

Country Roads was the dream of Pete and Dorothy Sammons, who came from Missoula, Montana. They were willing to invest of their time, talent and money, to build a park that would ultimately become a self-governing community of homeowners who were looking for their "Garden of Eden" - made up of people of similar desires, who wanted to enjoy some of the finer things during their sunset years - among friends who were dedicated to a similar kind of "Treasure Hunt."

They broke ground to make their dream a reality early in 1984. The first sales office opened on September 15, 1984.

Sonnie and Frankie Burks, who lived in the Foothills and had been watching the project develop, rode by on their Goldwing motorcycle and noticed the park office was open. Being curious, they stopped. The result was that the first lot, Lot #385, was sold that day, September 15, 1984.

The first street made ready for occupancy was "Party Time" north of "Our World." The first owners to spend the night and live in Country Roads were Cal and Mary Jane Callahan. The first park model was placed at the corner of "Party Time" and "Our World," by Marge and Gaylord Maxwell.

The landscaping and construction were completed and Country Roads began to grow. The Ballroom floor was completed just in time for the "Grand Opening" held on January 12, 1985. The "Big Band Sound" of Bob Crosby and the "Bobcats" was enjoyed by 700 guests.

The grapevine went into action when the first few investors saw the charming place that was developing at 5707 on Old Highway 80, East of Yuma, Arizona. Some bought, some rented, some stayed a few days, some stayed for a long season, but they came - some from Oregon, Washington, Montana, and yes California; then the High Desert, The Rockies, The Dakotas, Idaho and Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, and at some point in time, the Canadian Provinces. Texans with their tall hats and tall tales, spread the word along the Gulf Coast. Country Roads fast became a place to enjoy the fun and sun while avoiding the rain, snow and sleet of the North Country. The camaraderie of the residents even helped us enjoy the Holiday Season far from home. Today, 37 states and Canadian Provinces are represented in Country Roads.

Country Roads became independent and self-supporting on April 10, 1992. On December 17, 1992, the homeowners elected their first Board of Directors: Pat Crotty, George Vanderwalle, Jerry Condron, John Alling, Glenn Ash, Blanche Strasser and Butch Kent.

By the spring of 1993, the balance of the lots (700) were sold to individual owners and Country Roads was now a self-governing community. Not all the changes have been easy, but most have been beneficial in the development of what the consensus agrees in what they think "Eden" should be.

Church services were held in our beautiful chapel and Non-denominational church services were moved to the ballroom to accommodate the growing congregation.

We are growing and changing. Everyone has something to enjoy with our activities, church, bingo, dances, and crafts amid the comfort, cleanliness, courteous people in beautiful surroundings. Don't forget the weather that encourages exceptional youthful zest that fills the air.

On January 12, 2015, Country Roads will celebrate its 30th anniversary, and the song couldn't say it better: "Country Roads, Take Me Home, to the Place I Belong." Country Roads will continue to set the "Standard of Excellency" for retirement living.

~Original Author Unknown
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