

Anaconda

2025 Visitor's Guide

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Welcome to Anaconda!

Home of the Old Works, a Jack Nicklaus signature golf course

Welcome to Anaconda – once a company town and now a town that enjoys company.

In 1980, after more than a century of smelting copper in Anaconda, the smelter closed. The tall stack that remains on Smelter Hill loomed above a city where uncertainty briefly reigned. At the time, locals wondered whether the city they loved would survive.

And survived it has, in large part because of a tenacity that is characteristic of Anacondans and fostered by a fierce love for this unique place.

The Visitor's Guide showcases the attractions and splendors of Anaconda-Deer Lodge County – a place where industrial history bumps up against wilderness – a place where moose and bear sometimes wander into town – and a city where kids still ride their bikes to the Washoe Theatre to catch an evening show.

The majority of visitors come to Anaconda during the summer months, so they can shoot a round of golf at Old Works Golf Course – a nationally-renowned, public course designed by golf legend Jack Nicklaus as an unprecedented remedy for a Superfund site that once housed the Anaconda Company's "Old Works" smelting operations.

Visitors can shoulder a backpack or daypack and find solitude in the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness or inquire into local history. They can cast for trout in nearby rivers, streams and mountain lakes. Old logging roads beckon mountain bikers and Forest Service campgrounds provide sites for tents or RVs.

During the winter there's ice fishing at Georgetown Lake, snowmobiling, downhill skiing at Discovery Ski Area about 14 miles west of Anaconda off Montana



The Old Works was built at the site of Anaconda's first smelter.



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Highway 1 or cross-country skiing at the Mount Haggin Nordic Ski area about 15 miles south of Anaconda off Mill Creek Highway, also known as Highway 274, which is the same road to Wisdom.

Fall brings hunters from near and far to walk through the woods and hills in search of elk, mule deer,

white-tailed deer and other big game animals.

Wildlife viewing is a year-round activity in Anaconda-Deer Lodge County. And keen eyes can spot bighorn sheep about six miles west of Anaconda, mountain goats in Lost Creek State Park and moose, elk and deer just outside of town. And there are raptors of many species in Big Sky Country. Black bear roam the hills, as do mountain lions. There also have been unconfirmed reports of grizzly sightings in the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness and wolves have been spotted, too.

Shop the Smelter City's unique stores for gifts, artwork and souvenirs of your stay.

Anaconda — where Main Street meets the mountains. Enjoy your stay. For more information on what's happening during your visit to the Smelter City, call Discover Anaconda at 406-563-2400, stop by the Visitor's Center at 306 E. Park Ave. or visit its website at www.discoveranaconda.com.

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Anaconda Calendar of Activities

June 2025

- **Anaconda Historical Bus Tours – Mid-May to September**
- Bus tours are scheduled at 2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Discover Anaconda Visitors Center at 306 E. Park Ave. Call (406) 563-2400 for reservations.
- **Lost Creek Raceway**
- Races are scheduled every weekend at 595 Galen Rd. Go to lostcreek-raceway.com/schedule to see the full racing schedule.
- **Anaconda Saddle Club Pole Bending Doubleheader, and Evening Pole Bending and Barrel Races – June 6-7 and June 18**
- Friday, June 6: Clinics 1 and 2. Saturday, June 7: Clinic 3 and Pole Bending Doubleheader at 81 Saddle Club Dr.
- “Summer Solstice” Evening Pole Bending and Barrel Races start June 18 at 81 Saddle Club Dr.
- **Anaconda Community Market – Thursdays, June 26 - Sept. 4**
- Every Thursday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. between June 26 and Sept. 4 at the 100 block of Main St. Showcasing locally grown and raised foods, local vendors, businesses and organizations.
- **St. Timothy’s Summer Music Festival – June 29**
- Jeff Barnhart, internationally renowned jazz pianist and entertainer, on Sunday, June 29 at 4 p.m. at St. Timothy’s Chapel

at 2285 Southern Cross Rd. above Georgetown Lake. Visit sttimothysmusic.org for tickets.

July 2025

- **Anaconda Historical Bus Tours – Mid-May to September**
- Bus tours are scheduled at 2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Discover Anaconda Visitors Center at 306 E. Park Ave. Call (406) 563-2400 for reservations.
- **Anaconda Community Market – Thursdays, June 26 - Sept. 4**
- Every Thursday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. between June 26 and Sept. 4 at the 100 block of Main St. Showcasing locally grown and raised foods, local vendors, businesses and organizations.
- **Lost Creek Raceway**
- Races are scheduled every weekend at 595 Galen Rd. Go to lostcreek-raceway.com/schedule to see the full racing schedule.
- **Fourth of July Celebration – July 4**
- Parade at noon at Georgetown Lake. Parade at 2 p.m. in Anaconda. Concert at 6 p.m. at Washoe Park. Fireworks at dusk over Washoe Park.
- **St. Timothy’s Summer Music Festival – July 6 and July 13**
- Megan and Christopher Wallace, dynamic classical duo, on Sunday, July 6 at 4 p.m. at St. Timothy’s Chapel at 2285 Southern Cross Rd. above Georgetown Lake. Visit sttimothysmusic.org for tickets.
- The Montana Chamber Music Society, Montana’s premier chamber ensemble, on Sunday, July 13 at 4 p.m. at St. Timothy’s Chapel at 2285 Southern Cross Rd. above Georgetown Lake. Visit sttimothysmusic.org for tickets.
- **Kenny Cook Memorial Car and Bike Show – July 17-19**
- Pint Night at Smelter City Brewery on Thursday, July 17. Memorial Golf Tournament at Anaconda Country Club on Friday, July 18. Car and Bike Show at Benny Goodman Park on Saturday, July 19 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, visit www.kennycookmemorialfund.com or call (406) 560-2857.



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• **Art in Washoe Park – July 18-20**

- One of the best shows in southwest Montana with juried arts and crafts booths, ethnic food and live music is offered Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 18-20 at Washoe Park. For more information call (406) 563-2422 or visit www.cvmac.org.

• **Anaconda Saddle Club Copper Series Omoksee – July 26-27**

- Copper Series Omoksee starts July 26-27 at 81 Saddle Club Dr.

• **St. Timothy's Summer Music Festival – July 27**

- Jack Gladstone, acclaimed storyteller and "Montana's Blackfeet Troubadour" on Sunday, July 27 at 4 p.m. at St. Timothy's Chapel at 2285 Southern Cross Rd. above Georgetown Lake. Visit sttimothysmusic.org for tickets.

August 2025

• **Anaconda Historical Bus Tours – Mid-May to September**

- Bus tours are scheduled at 2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Discover Anaconda Visitors Center at 306 E. Park Ave. Call (406) 563-2400 for reservations.

• **Anaconda Community Market – Thursdays, June 26 - Sept. 4**

- Every Thursday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. between June 26 and Sept. 4 at the 100 block of Main St. Showcasing locally grown and raised foods, local vendors, businesses and organizations.

• **Lost Creek Raceway**

- Races are scheduled every weekend at 595 Galen Rd. Go to lostcreek-raceway.com/schedule to see the full racing schedule.

• **Montana Shakespeare in the Park – Aug. 3**

- As You Like It – Sunday, Aug. 3 at 6 p.m. at Washoe Park.

• **Smeltermen's Day Celebration – Aug. 8-10**

Call Discover Anaconda at (406) 563-2400 for details:
- Downtown Sidewalk Sales and Artwalk on Friday, Aug. 8 in the downtown area. Smelter City Scamper 5K, 10K, Half-Marathon and One-Block Kinder Sprint on Saturday morning, Aug. 9 at Kennedy Common. Smeltermen's Day Brewfest with microbrews, food and music on Saturday afternoon, Aug. 9 at Kennedy Common. Bus Tours to the Stack on Saturday, Aug. 9 and Sunday, Aug. 10. The Smeltermen's Day Parade is on Sunday, Aug. 10 with music and kids' games at Kennedy Common.

• **St. Timothy's Summer Music Festival – Aug. 10**

- Pollo Loco, a spicy mix of Latin rhythms and infectious energy, on Sunday, Aug. 10 at 4 p.m. at St. Timothy's Chapel at 2285 Southern Cross Rd. above Georgetown Lake. Visit sttimothysmusic.org for tickets.

• **Smelter City Throwdown – Aug. 15-16**

- The Smelter City Throwdown Cornhole Tournament Fundraiser will run all day on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 15-16 at the Washoe Park baseball field.

• **Anaconda Saddle Club Evening Pole Bending and Barrel Races – Aug. 20**

- "Hot Summer Nights" Evening Pole Bending and Barrel Races will be on Aug. 20 at 81 Saddle Club Dr. (Montana Highway 1 West).

• **Fly-In and Car Show at Bowman Field – Aug. 23**

- Bowman Field will host its ninth annual Fly-In and Car Show on Saturday, Aug. 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Flour sack drop, games for kids, and possible airplane rides (weather permitting). Bowman Field is located at 1022 Highway 48 just east of Anaconda.

• **St. Timothy's Summer Music Festival – Aug. 24**

- John J. Roberts, high-energy blend of funk, jazz and soul, on Sunday, Aug. 24 at 4 p.m. at St. Timothy's Chapel at 2285 Southern Cross Rd. above Georgetown Lake. Visit sttimothysmusic.org for tickets.



In-Person and Online Yoga Classes



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September 2025

- **Anaconda Saddle Club Copper Series Omoksee – Sept. 13**
- Copper Series Omoksee Finals and Awards Potluck Dinner at 81 Saddle Club Dr.

- **Anaconda Live! Community Concert Series – Sept. 30**
- Gilly and The Girl, timeless classics and contemporary hits, 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 30 at the Washoe Theatre. For more information, call (406) 560-2953.

October 2025

- **Anaconda Wildlife Art Expo – Oct. 3-5**
- Copper Village Museum and Arts Center is proud to present the Anaconda Wildlife Art Expo, with art displayed at businesses and other venues around town Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 3-5. Call (406) 563-2422 for more information.

- **Six Hours of Disco mountain bike race – Oct. 11**
- A cross-country mountain bike race hosted by the Anaconda Trail Society, a race-against-the-clock to complete as many laps as you can in six hours around the Echo Lake Trail System. The event, set for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, starts and ends in the parking lot at the base of Discovery Ski Area at 180 Discovery Basin Rd. Visit runsignup.com to register.

November 2025

- **Annual Christmas Stroll – Nov. 28**
- The Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will be at 6 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 28 at Kennedy Common followed by a stroll through downtown Anaconda.

December 2025

- **Ladies Night Out – Dec. 4**
- This annual event is held at the Elks Lodge in Anaconda.




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A Jack Nicklaus golf course offers tribute to the Old Works

Late May 1994 — Sunny skies, troops of school children and a sea of smiling faces greeted golf's "Golden Bear" as he led local and federal officials in turning the symbolic "first shovel" at the site of Anaconda's Old Works Golf Course.

Golf legend Jack Nicklaus, designer of the new golf course, was joined by city-county, Atlantic Richfield and EPA officials in scooping and tossing five shovels-full of earth. In what some consider to be the most important positive development for Anaconda since the Washoe Smelter was built more than a century ago — and the most significant happening since that same smelter closed in 1980 — construction of the new golf course began as a symbol of new possibilities. Hundreds of Anacondans attended, cheering and applauding.

The course is an integral part of the Anaconda-Deer Lodge County's economic revival. Designer Nicklaus



The Old Works Golf Course's clubhouse has been newly remodeled.

met exacting design criteria, in large part because the course served also as an innovative remedy for a federal Superfund site. The golf course was built atop the contaminated wastes left by the Old Works copper smelters.

He met another criteria: tying the Old Works Golf Course into the history of Anaconda.

A part of that history connection is the use of 14,000 cubic yards of black slag, from the slag piles — probably the most commanding sight to newcomers entering Anaconda from the east — to cover 17.5 acres. Another is the preservation of 72 acres of native grasses.

To build the subgrade for the course, 600,000 cubic yards of earth were moved. On top of that was placed 700,000 cubic yards of earth to form a protective cap above which the actual course was laid out.

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Beyond the initial earthwork, which involved moving approximately 1.3 million cubic yards of dirt, the statistics regarding the new landscape are impressive on their own merits.

The course features a state-of-the-art irrigation system designed to reuse water stored in two catch basins, or lakes, thereby protecting the pristine waters of Warm Springs Creek from runoff.

The course opened in 1997 and has received national media attention both because of its unique beginnings, but also because of the quality of its play and the value it provides as a public golf course.

What began as the idea of Anaconda resident Gene Vuckovich, gathered enough steam to convince Atlantic Richfield to conduct a study to see just how feasible a golf course might be as a remedy for the Old Works site. Over time, scoffers turned to duffers — pleasantly surprised and, in some cases, humbled by the course's success.

The Old Works has undertaken a significant renovation of the clubhouse, including golf simulators as well as a new bar and patio with fire pits, turning the course into a year-round recreation destination.



The Trackman golf simulator and fire pits at the Old Works Golf Course's clubhouse make for year-round usage of the course.



31 Years

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Golf course trail traces history

Anaconda's northern flank offers reminders of Anaconda's heritage as a smelter city. For nearly a century, beginning in the mid-1880s, the smokestacks of the Industrial Age were as evident here as they were in many more populous areas of the United States.

Anaconda's first smelter was located at the base of the ridge running east and west on the north side of Warm Springs Creek. For about 15 years a sprawling complex processed the ore from



The Old Works Historic Trail offers spectacular views of the golf course. Photo courtesy of Carly Moodry.

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Marcus Daly's mines in Butte.

Chimneys — the remnants of which are still visible — belched smoke from wood-stoked furnaces. Also visible are the stone foundations of the buildings.

Now, Anaconda is taking advantage of those historical features as part of

a massive effort to clean up decades of environmental degradation.

The site of that first smelter is the location of the Old Works Golf Course designed by Jack Nicklaus. The 18-hole course is the centerpiece of ongoing Superfund cleanup. The course has been named one of the best public courses in the county and draws a steady stream of golfers to the Anaconda area.

In addition to the course, an "Old Works Historic Trail" was built to follow a high railroad grade along the slopes north of Warm Springs Creek. The paved trail

offers about 40 minutes worth of walking along the old railroad grade which was once the path of trains carrying carloads of ore to the Old Works.

Along the route are signs describing the existing and former historical features

which once made up the facilities of Anaconda's first copper smelter.

The trail begins and ends at a special kiosk at the north end of Cedar Street, adjacent to the west boundary of the Old Works Golf Course and the Cedar Park Lanes bowling alley.



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Lynette Foulger
broker/owner

With over 20 years of experience, Lynette Foulger, Broker/Owner, embodies honesty and trustworthiness, setting a high standard in the real estate industry. Her exceptional communication skills and organizational prowess shine in her boutique office in Anaconda. In our real estate office, we pride ourselves on our deep local knowledge. From hidden gems to neighborhood quirks, we're passionate about sharing insights that only locals know. With this insider expertise, we guide our clients to find not just a house, but a home that truly resonates with their lifestyle and aspirations.

lynette@mtone.com
406.560.7762

Denise Paszkowski
broker/owner

Known for her meticulous attention to detail, Denise excels in navigating complex contracts and ensures all deadlines. Her friendly demeanor and unwavering commitment to her clients make her a trusted partner in their real estate journey. Whether you're buying or selling, you can count on Denise Paszkowski to deliver results with professionalism and care. Reach out to her today and experience firsthand the difference a knowledgeable and trustworthy realtor can make.

denise@mtone.com
406-560-8030

Cali Vecchio/Miller
broker/owner

With a can-do attitude and a charismatic personality, Cali is known for her approachability and willingness to go above and beyond to help her neighbors, co-workers, and friends achieve their real estate goals. She believes in the importance of building relationships and takes the time to understand her clients' needs and preferences, ensuring a smooth and stress-free experience every step of the way. Outside of work, Cali enjoys spending time on the water and in the mountains, immersing herself in the natural beauty of Montana. She also has a passion for gardening and has a knack for raising plants, which she brings to her understanding of creating inviting and comfortable living spaces. Whether you're buying or selling a home, Cali Vecchio-Miller is committed to providing personalized service and expert guidance to help you achieve your real estate dreams.

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There are plenty of places to camp in ADLC

Besides established campgrounds, campsites in the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness offer visitors an opportunity to experience a closer walk with nature.

The U.S. Forest Service asks back-country campers to remember that these forest areas are maintained in their natural, undeveloped state as restful retreats.

Those who venture into the Pintlers will find beautiful scenery and rugged landscapes.

Here are some tips from the Forest Service to help you enjoy this grandeur:

- Register at trail entrances.

It only takes a moment of your time and the information will help the Forest Service meet your needs.

- Respect people's desire for solitude. Keep groups small. Select campsites away from other people.

- Avoid misused or overused campsites. Check the map for such areas. Camp out of view from trails in areas where vegetation will not be damaged.

- Select lesser-used trails. Many of the currently less popular areas offer the same wilderness features

as the others. Check them out.

- Keep fires to a minimum number and size. Campfires are a part of a wilderness outing but should be used with discretion.

- Use small lightweight, portable gas stoves for preparing meals. They are efficient, easy to use and usually leave no visible trace.

- Check for fire restrictions during drought conditions.

- Pack out all waste material. If you bring it in, remember to take it out.

- Pack a lightweight tent. These are much faster and easier to use, more efficient and comfortable.

- Use a filter before drinking from streams or lakes.

- Giardia exists in many mountain streams and water, so either use a filter or bring your own water with you.

For more information about the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, visit its Web site at fs.usda.gov/bdnf.

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Blessing Baskets



Blue Eyed Nellie Wildlife Mgmt. Area is home to bighorn sheep

Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep can be found in abundance at Fish, Wildlife & Park's Blue Eyed Nellie Wildlife Management Area west of Anaconda, which includes a trail for hiking, biking and horseback riding.

The Blue Eyed Nellie also is home to mule and white tailed deer, spruce and ruffed grouse and black bear. From Anaconda drive 4 miles west on Montana Highway 1 West and turn right (north) on Lime Quarry Road. The Blue Eyed Nellie is off Cable Road adjacent to the Lime Quarry.



A bighorn stands amidst the tall grass off Cable Road near the Blue Eyed Nellie WMA. Photo courtesy of Carly Moodry.

Adventure Camp offers a pit stop along the Continental Divide Trail

The Anaconda Trail Society (ATS) Adventure Camp in Washoe Park provides a pit stop for those hiking and biking the Continental Divide Trail.

The Adventure Camp is along a 90-mile alternative route taking hikers and bikers through Anaconda on their way to Helena. The Adventure Camp, which is free to use, gives hikers and bikers a place to charge their cell phones, prepare a meal and store their gear while they camp in the park or visit Anaconda.

Volunteers from the Trail Society clean and maintain the facility, which is secure with a key-code access.

Hikers/bikers are directed to three places to shower for a fee, including the Washoe Park Pool, Goosetown and the Big Sky RV Park.

For more information about the Adventure Camp, visit the Anaconda Trail Society website, anacondatrails.com.



Strategies for Avoiding Injuries While Hiking and Camping

- ☐ Blisters hurt! Wear appropriate socks and footwear.
- ☐ Stretch and warm up prior to your hike.
- ☐ Watch your step to avoid twisting an ankle.
- ☐ Stay mindful of your physical abilities.
- ☐ Sunscreen and mosquito spray are lifesavers.
- ☐ Make sure to stay hydrated.
- ☐ Always carry energy dense snacks.
- ☐ Don't go alone.



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Discover Anaconda welcomes visitors

The Discover Anaconda Visitors Center, housed in a replica of a railroad station, offers visitors information about local, regional and state attractions.

At 306 E. Park Ave., the building is easy to spot. Around back is one of the smelter's electric locomotives used to shunt ore cars in the once-busy East Anaconda Yards and on "the Hill."

Inside, the ambience of a depot is evident, from the ticket office in the corner to the postings of Butte, Anaconda and Pacific Railway (BA&P) Departures and Arrivals. Visitors will find state maps, U.S. Forest Service maps, hiking maps and maps of nearby states for quick reference. A slide presentation introduces you to Anaconda-Deer Lodge County. The Visitors Center has vintage bus tours scheduled at 2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. A knowledgeable driver and narrator take approximately 12-14 persons per tour to see highlights of the Smelter City.

For the hiker, or just plain walker, Discover Anaconda has booklets showing a walking tour of notable Anaconda buildings with connections to hiking tours. Guide books for the hiker or the



The Discover Anaconda Visitors Center is located at 306 E. Park Ave.

rockhound are available, along with samples of the Treasure State's rocks. Discover Anaconda offers not only an introduction to Anaconda-Deer Lodge County and southwestern Montana, but a wealth of information along with a warm "hello" and welcome to the area.

The Discover Anaconda Visitors Center, located at 306 E. Park Ave., is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. The phone number is 406-563-2400. Visit its website at www.discoveranaconda.org.

Discover Anaconda

SMELTERMEN'S DAY

2025

AUGUST 8th, 9th, 10th

Get event details here:

Parade

Scamper

Brewfest

Stack Tours

Take a tour of historic Anaconda

Visitors to Anaconda can get a firsthand look at the community by peering through the windows of a red, vintage 1936 White bus that originally operated in Glacier National Park.

The antique bus leaves the Discover Anaconda Visitors Center, 306 E. Park Ave., at 2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday from mid-May to September.



Discover Anaconda's tour bus awaits its next load of passengers to take a historic tour of the Smelter City.

Along the route, visitors will learn:

- The 1894 City Hall, now the Copper Village Museum and Art Center, at Cedar and Commercial, was constructed with pressed brick from the Standard Fire Brick Co., granite from local quarries and copper smelted in Anaconda. The building housed city offices and courts until 1976 when city/county governments consolidated and moved to the Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Courthouse on Main Street.

- The Old Works, site of the first of the city's three smelters, and the western edge of the Old Works Golf Course, a Jack Nicklaus Signature Course that has received national acclaim.

- The Washoe Park Trout Hatchery, going into Washoe Park itself.

- Washoe Park, established by the Anaconda Co. in 1890 for employees. The visitor sees the town's oldest building, the 1865 Glover Cabin, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

- That Anaconda's history is entwined with that of the nation is exemplified by Mitchell Stadium, built by the Works Progress Association (WPA) in 1937.

- The Butte, Anaconda and Pacific (BA&P) Railway. Another example of Daly's business acumen, the BA&P was built because Daly objected to what he considered the exorbitant charges of other railroad companies.

His partner was railroad pioneer and founder of the Great Northern Railroad, James J. Hill of St. Paul, Minn.

- Approaching Main Street, the visitor is introduced to The Montana (formerly the Montana Hotel). Opened in 1889, the structure lost its National Register of Historic Places designation in 1979 because the owner removed the top two floors. Yet the building has seen extensive renovations in recent years, aiming to bring it back to its former glory.

- Traveling east on Park Avenue, the visitor is introduced to several landmarks in quick succession, from the Visitor's Center and recently renovated Davidson building, to the Club Moderne, an excellent example of Art Deco; to the brewery building to Benny Goodman Park, named for a former mayor and not the Big Band leader.

- The Anaconda Stack State Park, the smallest state park in Montana, which serves as an interpretive site that offers visitors a sense of the stack's proportions.

- AFFCO, originally Tuttle Manufacturing, then the Anaconda Co. Foundry, was once the most complete foundry in the northwest — again, a result of Daly's thriftiness, with pattern and molding operations, capabilities for working with both iron and brass, all supported by machine, electric, blacksmith and boiler shops.

- After introductions to early Anaconda's more worldly aspects, from bars to brothels, the tour introduces churches, with stops (barring special services in progress) at St. Peter's Roman Catholic and St. Mark's Episcopal churches.

- In Goosetown, one of the three districts in the National Register of Historic Places, visitors learn how the neighborhood acquired its name and learn how the smeltermen and their families lived.

- Buildings close to the Montana Hotel building, both in proximity, as well as recognition, are the U.S. Post Office, on the National Register since 1986, and the Washoe Theater, registered since 1982. Both built in the 1930s, the buildings fascinate visitors.

- The Post Office, because it was built under cost — Congress had appropriated \$150,000, with construction costing only \$130,000. The \$200,000 Washoe because of its opulence in Art Deco — intricate designs in silver, gold and copper leaf and elaborate light fixtures.

- Main Street is the eastern edge of the Western District of the National Register of Historic Places. Just as Goosetown reflects the ambience of the workers at the Anaconda Co., the Western District reflects the lifestyles of higher management and of Daly and his extended family. The visitor is introduced to the dominant building on Main Street, the 1898 Courthouse, a Neo-Classical structure (and the adjacent jail, since converted to other uses) built on lots which cost \$8,000, the building itself costing \$100,539.50 to construct.

- A number of private homes with historical significance, some of which have been restored.

Enjoy your trip around historic Anaconda!

Anaconda treasures its courthouse



Anaconda's Fourth of July Parade marches down Main Street from the historic Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Courthouse.

Anaconda is justly proud of the grandeur of its historic courthouse that was built in 1898. So after years of weatherization and erosion began to take its toll on the magnificent sandstone structure, county officials decided to begin restoring the historic building in 2010. The work kicked off with a \$1.7 million restoration of the building's lantern tower, which was dismantled in July 2010. One-thousand pound casts of sandstone and fiberglass were made from the tower's decorative panels, which were then hoisted back in place beneath the century-old copper dome, in accordance with historic preservation guidelines.

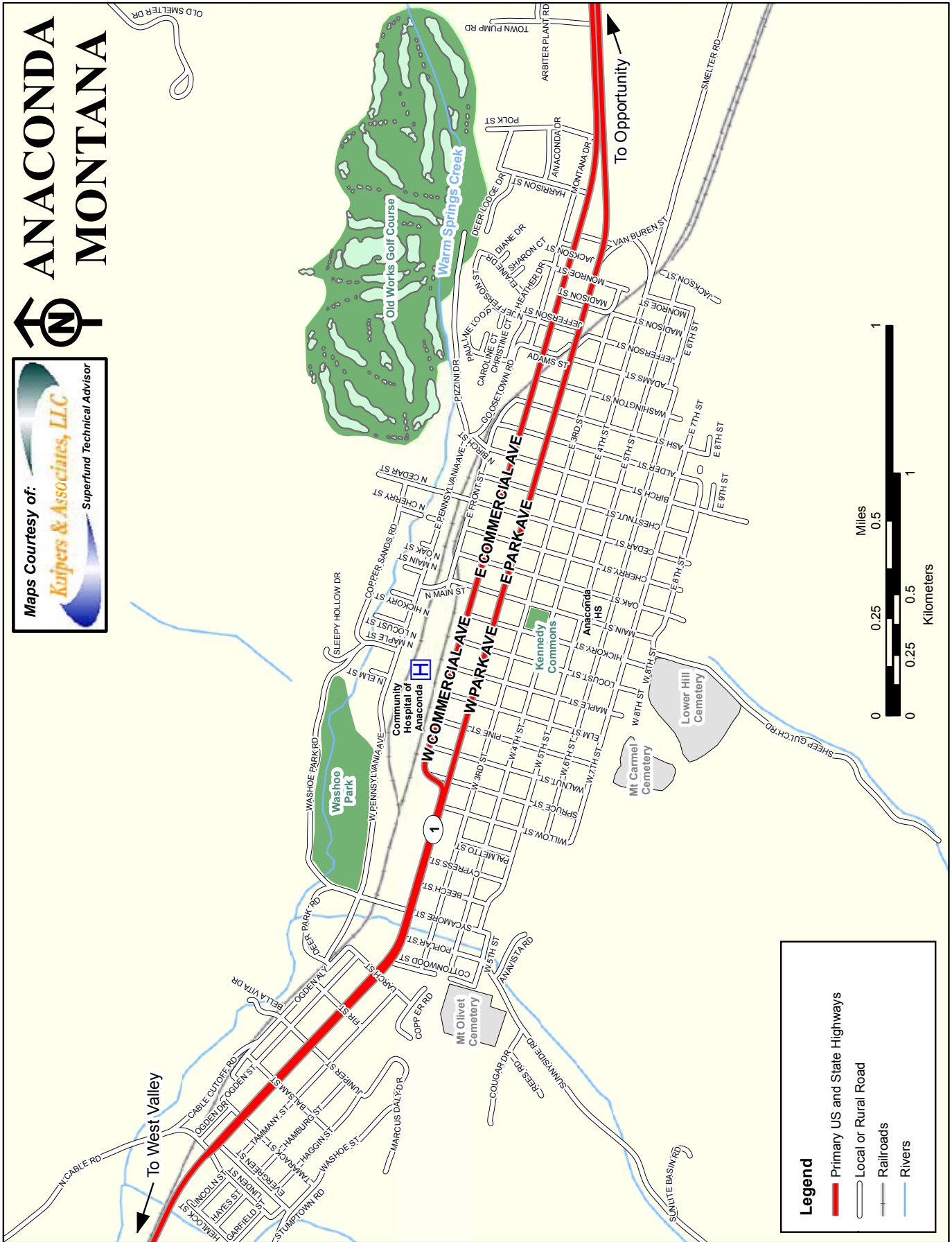
Sandstone from the original panels was crushed and reused in the new casts and windows were installed in the lantern tower, which was originally built without them, to keep water and pigeons out. Renovations were completed about a year later with lights placed on the roof to shine upon the tower for special occasions.

The courthouse is a "must see" for visitors, who

will be struck by the carefully maintained grandeur of the structure and the attention that has been paid to maintaining its historical and architectural integrity. The building is open to the public during regular business hours Monday through Friday and is well worth the time it takes to look around.



In the center of the courthouse's second-floor rotunda is a 14-foot diameter hole encircled by an ornamental balustrade.



Community Market offers fresh food, cool crafts on Thursdays at 100 block of Main

The Anaconda Community Market serves as a gathering space at the 100 block of Main St. on Thursdays during the summer, connecting Anaconda to fresh food and artisans every week.

Vendors providing food or products directly to the public will set up every Thursday on the 100 block of Main Street from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. starting June 26 and ending Sept. 4.

The Anaconda Community Market's mission is to support the community of Anaconda in fostering a connection to Montana farmers, ranchers and local vendors and businesses to find fresh locally grown foods, handmade goods and other Montana-made products. By working together, we are creating a stronger, healthier and more sustainable community.

Anyone interested in attending the Anaconda Community Market can expect a welcoming environment in the heart of downtown Anaconda



Vendors and customers gather at the 100 block of Main Street for the Anaconda Community Market.

at the 100 block of Main Street. The market accepts SNAP, Double SNAP Dollars, and the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program. Stop by the ADLC Public Health table to learn more about using your benefits. For more information, go to <https://anacondacommunitymarket.com>.





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Smeltermen's Day is an Anaconda original

Smeltermen's Day is Anaconda's celebration of its industrial past.

Originally Smeltermen's Union Day, the holiday was traditionally celebrated on Aug. 8 and in years past the children of Anaconda counted on getting a silver dollar and a bag of goodies from the smelter workers in exchange for participating in the Smeltermen's Day Parade.

While those silver dollars are now a thing of the past, the parade saw a resurgence in 2018 coinciding with the Smelter Stack's centennial, and has grown into a full-on fun-filled weekend that includes an art walk, community run or walk, brewfest and of course the parade.

The Smeltermen's Day activities for 2025 kick off Friday, Aug. 8 with an artwalk hosted by downtown businesses. The weekend celebration gets into high gear on Saturday, Aug. 9 with the Smelter City Scamper at Kennedy Common, followed by the Smeltermen's Brewfest featuring breweries as well as live music and food vendors. Saturday is also the



Old-time kids' games are a feature of Smeltermen's Day.

day when the popular bus tours of the Smelter Stack site begin. Tours start at the Smelter Stack State Park at 100 Smelter Rd. on Anaconda's east side. Float decoration also starts on Saturday ahead of the big day, Sunday, Aug. 10 with the Smeltermen's Day Parade and Children's Games. Bus tours of the stack continue on Sunday as well.

For more information, call Discover Anaconda at (406) 563-2400.

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The Washoe Theatre: a classic

Anaconda is home to one of the nation's most beautiful theaters — the Washoe Theatre.

Ranked fifth in the nation among similar sites by the Smithsonian Institution, the Washoe Theatre is listed also on the National Register of Historic Places.

A walk through the majestic building helps explain why. The restrained exterior of the building gives little indication of lavish interior — the elaborate and original Art Deco furnishings, light fixtures, beautiful silver, copper and gold leaf, and ceiling and wall murals.

Murals decorate the hallways, which are lighted with elegant light fixtures. At the turn of the stairs to the mezzanine is a modernistic mural entitled "Nocturne." Deep carpet covers the stairs and second floor.

But it is inside the theater auditorium itself where visitors often simply stop and gaze. Among the 1,000-seat theater's visual splendors are: hand-painted curtains and backdrops of turquoise, gold and red; mosaic



The historic Washoe Theatre hosts movies, concerts and other celebrations. Its Art Deco interior is ornate and eye-catching, and is one reason the theatre is a national historic landmark.

murals; hand-carved rams' heads lining the ceiling. On the dome is a mural in pastel shades of rose, powder blue and yellow entitled "Montana," which depicts the dependence of modern civilization on copper.

Around the stage the pilasters and proscenium are decorated in eight shades of gold and accented in copper leaf. The hand-painted curtain depicts rearing deer in gold and red against a turquoise background. The original backdrop curtain was in disrepair, and in 1990 was replaced with a

copy that was designed to be as close to the original backdrop as possible.

The theater's history is as rich as its decor.

The Washoe Theatre was designed by B. Marcus Priteca, Seattle architect. He also designed the Coliseum Theater in Seattle in 1916.

The Washoe stands on the site of the old Margaret Theater, built in 1896, and named after Marcus Daly's wife. Purchased by the Washoe Amusement Co. in 1927, the Margaret was destroyed by fire during the winter of 1929.

Plans were

immediately made to construct the Washoe, but due to the Depression, it did not open until 1936. The theater was constructed at a cost of \$200,000.

The Washoe Theatre opened during a period when movies were at their peak as an entertainment medium. Huge, elaborate movie palaces were built to show the films. Many of these theaters have been destroyed, but the Washoe still stands and is in operation, fulfilling its original function.

And the movies there still feature an intermission and ticket prices of yesteryear.

St. Timothy's Chapel offers spectacular views

St. Timothy Memorial Chapel at Southern Cross holds regular summer worship services on Sundays at 11 a.m. and hosts a popular summer music series. The chapel also is open daily. Dedicated in 1965, the chapel was built by Mr. and Mrs. John Bowman in memory of their son, Timothy Dillon Bowman, who was studying to become a Presbyterian minister when he lost his life in a 1956 automobile accident.

Constructed of native stone with generous areas of glass, both clear and stained, the chapel lifts its Celtic Cross from a hillside 600 feet above Georgetown Lake. The sanctuary windows at 7,000 feet altitude overlook Georgetown Lake and afford a full view of the Anaconda Pintler Wilderness area beyond, the Continental Divide and peaks more than 10,000 feet high. For more information, visit www.st-timothys-chapel.org.

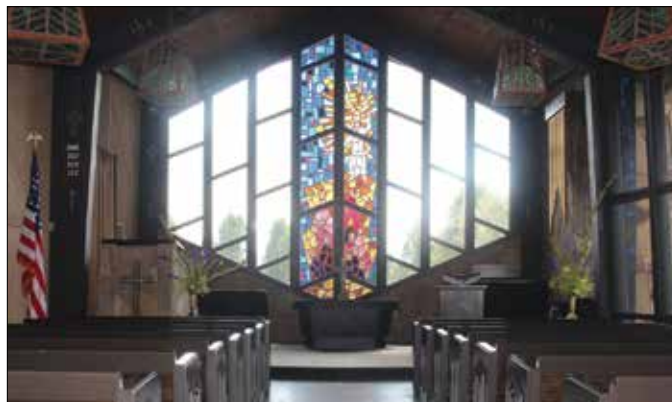
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Historic foundry still at work over 130 years later

Hidden behind several blocks of houses on the east end of Anaconda is a historic and unique example of a 19th century industry still in operation today, the foundry.

The foundry, now owned by AFFCO Inc., was constructed with funds provided by Marcus Daly. Originally it was known as Tuttle Manufacturing and Supply Company.

The complex was built in 1889 and absorbed by the Anaconda Company as the Foundry Department in 1896.

The foundry cast hardware for railroad and mining-related equipment made of brass and iron.

Today, the foundry operates under the private management and ownership of AFFCO.

In addition to the foundry, there are several ancillary buildings and the entire complex maintains much of its 19th century character.

Especially impressive is the pattern storage building, which houses a collection of thousands of wooden patterns for thousands of architectural and

industrial castings — some dating back to the 1880s.

Among them are the original patterns for Anaconda's unique antique streetlight posts, visible in most of the city.



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Stack stands as a remembrance

It looms above the Deer Lodge Valley and the city and is visible from miles away. The 585-foot-plus tall Anaconda smelter stack could swallow the Washington Monument.

Anacondans saved it from demolition in 1985. The stack now stands as a monument to the thousands of men and women who worked at the smelter, as a symbol of the complex industrial history of this one-company city, and as a towering reminder to the people of Montana of the power of the Anaconda Co. in the state's history.

The stack, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was deeded to the state by the Atlantic Richfield Co., the Anaconda Company's successor.

The late Bob Vine, a local historian, once described the importance of the stack in the lives of Anacondans.

"Everybody would get up in the morning and look to see if there was smoke coming out of the stack, and if there was, God was in His heaven and all was right with the world and we knew we were going to have a paycheck."

The huge brick smokestack was constructed in 1918 as part of the Washoe Smelter, replacing a smaller 300-foot stack. When the smelter itself was built at the turn of the century, it was the largest nonferrous metallurgical plant in the world. And the stack is still the largest free-standing masonry structure. The facility was shut down in September 1980. Demolition of more than 100 structures was completed during the summer of 1986, leaving only the stack as the vestige of this once-internationally significant industrial complex.

Eventually, when environmental stabilization of the plant site is complete, it may be possible for visitors to approach the base of the stack on tours, but until that time it can be viewed from below. In addition, an interpretive site near Benny Goodman Park offers visitors a sense of the stack's immense size.

It is hard to imagine the dimensions of the huge structure against the backdrop of the majestic Rocky Mountains. Set on a small hill, it rises a total of 1,000 feet above the city. The base of the stack, built in the form of a truncated octagon, is made of 5,100 cubic yards of concrete. The outside diameter of the stack at the base is 86 feet, while the inside diameter is 75 feet. The walls at the base are 5 feet, 4 inches thick. The inside diameter at the top is 60 feet.

The 30-foot high octagonal base required a mixture of



At 585 ft. 1.5 in., the smelter stack towers above the landscape.

20,891 sacks of cement, 50 railroad cars of sand and 118 cars of crushed rock — all of which produced 5,100 cubic yards of concrete weighing 9,250 tons. Special tile blocks, 2,464,672 of them to be exact, were used to construct the stack. They are equivalent to 6,672,214 ordinary bricks. To complete the structure, 41,350 sacks of cement, 77 cars of sand and 37 cars of fire clay were used. The stack weighs 23,810 tons and required 142 days to build.

Stack Facts

Smelter Stack

Height: 585 ft., 1.5 inches
Outside diam. of base: 86 ft., plus
Inside diam., top: 60 ft., plus
First smoke: May 5, 1919

Washington Monument

Height: 555 feet, 5 1/8 inches
Width at base: 55 feet, plus
Width at top: 34 feet, plus
Open to public: Oct. 9, 1888

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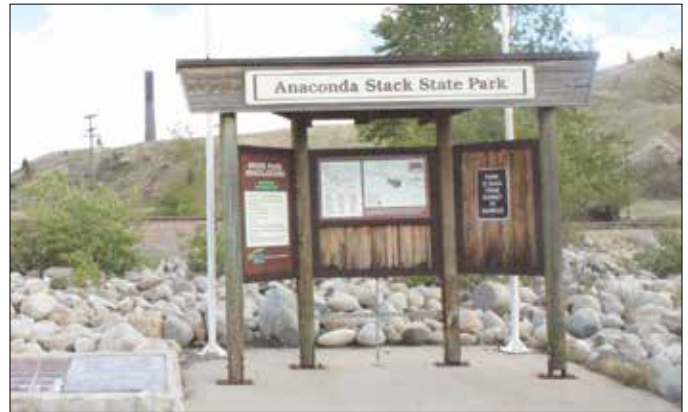
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Smallest state park offers tall perspective

For a sense of the actual dimensions of the mighty stack, visit Montana's smallest state park — The Anaconda Smoke Stack State Park, which includes an interpretive site beneath Smelter Hill, at the southeast edge of Anaconda.

The interpretive site includes a brick feature with the same circumference as the base of the stack. Apart from Smeltermen's Day tours, it is the only formal public area where residents and visitors can view the 585-foot-plus stack. In addition, the interpretive site commemorates the thousands of men and women who made their living at the smelter, through engraved bricks incorporated into the design of the model.

The Anaconda Smoke Stack State Park was a volunteer, grant-funded project, designed to satisfy the curiosity of locals and tourists alike. Local citizens, businesses and the Anaconda Job Corps Center volunteered their time and labor to construct the park. Interpretive signs provide a brief overview of the history of the smelter and the surrounding area.



The Anaconda Smoke Stack State Park may be Montana's smallest state park, but it serves as an interpretive site for a massive structure unlike any other: The Stack.

You can get to the site by following Fourth Street east, continuing straight where the road bears left into Jackson. Coming from the east into town, take a left turn onto Jackson Street and turn right onto Fourth. The site is east of Benny Goodman Park.

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Hearst Free Library has kept local readers reading for over a century

The Hearst Free Library, located at the corner of 4th and Main streets, was donated to the city of Anaconda by Phoebe Hearst, whose husband invested with Marcus Daly in the Montana copper industry.

Although Hearst had sold her interest in the Anaconda Copper Mining Co. when she came here in 1895, she asked the city fathers what she could do for the town.

When they hesitated, she said, "I have an idea, I have in mind a library." They replied, "That is what we need, and what we want."

Asked by the gracious lady why they hadn't told her sooner, officials replied that a library would cost too much money and they did not want to impose on her.

When the Hearst Free Library opened its doors on June 1, 1898, the Anaconda Standard reported:

"In a commanding position on Main Street, with lines of impressive, classical beauty, stands the Hearst Free Public Library, a gift to the people of Anaconda from Mrs. Phoebe Hearst.

"The first impression one receives is of massive substantiality, an effect which is heightened by the strikingly Grecian purity of outline and the almost severe use of ornamentation which by itself would give an impression of stiffness were it not for the graceful strength imparted to the design by the great spreading arches of the windows.



Hearst Free Library at Fourth and Main streets is a piece of living history. Established by Phoebe Hearst, wife of mining magnate George Hearst and mother of newspaper baron William Randolph Hearst, the historic building opened in 1898 and still serves Anaconda's residents.

The building is one of the best types of library structures, and has none equal in Montana; it will compare favorably with any public building in the West."

The library's doors opened to the public June 1, 1898, and are still open. Librarians stand ready to serve the community of Anaconda — more than a century after the doors first swung open. Inside you'll find the original woodwork, lights and ornate architecture alongside modern conveniences like computers and a Wi-Fi hot spot. To learn more, call (406) 563-6932.

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Old City Hall building houses art gallery and historical museum

Copper King Marcus Daly built mines, smelters, railroads, newspapers, cemeteries, and the city of Anaconda.

Daly dreamed of making Anaconda the state capitol and spared no expense to make its public buildings spectacular.

The Anaconda City Hall was built in 1895 of local materials — pressed brick and Anaconda granite, with Anaconda copper trim. It was, by most accounts, the finest City Hall in the northwest.

The building was occupied in 1896 and housed all of the city government offices, the fire engine house and all the police department. All agreed the new building was “a vast improvement over the dingy, foul-aired quarters that were used for so many years” — at least until aromas from the fire department’s horses began to waft up to council chambers.

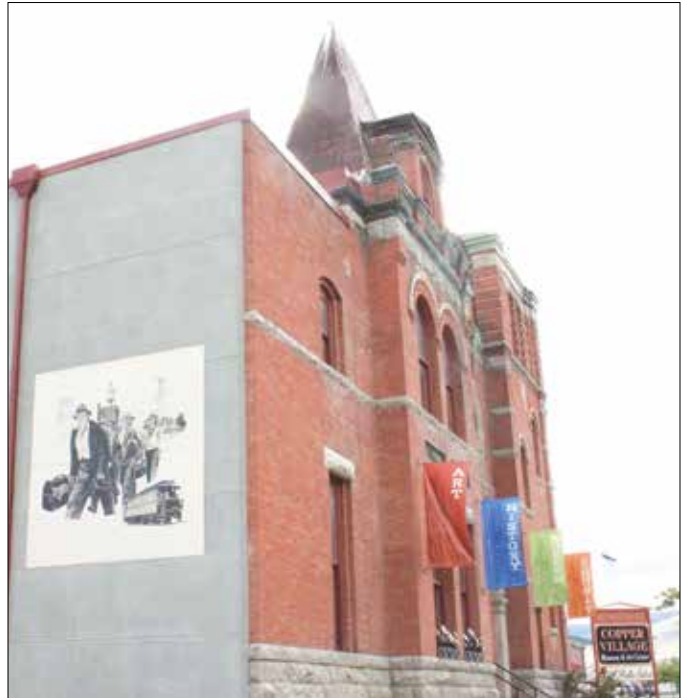
The building was used until 1976, when the city and county governments consolidated and moved to the County Courthouse, and the City Hall was boarded up and abandoned.

In 1982, Copper Village Museum and Arts Center and the Historical Society began renovating the old City Hall into a regional cultural center. In an ongoing restoration project, the building was insulated, the roof and windows were replaced, brickwork cleaned and re-pointed, mechanical and electrical systems updated.

The old City Hall Center now houses an art gallery, crafts center, a retail shop and the Historical Museum. Housed in the basement of Copper Village, the historical museum offers a picture of the future as well as of the past. The museum has collected information and artifacts — telling not only the story of Anaconda, the smelter and the county, but, as one visitor wrote, the museum is “extremely informative of settlement of the western world as well as a perspective on the civilization of the entire world.”

The museum reflects the past milieu equally: the individual, the political, social and industrial — portrayed by scores of artifacts: apparel; an ornate organ; the elaborate doll house owned by one of Marcus Daly’s daughters; early day apothecary.

Photographs are abundant: of individuals —



Copper Village Museum and Art Center is located at the Old Anaconda City Hall Building at 401 E. Commercial Ave.

formal portraits and casals — and groups; of the town and smelter; close-up photos; and aerial photos of the smelter and the city.

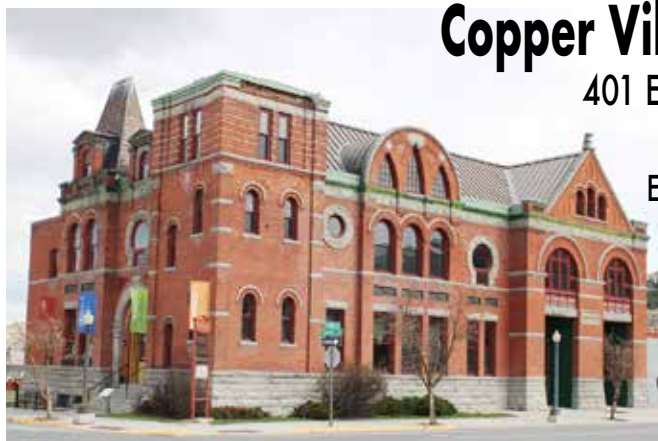
One of the largest items, and perhaps most colorful, is the panoramic panels drawn and painted by the late Bob Vine to illustrate copper smelting.

The museum is a treasure trove for the genealogist, the curious, the historian and the metallurgist, as well as the tourist.

One can walk through the museum or take a personalized tour.

The museum has the Anaconda Company’s records, including miscellaneous documents, personnel records, legal and metallurgical items. The records are not available to the general public, but access can be arranged for former employees of the company (or their family members), and professionals — such as historians, genealogists or scientists.

Copper Village Museum and Arts Center is located in the Historic City Hall Building at 401 E. Commercial Ave. Copper Village can be reached at 406-563-2422.



Copper Village Museum & Arts Center

401 East Commercial • Anaconda, MT

406-563-2422

Email: director@coppervillage.org

For Updated Info
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Anaconda Wildlife Art Expo

Downtown

Anaconda, Montana

October 3, 4 & 5, 2025

More Information:

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all proceeds to benefit
Copper Village Museum & Arts Center

Art in the Park has something for everyone



Pull up your lawn chair, have a seat and enjoy the music at Art in Washoe Park – and be sure to check out the vendors, too.

There's something for everyone beneath the majestic trees at Art in the Park, which turns Washoe Park into an art festival rivaling any in the Northwest.

Copper Village hosts the annual event during the third weekend of July. Bring your lawn chairs and grab a spot on the lush green lawn to listen to a variety of music including blues, folk, rock and country at the family-oriented event. Then stroll through the 75 juried art booths, which include everything from paintings, photography, jewelry, sculptures, ceramics, glass, leather crafts and woodworks.

Sample local cuisine including pork chop sandwiches, sarmas, barbecue beef, traveling tacos, Chinese food, smoked pork and baked potatoes with a variety of toppings. Snacks include shaved ice, fried scones, donuts, pretzels, cotton candy and kettle corn that can be washed down with your favorite beverage. For those with a sweet tooth, you'll find homemade pies, ice cream and fresh fruit. Friday night includes a traditional barbecue meal of beef, baked beans, corn on the cob and salad beginning at 6 p.m. and continuing until the food runs out.

Tickets can be purchased at the gate or by calling Copper Village at (406) 563-2422.



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Wildlife Art Expo brings artists downtown

The Anaconda Wildlife Art Expo, which started in 2000 and ran for eight years until the recession hit and shut it down, came roaring back in 2021 and has been going strong ever since. This year's expo will take place on a different weekend than in the past, as it will be on Friday through Sunday, Oct. 3-5 at businesses throughout the downtown area. The expo is a fundraiser and the proceeds will go to help Copper Village Museum and Art Center.

Artists from the local area and other parts of the country have been invited to showcase their paintings, drawings, sculpture and other media that falls under the category of fine art. Previously, artists showcased art solely focused on wildlife, but now artists will showcase different types of art including landscapes.

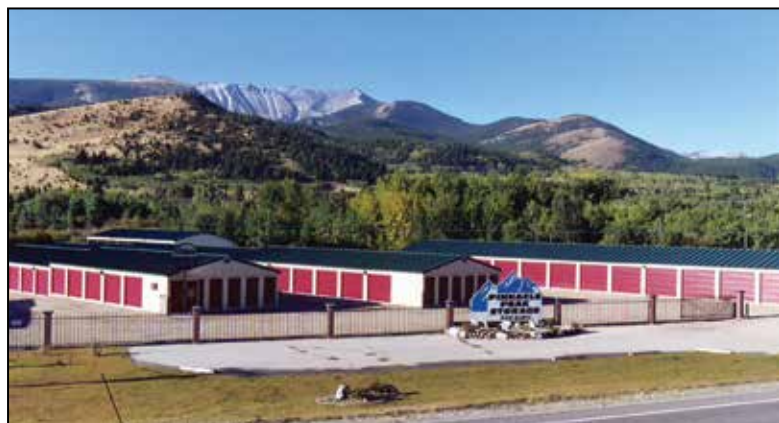
Art will be displayed at downtown businesses throughout the weekend. The Art Expo is a great way to showcase local artists and artists from different areas around Montana as well as for the public to enjoy a fun and inviting atmosphere surrounding art.



Jim Buti and Janet Moczar-Buti, featured artists at the 2024 Anaconda Wildlife Art Expo, showcase some of their work.

For more information, call Copper Village Museum and Art Center at (406) 563-2422 or check out their website, www.cvmac.org.

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Montana's longest zipline course is in Anaconda: Montana Zipline Adventures

Nestled just outside of Anaconda along the Pintler Scenic Highway is a high adventure completely unlike anything you've ever experienced: Montana Zipline Adventures.

You will be immersed in the unparalleled beauty of the panoramic Pintler Wilderness while ziplining Montana's longest zipline course over 9,300 feet. The course is considered intensive and action packed as its lines reach very high speeds.

Please reserve spots in advance as Montana Zipline Adventures is a reservation-only zipline. For reservations less than 24 hours in advance, guests must call to book.

As Montana's very best zipline destination, Montana Zipline Adventures features 7 ziplines ranging from 650 feet to 2,100 feet in length. Tours can take up to 3 hours depending on the size of the group. Minimum age of 6. Anyone

under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an adult 18 or older.

Please book 48 hours in advance. For same-day bookings please call (406) 560-3115. Also, please call for groups of more than 12 guests, and please read the Requirements & Restrictions on the website <https://montanazip.com> before you book.

Montana Zipline Adventures is located at 467 Swissmont Dr. off Cable Road on Anaconda's west side.



Montana Zipline Adventures has some spectacular views.

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Find yourself at Lost Creek State Park

Lost Creek State Park, just a few miles from Anaconda, offers some of the area's finest camping and picnicking opportunities.

The park features a short hike to Lost Creek Falls, where sparkling water cascades over a 50-foot drop of sheer rock in a setting of evergreens, willows and aspens.

Lost Creek flows through a narrow 3,000-foot deep canyon, which is littered with giant boulders. Spectacular gray limestone cliffs and pink and white granite formations rise 1,200 feet about the canyon floor.

The 440-acre site became a park in 1957. The park, located on U.S. Forest Service land, but operated by the state, may be found by traveling east from Anaconda, turning left on Highway 48 and then almost immediately taking another left on Highway 273. After traveling two miles, take another left and then follow the road about five miles up into the park.

There are more than 40 picnic and campsites available on a first-come, first-served basis. Each campsite has a picnic table and fire grill and will accommodate one vehicle or a 25-foot recreational vehicle.

Drinking water, garbage cans and vault toilets are nearby. A toilet and one campsite with a table, cement pad and fire grill are accessible to people with disabilities.

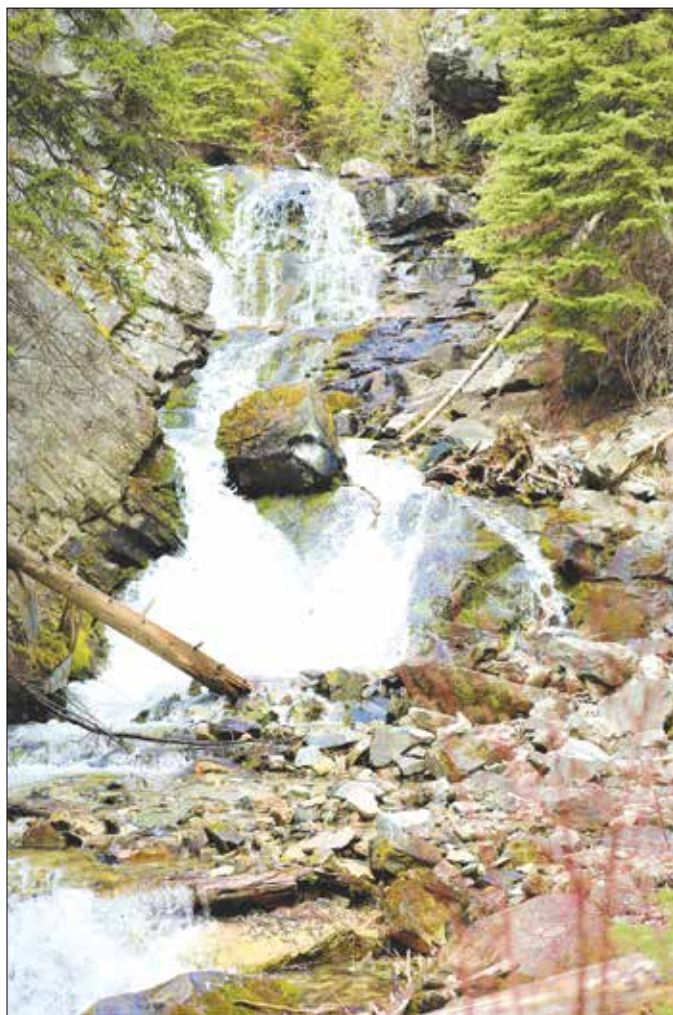
At the end of the road is a larger park area, restrooms and a parking lot near the falls.

A short walk, about 125 yards up a paved trail, brings you to Lost Creek Falls, which cascades over a 50-foot drop. Above the falls a hiking trail takes you into the mountains.

From the parking lot you can scan the rock cliffs, particularly if you have a pair of binoculars, for Rocky Mountain goats and bighorn sheep. The mountain goats are native to the area. The sheep were transplanted in the park in 1967.

The rock walls on the left or north side of the park are part of the Precambrian Newland Formation that was formed from compaction and hardening of lime-rich muds deposited in a shallow sea approximately 1.3 billion years ago.

A granite dike, formed when molten rock was



Lost Creek Falls is one of the beloved scenic features of Lost Creek State Park. Photo courtesy of Carly Moodry.

forced into the fractures or cracks in the Newland Formation about 75 million years ago, can be seen angling up the wall. Both rock formations were probably eight miles beneath the surface of the earth at that time.

As the Rocky Mountains formed, the granite rocks were brought closer to the surface. About one million years ago a tongue of glacial ice moved down the valley of Lost Creek, cutting through the overlying rocks and into the granite rocks now exposed on the cliff.

A self-register system is in use at Lost Creek State Park. Special fees apply to groups larger than 30 people; for information, contact the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks in Missoula, 406-542-5500.

Washoe Park Fish Hatchery will hook you

The public is invited to tour the visitors' center at the state's Washoe Park Trout Hatchery.

The center features an interpretive live trout display, designed to give viewers a better understanding of the Montana fish hatchery system and live habitat.

The display includes a living trout stream that skirts the building and can be observed from both inside and outside of the visitors' center.

The flow-through stream is fed by well water that circulates around the building and passes by a wall of glass in an indoor viewing area. There, spectators can see trout in their natural state.

Other displays include a replica of an early day hatchery office and pre-1920 photographs of the Anaconda hatchery.

The life-cycle of a trout is depicted in a separate viewing area, with a window opening to the hatchery tank room, which houses 28 fish tanks, which are used to hatch trout eggs and raise the fish to the fingerling stage — about three or four inches in length.

The visitors' center also features a taxidermy display



The historic Washoe Park Trout Hatchery welcomes visitors

which depicts local wildlife such as black bear, big horn sheep, various birds and small mammals.

The hatchery's visitors' center at 600 W. Pennsylvania Ave. is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. The outside viewing pond is open from sunup to sundown and fish food can be purchased for 25 cents to feed the fish.

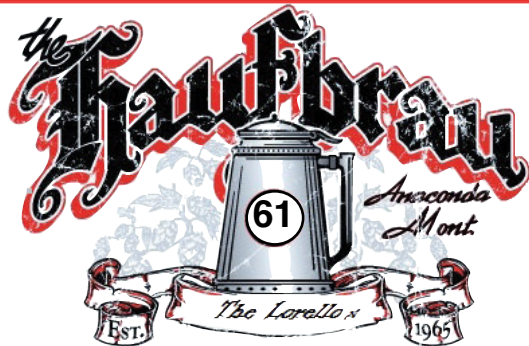
For more information about the state fish hatchery in Anaconda, call 406-563-2531.



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Kenny Cook Car Show is one of MT's biggest



The Kenny Cook Car & Bike Show is fun for the whole family – and it's for a good cause: scholarships for students entering the trades.

The Kenny Cook Car & Bike Show has quickly become the main event at Benny Goodman Park – and one of the biggest car shows in the state, with vehicles descending upon the Smelter City, and it's all in support of a good cause: The Kenny Cook Memorial Scholarship Fund, which awards scholarships to local

students entering the trades.

The weekend starts with a Pint Night on July 17 at Smelter City Brewing, then the Memorial Golf Tournament on July 18 at the Anaconda Country Club, and finally the big show on July 19. To learn more, go to www.kennycookmemorialfund.com.



Cook was a beloved figure in Anaconda.



Car & Bike

Show

July 17, 18 & 19, 2025

Benny Goodman Park

(across from Albertsons)



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July 17, 2025
Pint Night - Smelter City Brewery

July 18, 2025
Memorial Golf Tournament-ACC

July 19, 2025
Car & Bike Show - Benny Goodman Park



Donations accepted

Please make checks payable to ACF or Anaconda Community Foundation in the memo line add: Kenny Cook

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www.kennycookmemorialfund.com

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For More Information contact Jim Bellandi • 406-560-2857

Lorry Thomas Wildlife Area at Hefner's Dam

One of Anaconda's newest recreation sites is the Lorry Thomas Wildlife Area at Hefner's Dam, which is named in honor of the late sportsman who spent his life advocating for access to public lands and streams throughout Big Sky Country.

The old pump house building, which is about three-quarters of a mile west of Washoe Park off North Cable Road, has historical information about the Anaconda Company's use of the dam and how Mother Nature took over when smelting operations were shut down in the mid-1980s.

An eight-foot-wide, handicap-accessible gravel trail connects the pump house and metal bridge crossing Warm Springs Creek to the wetland area at Hefner's Dam about a half-mile away. The trail also runs in the easterly direction to a trailhead on the western edge of Washoe Park and continues to the duck pond. The Anaconda Job Corps installed 14 benches along the length of the trail, which is about a mile long from Washoe Park to Hefner's Dam.



The old Hefner's Dam pump house serves as the gateway to the Lorry Thomas Wildlife Area west of Washoe Park.



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Wildlife flock to Warm Springs Ponds



A flock of geese scatters at the Warm Springs Ponds, where bird-watching is a popular activity. Photo courtesy of Carly Moodry.

Hunters, anglers, bird watchers and other outdoorsmen favor a “remote” area close to Anaconda and just a stone’s throw from Interstate 90.

Numerous recreational opportunities are just 20 minutes away at Warm Springs Ponds Wildlife Management Area. The area is under lease by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

Fifteen miles of trails weave through and around wetlands alive with birds. They perch and bob on rough marsh grasses, paddle silently through tranquil waters, swoop and dip through a sky resonant with their calls.

Benches and picnic areas in the valley provide a fine view of Mt. Powell in the Flint Creek Range and Mt. Haggin above Anaconda. The trail routes include interpretive signs.

The Atlantic Richfield Company has constructed improvements to the area, which once served as settling ponds for the Anaconda Company smelter. The trail system is open to hikers, bikers and horses,

and the ponds are open to non-motorized water craft.

Anglers and hunters are urged to consult their regulation booklets to check when the area is open for sporting.

To access the Warm Springs Ponds recreation area, drive Highway 48 to Frontage Road, then follow left to the Warm Springs junction. Take a right and continue east on Morrell Road under Interstate 90.

To reach entrance one, two or three, bear right at the fork in the road; entrance four sits further east on Morrell. Entrances five through 10 occur at intervals along East Side Road, and can be reached by turning south where Morrell ends (about 8/10 of a mile past the I-90/Warm Springs junction), or following it north from Opportunity.

The area occupies the headwaters for the Clark Fork River, which also provides opportunities for anglers. Again, consult Montana fishing regulations before casting and make sure adults have the licenses required.

Splash Park at Washoe Park is Anaconda's newest attraction



Boasting various smelter-themed water playground features, the Splash Park at Washoe Park is Anaconda's newest attraction.

Anaconda's newest summertime attraction is a destination splash pad unlike any other: The Washoe Park Splash Park.

The new playground, fittingly for the Smelter City, is a smelter-themed splash pad with smelting pot slides, a smelter tower water feature, mining cart sprayers and a smelting pot sprayer.

There are amenities sure to please younger and older kids alike, including two spinning features, two climbing walls as an access to the slides, a large climbing boulder and a small climbing bear for the little cubs. Additionally there is an area specific to tots in the splash pad and one for older kids including the dump bucket, water shooters and sprayer shaped like the stack.

The playground includes two zipline-style features and two large slides attached to jungle gyms with tubes connecting them as well. The playground is covered in three inches of rubberized

padding with a half-inch of pour-in-place on top. The sidewalk surrounding the area includes benches and a picnic shelter as well, with optimal parking available for easy access and many of the playground features are wheelchair accessible.

"The splash pad is unapologetically Anaconda. All elements in the pad [are] made to be as close to the look of the actual smelting pots and tower," according to Northwest Playground, who began working on the playground's construction in the summer of 2023 after Anaconda-Deer Lodge County moved forward with the proposal in February as a replacement for the duck pond that had become dilapidated.

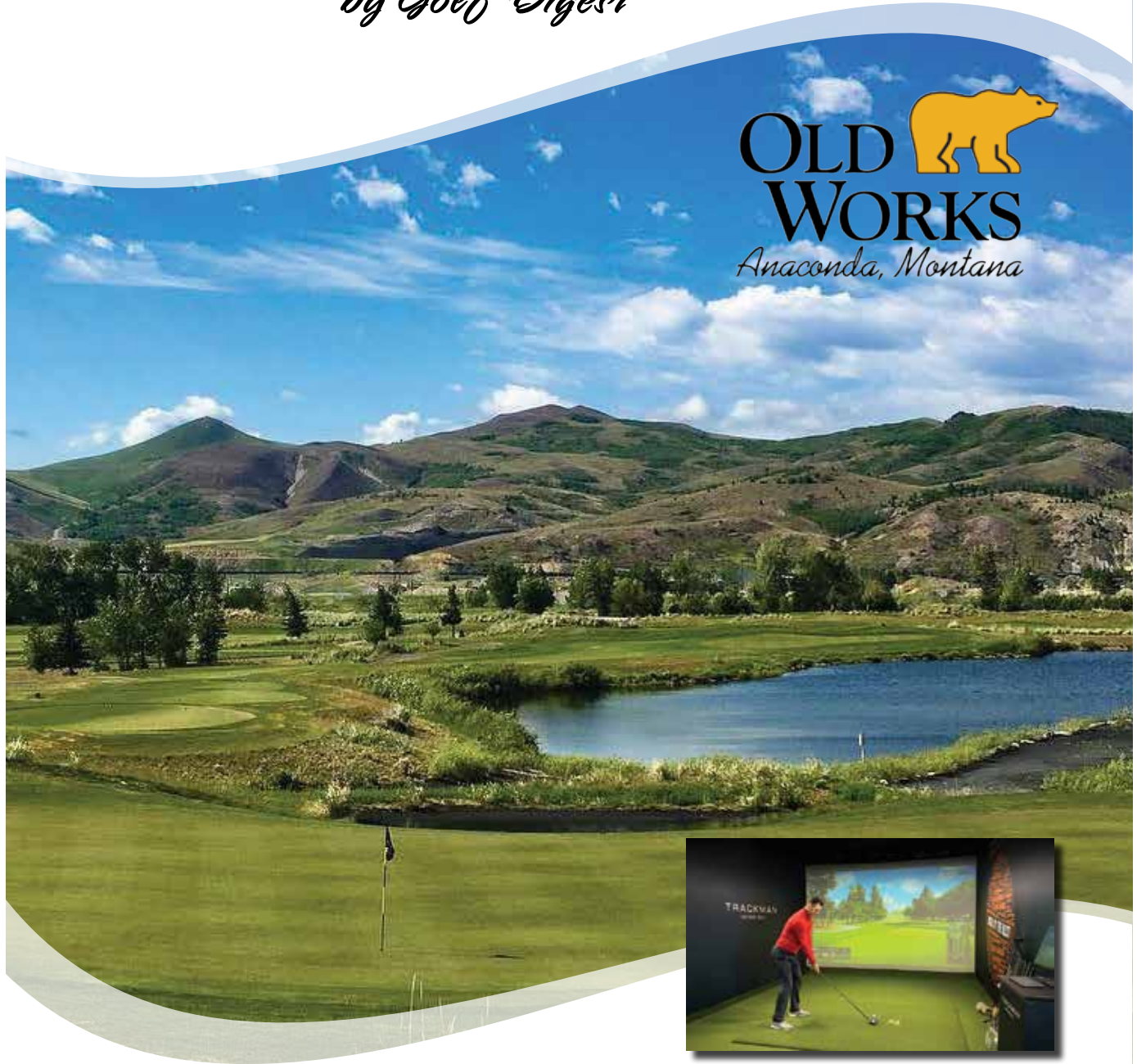
The splash park opened in June of 2024 and is the new place to be in the Smelter City during the summer months.

For more information about the splash park, call the ADLC Parks Department at (406) 563-3408.

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photo by Rick Wagner

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