

**COMI FUNERAL HOME**  
 1804 East Main  
 Trinidad, CO 81082  
 (719) 846-3347  
 Owned & operated by  
 Steve Comi & Mary (Kitty) Winter

**CLAIR WAYNE OSTERHOUT**

Clair Wayne Osterhout, age 80, passed away at home on June 29, 2011.

At his request, cremation with no services.

Arrangements under direction of Comi Funeral Home.

# Local man sentenced to federal prison

*Chronicle-News staff reports*  
 A Trinidad man captured by Trinidad police after a botched burglary attempt was sentenced to 41 months in federal prison late last week.

Jarrold Duran of Trinidad was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Phillip Brimmer to 41 months for possessing a weapon after being convicted of a felony.

Duran apparently attempted to burglarize a residence in the Trinidad area while the residents were sleeping.

After attempting to run from the scene, Trinidad police got a tip from a witness that Duran had just run through his backyard.

When police arrested Duran, he was carrying a loaded .40-caliber pistol on his person.

Duran was convicted of aggravated assault in Texas in 2001, making it illegal for him to carry a gun.

# State touts efforts to control mussels

*Associated Press*

DENVER — State parks officials say a rigorous inspection program aimed at keeping non-native mussels out of Colorado waters is paying off.

Inspectors at Colorado Parks and Wildlife say they've checked more than 50,000 boats so far this season and have found only two with mussels attached. Both boats were from other states.

# Red, White and funny at the Shuler

**By Tim Keller**  
*The Chronicle-News*

RATON, N.M. — Tuna, Texas, finally came to Raton and proved to be worth the wait.

"Red, White and Tuna" opened a month-long run at the Shuler Theater Saturday night with David Trudeau and Trinidad's Vinnie Gumlich taking all 20 comedic roles — men and women of all ages — made famous by Joe Sears and Jaston Williams in their 1981 "Greater Tuna" and its three sequels, all co-written with their director, Ed Howard. The play moved from Austin, Texas, to off-Broadway within a year, then to HBO, and has since toured nationally every year; Sears won the 1995 Tony Award for best actor.

Tuna is "the third-smallest town in Texas." The plays simultaneously celebrate and parody small-town life, making a perfect fit for southeastern Colorado and northeastern New Mexico. If we fail to recognize ourselves, well, we'll certainly recognize our neighbors.

And a crazed lot of neighbors it is in "Red, White and Tuna," set on the 4th of July during Tuna's decennial reunion. Fern and Bernice are driving in from Boulder, Colo., but now they go by their Boulder names, Amber Windchime and Star Birdfeather. When Amber expresses shock at her first view of the hometown, Star asks, "What? Has it changed?" To which Amber replies, "No!"

It's 110 degrees. "Why did the founding fathers set such a hot day to celebrate our independence? It seems like they could have waited for autumn."

Along with colorful characters spouting humorous lines, half the fun for the audience is watching the actors keep reappearing as differ-

ent characters, many of whom are women. This is a production which credits only two actors but three dressers (Mariah Fleming, Michael Porter and Kyra Koelling).

Trudeau and Gumlich carry the two-hour play flawlessly — if either had an opening-night slip in character or lines, it wasn't noticed. The production provides each a role — well, 10 roles — they'll remember fondly for the rest of their lives.

And because they're having so much fun, the audience wins with laugh after laugh.

Bertha Bumiller: "Nothing makes me madder than a so-called Christian that don't believe in war!"

Vera Carp: "I call all my maids Lupe; I can't keep learning a new name every time the Border Patrol gets lucky."

Didi Snavelly, owner of Didi's Used Weapons, talking a neighbor out of suicide in favor of just getting himself shot: "If you can't get yourself killed in a small town in Texas, you're just not trying." She suggests "wearing a Bill Clinton button, or blowing a kiss at the wrong cowboy."

Expatriate reform-school grad Stanley Bumiller is back from Santa Fe. He used to spray-paint graffiti; now he spray paints road kill and gets astronomically high prices in Santa Fe for his "neo-taxidermy art." When he learns that Star and Amber are going on to Santa Fe, he asks how soon they're leaving. Star replies, "As soon as I can get directions. All I know is that it's somewhere to the left."

Directed by Gail Dixon-Willden and produced by Bill Fegan for the Santa Fe Trail School for the Performing Arts, "Red, White and Tuna" is the second of five comedies being performed in rotation



Tim Keller/Special to The Chronicle-News

Vinnie Gumlich, left, and David Trudeau each play 10 roles in the Schuler Theater production of "Red, White and Tuna," a comedy that parodies small-town life. The show runs through Aug. 4 with performances on July 7, 8, 30 and 31.

this summer by Kaleidoscope Players Professional Theater. Through Aug. 14, shows are presented at 7:30 p.m. every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night, with a 2:30 p.m. matinee every Sunday. A \$100 book of 10 tickets can be used for any combination of perform-

ances. Single general admission tickets are \$15 adults, \$13 seniors, and \$5 children.

"Red, White and Tuna" returns July 7, 8, 30, 31 and Aug. 4. Summer schedules are available from Bill Fegan at the Shuler Theater; (575) 445-4746.

# GET OUT THE MAP

# Home to roost cruise prices stay low

As travel agents, we generally get information about cruise lines, tours, etc., before the general public does. After awhile, we can get that information and make a determination about its effect on the industry long before the "analysts" offer their opinions.

Such is the case about the cruise industry. When the Royal Caribbean Oasis of the Seas was introduced toward the end of 2008, we were certainly impressed. Indeed, we were invited aboard for a two-night preview cruise. But we also knew that the economy was in serious trouble and the growing number of cruise ships was going to have a downward effect on prices. The Oasis and her sister ship, the Allure, which sailed late last year, added another 5,400 rooms to the fleet.

At about the same time, Celebrity Cruise Lines, a Royal Caribbean sister company, was introducing its own "mega-ships" — the Solstice, Equinox and the Eclipse — adding 4,275 new rooms.

As if that weren't enough, Norwegian introduced its entry to the mega-ship business with

the Epic, with 4,228 rooms.

And why not? The economy was booming at the time these giant ships were ordered and Americans were cruising like crazy. Fares were inching up and all was good. Anyone who's taken economics knows about the law of supply and demand. If there's a limited supply of something and there's a large demand, the price goes up. Increase the supply with the same demand, and the price goes down.

As soon as these large ships were announced, we looked at each other and could see that the lines were overbuilding and that prices would start to fall. Unfortunately, the "experts" don't ask the travel agents from Fort Garland for their opinion when they order new vessels.

As if overbuilding wasn't enough of a problem, the lines then proceeded to follow each other as they flocked to Europe, thinking there was a vast, untapped market there. Well, the market was vast but, instead of gradually increasing their presence there, the cruise lines all moved several ships across the pond, leaving the Caribbean during the summer months to fewer ships. That should have driven prices up, but Americans were now feeling the pinch of a downward economy and were pulling in their horns, especially those whose retirement plans were hurt by the market crash.

Now comes an article on the Fox News web-

site, "Next Generation Cruise Ships Might Not Be The Best" by Paul Motter, that confirms all of this. His basic point is that the new ships are fantastic, but they're too good for the current economic situation. They should command higher fares ... but they're not. The chickens have come home to roost and, finally, the pundits are catching up to what most travel agents have known since this all started. The new ships are more expensive, but prices in general are still very low and will stay that way as long as the supply of these mega-ships continues to outpace demand.

All of this is great for those of us who love to cruise. Prices are very competitive now and there are great deals to be found, especially in the fall and winter months. As we've said repeatedly in this space, prices are always the best any time the kids are in school. So, for an even better deal, avoid travel during the summer, holidays and spring break. The exception, of course is Alaska. You can get some good deals in late May and early September, but most want to travel when the weather is likely to be warmest.

If a vacation to a warm and exotic port is now within your reach, what are you waiting for? Get out the map.

Mike and Darlene Jordan are franchisees of CruiseOne, and are based here in Southern Colorado. You can contact them at 800-267-7613 or by email at mjordan@cruiseone.com.



Mike and Darlene Jordan  
 Special to The Chronicle-News

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## LUNCH MENUS

### Local Menus Week of July 4

**Mount San Rafael Cafeteria**  
 The public is welcome to dine in our cafeteria. Wi-Fi is available.  
**Monday:** Closed for the Fourth of July

**Tuesday:** Sloppy Joes, pulled pork sandwich, fries, onion rings and veggie soup  
**Wednesday:** Fried/baked chicken, green beans, rice and chicken noodle soup  
**Thursday:** Baked/fried cod, grilled veggies, dinner roll and crawfish etouffe  
**Friday:** Green Chili, vegetarian chili, red chili, fries and corn

**SCCOG Senior Services**  
 Please make reservations or cancellations one day in advance: Trinidad 719-846-4515/Walsenburg 719-738-2205  
**Monday:** Closed for the Fourth of July

of July  
**Tuesday:** Chuck wagon steak, tater tots, carrots, bread and pear  
**Wednesday:** Chicken Cacciatore, au gratin potatoes, 5-way veggies, bread and peaches  
**Thursday:** Multi-bean soup, cheese sticks, crackers, spinach salad and watermelon  
**Friday:** Soft beef taco, salsa, tossed salad, Spanish rice and fresh apple

**Trinidad Inn Nursing Home**  
 Family and friends are always encouraged to join our residents (\$3.50/plate). No reservations required.  
**Monday:** (Lunch) Pork schnitzel, creamy potato casserole, orange glazed beets, bread and ginger molasses bar (Dinner) Turkey Tetrazzini, zucchini medley, bread and sherbet  
**Tuesday:** (Lunch) Veal paprika,

tri-color pasta, California-blend veggies and banana cream cheesecake (Dinner) Cheddar-egg potato bake, spinach salad, sliced tomato, muffin and almond shortbread cookie  
**Wednesday:** (Lunch) Lemon-basil roast turkey, spiced sweet potato spears, green bean casserole and cranberry chiffon pie (Dinner) Cream of broccoli soup, Cobb salad, bread and cherry fudge bar  
**Thursday:** (Lunch) Smothered chicken, oven-roasted potatoes, buttered carrots, bread and frosted spice cake (Dinner) BBQ beef, macaroni and cheese, seasoned peas, bread and mousse parfait  
**Friday:** (Lunch) Hawaiian fish, fried rice, seasoned stewed tomatoes, bread and custard pie (Dinner) Mushroom soup, turkey sandwich with lettuce, tomato and onion, dilled potato salad and

chocolate butterscotch chip cookie

**Saturday:** (Lunch) Swiss steak with gravy, mashed potatoes, Capri-blend veggies, bread and caramel pears (Dinner) Chicken and dumplings, whipped winter squash, broccoli Polonaise, bread and vanilla ice box dessert  
**Sunday:** (Lunch) Roast turkey with bread stuffing, peas with pearl onions and chocolate cream pie (Dinner) Chili with cheese and onions, cornbread and M&M cookies

**Summer Lunch Program**  
 Trinidad School District #1 – Free meals for kids at Trinidad Middle School, 614 Park St. Adults / \$3.

**MOVIE PICTURE SHOWHOUSE**  
 3600 E. Main St.  
 719-846-0552  
 MOVIES FOR FRIDAY, JULY 1-THURSDAY, JULY 7

**CARS 2 (G)**  
 NIGHTLY 6:45 9:00PM  
 SUN MATINEE 4:30 PM

**TRANSFORMERS: DARK OF THE MOON (PG-13)**  
 NIGHTLY 6:30PM 9:20PM  
 SUN MATINEE 3:40 PM

**MR. POPPERS PENGUINS (PG)**  
 NIGHTLY 7:15PM 9:10PM  
 SUN MATINEE 5:15 PM

**SUPER 8 (PG-13)**  
 NIGHTLY 7:00PM 9:15PM  
 SUN MATINEE 4:45 PM

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