Things are getting tougher. Everywhere you look, we hear stories of what seems to be no less than extremely organized attempts at attacking anything that is mining related. And it seems to be closing in on us here in Colorado.

There have been dredging bans in California, dredging bans in Oregon, Prospecting bans in Wyoming, and several small incidents here in Colorado. It seems that mining is under attack across the whole nation. I am willing to bet that ole George “Buzzard” Massie is rolling over in his grave each time mining comes under attack. For those of you who may not know, the “Buzzard” started the GPAA a ways back around 1980 or so. He is singularly responsible for organizing the GPAA into the largest mining club in the world, consisting of several hundred thousand likeminded miners, small and big, worldwide. And ole George knew even back then, that the day was coming when we would have to fight to preserve our mining heritage. And he was right!

Now I have stated before, that the best way to find out about prospecting and mining is to join a Club. Then you are around like minded people who share the same interests as you. But there are Clubs and then there are ‘Clubs’. Some Clubs don’t really do a lot and they don’t have very good leadership, the programs are poor if any, and they don’t really do anything. Leadership is paramount to success. The leaders you select need to be energetic and go getters, really. That is the way George was. Of course, it wound up killing him as he died of a massive heart attack. Now it was probably attributable to the fact that he never rested, he worked himself to the bone, he never slowed down, he took everything personally, and he was determined to a fault to make things work. And he did.

George’s legacy is now built in solid gold. The GPAA has led to the formation of more Chapters and Clubs than he could have imagined. And more and more people are joining all the time. I don’t think it is so much the having of gold as it is the allure of finding the gold. Gold has a luster, an allure, a raw beauty unlike any other raw mineral on the planet. But you aren’t going to get rich at it. You will spend 100.00 to make 10.00. But man, is it ever fun!!

But if we want to keep doing it, we need to prepare to fight for it. The GPAA has led to the formation of the Public Lands for the People (PLP) and the American Mining Association. These three organizations are putting their (and your) money to work defending each attack whenever and where ever possible. It is well worth your time to join them as your money will be put to good use. I know that as I get older, it is more important to me than ever to make sure that I get my money’s worth, no matter what is involved. And you should as well.

I feel sorry for those out there who are ‘outlaws’, or ‘wild catters’, or ‘loners’, or whatever you want to call them, because they refuse to join Clubs. Nobody is going to tell them what to do, by golly, and they don’t like to have to be bound to rules or regulations and they have a ‘right’ to do pretty much whatever they want to do. But in the end, these are some of the very people who wind up giving the rest of us a black eye or a bad rep before it is all said and done. They can often be arrogant, extremely opinionated, quite often negative, rude and very confrontational. And those traits are not how you win out in the long run. Those are the traits that actually make the opposition far more determined to challenge and obstruct you or wear you down. In this day and age, we need to be smarter than that. We need to improvise, adapt, and overcome by being informed, resilient, organized, and most of all, united on a common front. And that is a fact..! And that is what the old “Buzzard” told us long ago!

Well, that is about all I have from here for now. So until we meet again, keep your sunny sides up and may the bottoms of your pans turn bright with that treasured ‘Yaller Gold’!

You may contact me at 303-452-6087 or at jnslong945@msn.com

Happy and safe prospecting to all!!!

The Prez Sez by Jim Long

Colorado History #17

As with all things that prosper the Denver City Town Company’s individual shareholders were soon being asked constantly to sell their buildings. New arrivals were shrewdly buying up whole blocks and then selling them off in ten to fifteen lots, for many times their investments.

General Larimer wrote to his family in Pennsylvania,” I bought one other half share—I got it for building a good cabin house and $5.00 in cash….The day following I was offered $400 for my bargain by young Curtis, son of the Iowa congressman.”
Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 2

Dick Whitsitt the new Denver City town recorder, succeeding former recorder Peleg Basset, established himself as a sharp real estate operator plotting, surveying buying and sell lots and blocks. He described the local situation to a prospective immigrant in irresistible glowing terms.

“And now our beautiful city may be said to be on its feet,” Whitsitt wrote, “It will be the Queen of the West, and it is where you ought to come and settle while land is cheap. Come and put your money in here with us and you will never rue the day you done it.”

“They Southern desperadoes from Georgia that located their city on the west side of Cherry Creek, Auraria, have reached the end of their rope….their doom is sealed already and Denver is the bobtail hoss that I have bet all my money on and you and we will live to see marble palaces lining its streets. Why, lots that you could have your choice of last fall when the city was laid off, for ten dollars apiece are now selling for fifty and sixty. Upon Arapahoe and Curtis, you can still get lots for ten, and I consider them a safe purchase for this city is bound to grow.

“The plains are covered with posies now and the mountains are a sight you will never see anywhere else out of Paradise. Everybody is well—nobody gets sick here, not even over in Auraria where you’d think people would want to die just to get away from it.”

“The Rocky Mountains are full of gold and there are fortunes for all in this country. Come and if you can’t come on two legs, come on one. Any route is good enough”

Again if you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 720-443-9545. Klondike Mike

From the Treasurer/Secretary Ledger By Linda Luchtenburg

For the month of August, we will be giving away a total of 7.5 grams of gold with the largest being 2.4 grams. We would like to give a special ‘Thank You’ to Jim Long, Bill Duncanson, the GPAA, and the Aurora Water Festival folks for donating items to the June general drawings. Also, we have a new ‘Members Only Special Nugget’ and will start selling tickets again for this one. It is a beautiful 13.7 gram nugget in quartz matrix from Arizona that was found with a metal detector. Remember, your odds of winning in this raffle are far better than the Lottery or Power Ball. So buy lots of tickets.

Membership Committee

We are well on our way to getting the name badges changed over to the new numbering system. If possible, could you bring your badges to the next meeting to get the rest of them changed over.

See ya at the meeting.

Pam

GPR Meeting Program:

The August meeting will feature the 2nd part of a 60 minute video on ‘Finding Gold with Sluice box Sam’. We hope to see you all there!

Board Meeting Minutes From July 2013

| X | James Long       | Joe Shubert | X | Joe Fortunato | X | Roger Biri |
| X | Mike Hurtado     | Joe Johnston |   | Terry Weatherly | X | Brandon Luchtenburg |
| X | Linda Luchtenburg| Janine Ballentine | X | Andy Doll | Gary Hawley |

Quorum Present? Yes
Call to Order: By JJ at 6:00 pm

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Yes Corrections: None Approved as read/corrected: Yes
Treasurer’s Report: Questions: None. Approved: yes

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

In India, during the last day of what festival, do Indians visit jewelry stores to buy gold??
General Meeting Minutes From July 2013

1. Meeting was opened at 7:05 pm by Pres. Long with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Pres. Long gave the Metals Report with gold at $1274.96 an ounce, silver at $19.31, platinum at $1403.00 and palladium at $695.50.
3. Web hits for last month reflected 627 hits for the last 30 days.
4. Pres. Long announced that tonight’s program will be a 30 minute Part 1 of a 60 minute video on “Getting Gold by Sluice Box Sam”.
5. Treasurer Linda Luchtenburg reported that the Club remains in the black. Report is available for review for anyone who wishes to see it. Also, we will be getting a new nugget for the ‘Members Only’ drawing and it should be here for August.
6. Pam and George Schmitt reported from the Membership Table that approx. 76 members were in attendance. There were 3 guests and 7 new members in attendance as well. The meeting attendance was 86.
7. Sue Clover read the ‘Question of the Month’, which was ‘Which African country is the second largest African gold producer and the eighth largest in the world?’
8. Pres. Long advised that there was time to enter items at the break for the ‘Finds of the Month’ table and everyone was encouraged to check them out and vote accordingly.
9. John Johnson presented the 2013 Cache Clue #7 to the membership in attendance.
10. Pres. Long informed the membership that we have found a vendor to purchase new products for the store. Flyers were announced for the next Outing which is the 3 day outing at Twin Lakes on July 26, 27, 28. The water is gradually dropping so lets’ get after it. Please be careful. Pres Long reported the July 13 Outing on lower Clear Creek was a success and everyone enjoyed the bbq. We did clean things up from Washington St. all the way to York St. The flood from July 14 has since deposited a ton of new trash, so we will have plenty more to do. Pres
Long awarded prizes for the winners of the Glass Contest at the June 22 Nederland Outing. Congratulations to Paul Murch for 1st place who got a .1 gram nugget, Fran and Abel Espinosa for 2nd place and a vial of .05 grams of gold, and Mike Smith for 3rd who will receive $5.00 in gold presidential dollars. Pres Long discussed the fact that Wheatridge has leased the Youngfield property from Jefferson County and Pres Long will sit at the table on Aug 29 with Wheatridge to establish prospecting rules for that property. The ‘Klondike Mike’s Finishing Table’ will be demonstrated again at the break. Pres Long and VP Mike will be doing a panning demo on Aug 1 in Idaho Spgs with 25 Japanese exchange students. The Club picnic will be in Lions Park in Golden on Aug 17 from 11a-2pm at the East Pavilion. Attendees should bring a side dish. Club is providing drinks, condiments, dogs, brats, burgers.

11. **Pres. Long** announced the break at 8:125pm. Meeting was called back to order at 8:35pm.

12. **Sue Clover** announced that there were 35 winners of the ‘Question of the Month’ and that the answer was ‘a 5 carat diamond’. Thanks to John Johnson 111 and John Johnson II for distributing the winning tickets for the evenings gold drawings.

13. **Pres. Long** announced the winners of the ‘Finds of the Month’. Winner in Best Bottle, Jewelry, Coin, and Artifact were Pres. Long. We need more folks to bring in and share your finds with the Club.

14. **Pres. Long** concluded the evening with drawings for numerous door prizes followed by drawings for the gold nuggets. A reminder that holders of drawing tickets for the regular gold drawings who did not win and want to redeem those tickets may present them at the end of the Meeting and they will be reimbursed at .01 cents on the dollar, or they can choose to donate the tickets back to the Club. Those assisting Pres. Long in the drawings were **Chuck Cown** and **Linda Luchtenburg**.

15. **Pres. Long** thanked **Kris and Joe Kafka** and all those who contributed to the Refreshment Table. Any member is encouraged to chip in and add to the spread each month. With the number of attendees skyrocketing recently, this really helps the folks who run the table and those who volunteer up front each month. The Club appreciates the efforts that each and every one of you to make the refreshment table enjoyable.

16. The scheduled **Program for August will be** part 2 of a video on ‘Finding Gold’ by Sluicebox Sam. We hope to see all of you there!

17. Until next time, prospect safely, live long and be grateful for that golden bounty from the stars, the gleaming magical miracle called ‘gold’!

18. The Meeting was **adjourned at 8:59pm**.

**Schedule of 2013 Planned Outings:**

3-6 Sat Panning Demo at Western Coliseum for Rky Mtn Horse Expl 2-4 pm

4-27 Sat Trash cleanup/lunch/prospecting Outing on lower Clear Creek. Meet behind Tymkovich’s 6811 Washington 9am – dark. Remember, no motorized equipment is allowed in Adams County.

5-11 Sat Beginners Panning/Sluicing Class at Tymkovich Meats, 6811 N. Washington , 9am.

5-16 Thur Panning Demo, Aurora Water Festival, 9a-3p.

5-18 Sat Prospecting Outing, Lake Gulch, Blackhawk, 9am. (Clay County Mine)

6-1 Sat Tour of Leadville Mining Museum and Matchless Mine, 10am, 15.00 @ person.

6-15 Sat Rescheduled Tour of the Western Mining Museum in Colo. Sprgs. At 10am. Cancelled due to forest fire.

6-22 Sat Prospecting Outing in Nederland at 9a. Glass cleanup contest.

7-13 Sat Trash cleanup/Prospecting Outing on lower Clear Creek. Meet behind Tymkovich’s 6811 Washington 9am – dark. Remember, no motorized equipment allowed. We will provide lunch of dogs, chips and drinks at 11:30. 7-26, 27, 28 Prospecting Outing on Lake Creek, Leadville w/the Illinois Gold Seekers Club, 5.00 @ day @ person, bbq Saturday night.

8-1 Sat Panning Demo for Japanese Exch Students, Idaho Spgs, 1p-4p.

8-4 Sun Beginners Panning/sluicing Class at 6811 N Washington, 9am-12noon, bring pan, boots * Newly Added *

8-17 Sat Club Picnic at Lions Park in Golden 11a-2p, East Pavilion

8-24 Sat Prospecting Outing Lake Gulch, Blackhawk, 9a. (Clay County Mine)
9-5, 6, 7  Highlands Ranch Festival Panning Dem, will be a sign up sheet.
9-21  Sat  Idaho Springs Festival Panning Demo, will be a sign up sheet,
9-28  Sat  Prospecting Outing, Lower Clear Creek, 9a at 6811 Washington.
Additional dates/outings are also under consideration.

Findings of the Month

Bottle – Winner was Jim Long who submitted an emerald green Duraglas 1 oz bottle circa 1920-1940 found in Clear Creek while prospecting.

Jewelry – Winner was Jim Long who submitted a ring found while metal detecting in Northglenn.

Coin - Winner was Jim Long who submitted a 1947 Wheat Penny found while metal detecting in Northglenn.

Artifact - Winner was Jim Long who submitted a Car Wash Token circa 1940 – 1970 found while metal detecting in Northglenn.

Remember, submitting your finds is easy and fun. It isn’t so much about winning anything as it is showing off some of the stuff that we find when we are out there playing. So don’t be bashful, bring your stuff in and show it off. The winners are announced each month and in November, we will vote on which monthly finds are the finds of the year and the winners will get a nice certificate to hang on the wall. So, come on folks, let’s bring some of your stuff in and show it off.

GPR Does Panning Demo for Japanese Exchange Students

The Club put on a gold panning demonstration for 18 Japanese High School Exchange Students in Idaho Springs on Thursday August 1. They were given a short history lesson on the Colorado Gold Rush of 1859-1860 and the role that Idaho Springs and Chicago Creek and Clear Creek played in that era. The students were then shown how to pan for gold and were then each given a bag of concentrates to try their luck at panning. They actually turned out to be pretty good at it and had a lot of fun. To top off the demonstration, Pres. Long walked down to the creek and demonstrated how the old timers did it by getting some dirt and panning it. The pan produced a total of 7 colors of gold that the students could actually see and they were quite excited to actually see it done.

Each student received a small bag of polished minerals common to Colorado and a small vial with a few pieces of gold in it to take back with them to their Japanese homeland as a souvenir of their experience and to remember the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies. Unfortunately, Pres. Long was so busy that he forgot to take any photos of the event.

I want to personally thank Mike Hurtado and Jim Blankenship for donating their time as well to make this a memorable event for some special young people.

Prospecting/Mining Notes:  From the Denver Post

7-19  Parachute Benzene Spill Getting Worse:  The benzene spill into Parachute Creek near Parachute, Colorado, is much larger than thought. Levels of benzene that were released into the Creek due to a break in an underground pipe has now reached levels that are quite dangerous to those who use the water downstream. Benzene is a known cancer causing agent. This spill is now reaching catastrophic proportions. This does not bode well for the western slope as Parachute Creek feeds into the Colorado River.

7-20  California Dredging Ban Challenged:  California Courts have set a new date to hear the dredging ban case. The motion for a preliminary junction against the ban which was filed by the Public Lands for the People (PLP) has been set for August 17 in Rancho Cucamonga, California. The PLP continues to fight for our mining rights and we should all support their efforts.
New Gold Rush Starting?: Old mine refuse may contain rare earth elements that power electronics. The old timers created a lot of mine dumps that still contain minerals necessary to power cell phones, computers, and other of the many forms of electronics that people rely on today. There is a rush in the US right now to find more and more of these minerals and old mining tailing piles could be the answer. One era’s junk could prove to be the current era’s gold mine, literally.

August Birthstone

There are two birthstones available for August birthdays, Peridot and Sardonyx.

**PERIDOT**

Peridot is said to host magical powers and healing properties to protect against nightmares and to bring the wearer power, influence, and a wonderful year. As Peridot is a gemstone that forms deep inside the Earth and brought to the surface by volcanoes, in Hawaii, Peridot symbolized the tears of Pele, the goddess of fire and volcanoes. Today, most of the Peridot supply comes from Arizona. Other sources are China, Myanmar and Pakistan. This gemstone comes in several color variations ranging from yellowish green to brown, but most consumers are attracted to the bright lime greens and olive greens. Peridot, in smaller sizes, often is used in beaded necklaces and bracelets.

**SARDONYX**

Sardonyx is a form of onyx and is recognized by its layers of reddish brown and white banding. It was popular with the ancient Greeks and Romans who carried into battle talismans of sardonyx engraved with images of heroes such as Mars and Hercules, believing that this would bring courage and victory. Because of its attractive banding, sardonyx has long been used to fashion cameos (carved raised figures) and intaglios (the reverse of cameos). This gemstone is found throughout the world. The most attractive specimens are found in India, but material is also mined in Czechoslovakia, Brazil, Uruguay, Germany, and in the United States.

(Reprinted from Internet Google site of Gemstone.com)

Prospecting/Trash Clean up on Clear Creek

On July 13, Club members met at 68th and Washington at 9am and after a little socializing and some coffee, everybody grabbed some trash bags and we went to work. We worked both sides of the bike path and along the creek and cleaned up as much trash as we could find. Amazingly, even though it was a little warm, we made it all the way from Washington St. east to York St. and collected about 15 bags of trash. After the cleanup, we got everybody together at Lafayette Park and fired up the grill and we all enjoyed hot dogs, brats, chips and plenty of nice ice cold drinks. The water was still pretty high and running at about 275 cfs so lots of folks decided it was still a little too high to try to get into. Some did manage to try their hand at it anyway. It was nice to see that, once again, our Club does the extra mile to try and be environmentally responsible and to leave things nicer than when we got there. My personal thanks go out to each of you who are willing to donate a little of your time to get together and do a little work and have a little fun spending time together. That is what makes our Club the biggest and the best Club in the entire Denver area. I even managed to get a couple of photos as well.
Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 7

**A Miner’s Laugh**

An old miner had been working hard all day and decided to run into town for a ‘cold one’. The bar was on the edge of town and as he sat down to enjoy his refreshing drink, he noticed a couple of men working along the roadside.

One man would dig a hole two or three feet deep and then move on. The other man then came along behind him and filled in the hole. While one man was digging the next hole, the other man was filling in the last dug hole 25 feet behind...! The men worked right on past the old miner and on down the road.

“I can’t stand this,” the old miner moaned and tossing his empty drink can into a trash container, he headed on down the road and caught up to the two men. “Hold it, darn it, just hold up thar,” he said to the men. “Can you men tell me what in blue blazes is going on here with all this digging and refilling?”

“Well sure we can, we work for the government and we are just doing our job,” replied the men. The old miner exclaimed, “But one of you is digging a hole and the other just fills it back up. You aren’t accomplishing anything. Aren’t you just wasting the taxpayers’ money?”

“You don’t understand mister,” one of the men said, leaning on his shovel and wiping his brow. “Normally there is three of us working, me, Elmer and Leroy. You see, I dig the hold, Elmer sticks in the tree, and Leroy here, well, he puts the dirt back. But shoot, with the government doing all this sequestering, they are not buying any more trees and Elmer’s job has been cut...so now it’s just me and Leroy!”

*(Taken from the internet and revised just for us miners)*

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**If I could go, Where I would go, and Why**

Turquoise Chief Mine: Worthwhile turquoise is found at the Turquois Chief and Pore Boy Lodes, 7 miles northwest of Leadville in the St. Kevin mining district, Lake County. Indians had apparently been aware of its existence for some time. The first systematic mining was done by two Navahos who began working in the summer of 1935. During the two succeeding summers, they produced about 1,000 pounds of rough material which they sent south, where it was then fashioned and mounted in silver jewelry by other members of the Navaho tribe.

The writer had heard rumors of turquoise near Leadville and early reports placed the gem as coming from near the Mount of the Holy Cross. By a coincidence, a friend, Arthur J. McNair and his father Fred McNair, who was a US Mineral Surveyor for Lake County, proved to have been the original surveyors of the property for the Indians. After investigating the land and studying the geology, which was published in *Economic Geology* (Ref. 1), the writer had the opportunity of acquiring the claim but could not afford the cost of the resurvey. Since then, it has been learned that the mine has been profitably worked by others as the wartime price of turquoise soared. A bulldozer has since drastically changed the appearance of the place today.

The mine can be reached from Leadville according to the following log:

0.0 Intersection of Sixth street and Harrison Avenue, drive west on Sixth street.
0.6 Turn right on Carlton Tunnel Road, crossing a branch of the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad Tracks.
1.8 Turn right on St. Kevin Road.
3.0 Cross main line of railroad at Leadville Junction.
3.5 Cross Tennessee Creek, keeping straight ahead on road toward Turquoise Lake while St. Kevin road Turns to the right.
4.5 Fork right through woods, along the high ridge that separates Turquoise Lake from drainage basin to the north.
6.6 Fork right again.
6.9 Turn off road to the right, stopping at a cabin, from where it is necessary to walk eastward about 400 or 500 yards down slope.

The mine is on the south side of a hill which has a slope of 8 or 10 degrees. The highest peaks of the Rocky Mountain, Mt. Elbert (14,431 ft.) and Mt. Massive (14,419 ft.), and others in the Sawatch Range, as well as the full length of the Mosquito Range are visible from the property and present a spectacular panorama.

The mine is located adjacent to the Iron Mask, an older metal producing claim. The workings seen by the writer consisted of the discovery shaft, an incline leading beneath it, the main pit, a trench opening into the pit, and another circular hole.
Gold Prospectors of the Rockies Page 8

The discovery shaft was 8 feet wide and 10 feet deep. On the south side of the shaft, a timbered incline cut obliquely 10 feet underneath it to a total depth of 20 feet, and was driven to avoid hoisting rock from the discovery hole. About 50 feet south of the discovery shaft was the main pit, roughly circular, 100 feet in diameter and 25 feet deep with steep sides. An open cut extended 120 feet from the surface of the ground to the center of the pit, and it was in part timbered overhead and laid with rails. Forty feet west of the discovery hole was a second circular hole 10 feet deep and 4 feet in diameter.

The turquoise occurs in vein and nodule forms, filling openings in a weathered, white medium grained granite, which is probably the same as the Silver Plume granite of Algonkian Age.

Excerpts from COLORADO GEM TRAILS by Richard M. Pearl printed in 1951.

Note: As written in 1951, some things have changed in the last 60 year. However, one can still find these gems in the same areas today. Just keep in mind, respect private property and always ask permission first.

Jim L.

Lake Creek 3-day Outing Great Success

Some 33 GPR members were joined by 7 members of the Illinois Gold Seekers GPAA Chapter for this great Outing. The Outing was conducted on Lake Creek where it dumps into the Arkansas River and started on July 26 and concluded on the 28th. We had a real good time prospecting on this property which is a private property claim. Some folks dug and just panned, while others sluiced and we had at least 4 high bankers going along with no less than 3 dredges. The dredgers and high bankers did pretty well on gold recovery and there were some nice pieces recovered. The water was a little higher than expected but most of us were able to find places to get our equipment into play. The National CBS Good Morning Show had a film crew there on Saturday to film some of our newest members learning to prospect and find gold. Pres. Long has been working with them over several weeks on a piece called ‘Prospecting for Gold in Colorado’ and we had filmed previous segments in lower Clear Creek and with Bill Chapman of Golden Detectors, so part of that was pretty interesting, especially for those who found themselves being suddenly filmed. They will let us know when the Show will air and we will let the members know.

The Saturday night bar-b-que suffered a serious rain storm that tried its best to put a damper on the whole deal but we managed to get it done anyway. Everybody got plenty to eat even though we got pretty wet. We had hoped to have Janine’s large screened shelter but it was destroyed by high winds back in June on another Outing. Still, all in all, it was an excellent Outing and we enjoyed the company of President Ben Nicolson of the Gold Seekers Chapter of Illinois. They were all wonderful people and it was great to meet them and share some digging time with them. Pres. Long did manage a few photos in between digging gold.
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For information to publish your “Ad” in The Gold Nugget, please contact the Editor. COPY DEADLINE is due to the editor by the 25th of the month for publication in the following months’ issue of the Newsletter.

Contact the GPR President
(Layout Design Subject To Additional Cost)

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Coming Announcements and Special Events for SEPT 2013

(WMMI - Western Museum of Mining & Industry, 225 North Gate Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80921 (www.wmmi.org))

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- Autumn Begins
- The Reynolds Ranch Farmer's Market at WMMI Mondays & Wednesdays Starting in late June thru October