
- 1900            **POPULATION OF RICHWOOD (U. S. CENSUS) - 24 PEOPLE.**
- 1901            **BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD COMPLETED INTO RICHWOOD.**
- 1901            **DR. E. C. BENNETT(E) APPOINTED AS THE FIRST RICHWOOD POSTMASTER.**
- 1901            **CHERRY RIVER BOOM AND LUMBER COMPANY BEGINS OPERATIONS.**
- 1901            **E. E. DEITZ ELECTED AS THE FIRST MAYOR OF RICHWOOD.**
- 1901            **DODGE CLOTHESPIN FACTORY BEGAN OPERATIONS.**
- 1901            **EMPTY HOUSE LOTS SELLING FOR \$150 EACH. SELLING FOR \$10,000 EACH BY 1922.**
- 1901            **PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CONSTRUCTED.**
- NOVEMBER 13, 1901    RICHWOOD INCORPORATED AS A TOWN.**
- 1902            **THE FIRST CATHOLIC CHURCH BUILDING WAS CONSTRUCTED ON  
WALNUT STREET. PRESENT EDIFICE WAS CONSTRUCTED IN 1905.**
- 1902            **FIRST METHODIST CHURCH (NORTHERN METHODIST) CONSTRUCTED.**
- 1902            **CHERRY RIVER TANNING COMPANY / WM. F. MOSSER TANNERY BEGAN OPERATIONS.**
- 08/25/02       **A. L. CRAIG OPENED THE FIRST LAW OFFICE IN RICHWOOD.**
- 08/29/02       **RICHWOOD BANKING AND TRUST COMPANY WAS INCORPORATED. OPENED NOV. 22.**

- 1903 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH CONSTRUCTED.
- 1903 THE NICHOLAS REPUBLICAN BEGAN PUBLICATION.
- 1902 SHERWOOD MANUFACTURING COMPANY BEGAN WAGON WHEEL HUB PRODUCTION.
- 1901 IT WAS NAMED "**HUBTOWN**". LATER, THE NAME WAS CHANGED TO "JOHNSTOWN".
- 02/21/03 RICHWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ESTABLISHED BY THE WV LEGISLATURE.
- 1903 FIRST RICHWOOD MULTI-GRADE SCHOOL - "THE HILLSIDE ACADEMY" WAS BUILT ON THE UPPER SIDE OF WALNUT STREET.
- 1904 CHERRY RIVER PAPER COMPANY BEGAN PRODUCTION.
- 1904/05 CALVARY METHODIST CHURCH (SOUTHERN METHODIST) CONSTRUCTED. FIRST MEETINGS FROM 1901 - 1904 WERE IN THE UPSTAIRS ROOMS OF THE O'DELL MEAT MARKET (LOCATED WHERE WHITE AVE. NOW JOINS MAIN ST.).
- 08/01/05 THE FIRST MCCLUNG HOSPITAL (NOW THE MOUNTAINEER HOTEL) BEGAN SERVICE TO RICHWOOD.
- 11/13/06 FIRST NATIONAL BANK BEGAN BUSINESS OPERATIONS.
- 12/02/08 I. L. "PETE" BOSCH LOSES LEFT ARM AND RIGHT HAND IN LOG TRAIN WRECK. LATER INVENTS MECHANICAL HAND AND OPENS HIS OWN CIGAR STORE. COMPOSES A SONG ABOUT THE WRECK IN 1917.
- 1909 CATHOLIC PAROCHIAL SCHOOL - HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL - WAS CONSTRUCTED.
- 1910 **RICHWOOD POPULATION (U. S. CENSUS) - 3,061 INHABITANTS.**
- 1910 SMALLPOX DECLARED A 'PROBLEM' IN RICHWOOD. "PEST HOUSES" WERE ESTABLISHED.
- 1911 LOYAL ORDER OF THE MOOSE ORGANIZED.
- 1912 MAIN STREET WAS THE FIRST STREET TO BE PAVED WITH BRICK / STONE.
- 1913 J. D. WESTCOTT & SONS HANDLE FACTORY PRODUCTION BEGAN IN "WEBER CITY" AT THE MOUTH OF 'HANDLE FACTORY HOLLOW'.
- 11/07/13 THE FIRST SACRED HEART HOSPITAL WAS CONSTRUCTED.

- 07/10/16 THE CITIZENS BANK OPENED FOR BUSINESS
- 1916 "NEW" HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING BUILT 'ON THE BANKS OF CHERRY RIVER' BY J.A. TINCHER.
- 1917 WORLD WAR I BEGINS. MANY YOUNG RICHWOOD MEN WERE CALLED TO SERVE OUR COUNTRY IN "THE WAR TO END ALL WARS".
- 1920 **RICHWOOD POPULATION (U. S. CENSUS) - 4,331 INHABITANTS.**
- 1920 SOUTH SIDE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTED.
- 1920'S MAIN STREET/REXALL/WALKER/RICHWOOD DRUG STORE BEGAN SERVICE.
- 03/24/21 RICHWOOD RECEIVES ITS' CITY CHARTER.
- 08/15/21 **FIRST MAJOR CITY FIRE.**
- 06/11/22 **FLOOD THAT 'DEBRICKED" OAKFORD AVENUE.**
- OCT. 1922 **RICHWOOD POPULATION (U. S. CENSUS) APPROXIMATELY 7000 INHABITANTS.**
- 10/14/22 CORNERSTONE SET FOR "NEW" FIRST METHODIST CHURCH STRUCTURE. THE "OLD" CHURCH BURNED 08/15/21.
- 12/04/24 CHERRY RIVER BOOM AND LUMBER COMPANY MILL DESTROYED BY FIRE.
- 1926 TANNERY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTED.
- 04/24/28 **SECOND MAJOR CITY FIRE.**
- 1932 ALL THREE RICHWOOD BANKS CLOSE DUE TO THE GREAT DEPRESSION.
- 06/04/32 RICHWOOD BRIDGE (CURTIN BRIDGE) FORMALLY OPENED.
- 07/14/32 FIRST NATIONAL BANK REOPENED AS CHERRY RIVER NATIONAL BANK.
- 1933 JUERGENS DRUG STORE OPENS. OPERATED AS WEITZEL'S FROM 1962-92.
- 1936 PRESENT POST OFFICE BUILDING CONSTRUCTED ON THE FORMER OAKFORD THEATER SITE.
- 01/28/36 THE RICHWOOD TIMES BEGINS PUBLICATION. V. C. DEGREGORY IS THE OWNER/EDITOR.

- 05/29/37 FORMAL OPENING OF THE PARK PLACE ESSO (EXXON) STATION. CLOSES 05/31/01.
- 08/23/37 **CHERRY RIVER NAVY AND 1<sup>ST</sup> SPUD AND SPLINTER FESTIVAL ORGANIZED.**
- 1941 PARK PLACE "KNOLL" LOTS AVAILABLE FOR SALE. 'RICHWOOD COUNTY' PLANS END.
- 1941 WORLD WAR II BEGINS. AGAIN, RICHWOOD'S YOUNG MEN GO TO WAR.
- 1945 THE RICHWOOD NEWS CONFECTIONERY AND CIGAR STORE IS DESTROYED BY FIRE. CORNER PURE OIL SERVICE STATION CONSTRUCTED ON THIS SITE. PRESENT SITE OF THE MOUNTAINEER MART.
- 06/18/46 NEWS LEADER BEGINS PUBLICATION AS THE NEWS LETTER. CEASES PUBLICATION 11/25/98.
- 1949 JUST FOR OLD TIMES SAKE PUBLISHED BY COMSTOCK AND MCCLUNG.
- 07/19/54 **ANOTHER FLOOD HITS RICHWOOD.**
- 08/02/55 "THE NEWSSTAND" BEGAN OPERATION BY BOB SMITH. CLOSED 06/30/85.
- 1957 RICHWOOD GRADE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTED. BECAME RICHWOOD JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL IN 1978.
- 10/30/67 PEOPLES BANK OPENS FOR BUSINESS MERGED WITH FIRST COMMUNITY BANK 01/29/93.
- 1971 RICHWOOD CELEBRATES FIFTY YEARS AS AN INCORPORATED CITY.
- 1978 CHERRY RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTED ON FORMER PAPER MILL SITE.
- 10/01/89 CHERRY RIVER NATIONAL BANK MERGES WITH FIRST COMMUNITY BANK.
- 1992 WALKER AND WEITZEL DRUG STORES ARE BOUGHT OUT BY THE RITE AID CORP.
- NOVEMBER 13, 2001 RICHWOOD CELEBRATES 100 YEARS AS A TOWN!**

**THE TIMELINE WILL BE CONTINUED IN THE  
HERITAGE CENTER & ARTISAN CO-OP,  
SLATED TO OPEN SOON IN THE MONDREAS BUILDING.**