Building Colorado’s first wine-themed hotel in Palisade is a family affair. Ground breaking for the project this past August marked the realization of a dream Richard and Jean Tally have nurtured for a decade. Participation of their adult children, Anne and Greg, made the event even more meaningful.

“Two generations of Tallys will shepherd this project,” Richard observes. “We are strictly a Mom and Pop operation, so it is great to have our children helping us.”

As Greg pointed out in his opening remarks at the ceremony, this is not the first time Tallys have been involved in lodging or agriculture in Palisade.

“I wish we could say that we were the first Tallys in Palisade to own a hotel or participate in the local viticulture. But to our surprise and delight, we found out that some of our distant relatives preceded us,” he explains.

“My great-great grandfather Fred and his brother David Daniel Tally were born in Red Rock, Texas. David Daniel had a son who moved away, first to West Texas, then to New Mexico and finally to Palisade, where he owned a motor-court hotel in the 1940s. That building still stands just west of the Post Office on Third Street.”

Somewhere in the transition from Texas to Palisade, the spelling of the name changed.
One of the Talley children from that family was Curtis Talley, the local agriculture teacher at Palisade High School. Steve Smith, who owns the adjacent Grande River Winery, says Curtis Talley helped bring grape vines to the Palisade area. His family have been local growers and some of his children live in Palisade or Grand Junction.

Ironically, the same given names crop up in both sides of the family. The Palisade Talleys have a Richard as well as their Curtis and Curtis, Jr. The Texas Talleys boast not only Richard, but his late father, Edward Curtis Tally, as well as his brother Curtis and nephew Edward Curtis III (Tracy).

Richard says he hopes when the Wine Country Inn hosts its preview for Palisade residents, the local Talley cousins will be honored guests.

The Wine Country Inn, will be an 80 room property consisting of three main buildings flanking a landscaped courtyard with an outdoor pool, spa, and pavilion. The design echoes clusters of farm buildings typical of much of the turn of the century architecture in the area.

Architect Jim Johnson, whose firm JG Johnson Architects, designed the project, calls the style “farmhouse vernacular.” He points to wrap-around porches, gables and wood siding as typical design elements.

The Tallys say they wanted to evoke the Victorian feel of so many farm homes across America in small towns like Palisade.

“We wanted these buildings to look like they belong here, and we think the architects have done a wonderful job of giving a current interpretation to the Victorian farmhouse look,” Richard says.

Facing the I-70 corridor, the one and a half story Reception Building will house the public areas: lobby and front desk, breakfast/wine tasting room, catering kitchen, large and small meeting rooms, business center, gift shop, public rest rooms, offices, laundry and service, mechanical and storage spaces.

South of the Reception Building, the three story Guest House, will include 72 king and queen rooms, including ADA compliant accommodations. An elevator will serve that building.
On the East side of the complex, a Suites Building will offer several configurations for the remaining eight rooms. This two-story structure will cater to corporate retreats and meetings, bridal parties, family reunions and other small group oriented functions.

“We are ready to roll,” says Richard. “We hope to complete the project next spring with a target opening date of August. There are a lot of variables, so we want to make sure we can deliver what we promise. We are compiling a priority list of people who have inquired about rooms and will begin booking reservations after January. If we open sooner, we will notify everyone in our database.”

Besides the architects, other principals on the project are The Wright Group, general contractors; Ground Logic, landscape architects; Rolland Engineers, (civil); Redwine Engineers, (structural); ME Group, (mechanical and electrical), and Design Force, interior design.

More information is available on the hotel web site, www.coloradowinecountryinn.com, or by calling 1-888-855-8330.

#######

For more information, please call:
Jean Tally @970-270-3270
Or
Cobb and Associates, Inc. @970-242-7674