

News Release

November 1, 2007

Hospice of McDowell County endorses and encourages your participation in the following event:

Pinwilz™ Company - TAAS-Gallery announces the launch of the 2nd Annual COCAF, Christmas Ornament Competition and Fundraiser

The fundraiser benefits Hospice of McDowell County and a collection of toys for Project Christmas.

Old Fort, NC --The Appalachian Artisan Society (TAAS) Gallery, a Pinwilz™ Company located in Downtown Old Fort NC, is launching the COCAF Christmas Ornament Competition and Fundraiser for the second year.

TAAS-Gallery will begin its big holiday competition beginning with a call out to other local businesses to co-sponsor the event. Businesses will receive a healthy dose of advertising by co-sponsoring the event. The events marketing plans include several ads and promotional materials listing the co-sponsors.

The entire program was both fun and meaningful in 2007 with over \$500.00 raised for Hospice of McDowell County and awards of \$400.00 in prize money. This year the gallery hopes to do even better by adding a selection of handmade ornaments not in the competition, but for sale with the proceeds going to Hospice and a children's category for kids 16 and under to compete with its own set of prizes and a lower entry fee.

The gallery will begin accepting handmade Christmas ornaments on November 1st with a display going up on November 6th. At that time, the public is invited to come into the gallery and vote for their favorite ornaments. Each vote is \$1.00. The ten ornaments that receive the most votes by December 18th will be in the final round where a panel of judges will select the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners for both the adults and children's categories.

At 7:00 PM on December 18th the prizes will be awarded and the money raised given to Hospice of McDowell County, during an hour long program filled with holiday cheer, music and story telling. Last year this event was dubbed, "A Classy Event in Old Fort" by Mark Wise, Director of Hospice of McDowell County.

More information about the competition is available on the website: www.taasg.com