


New sculpture won't be last in Seagrove

By Judi Brinegar

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SEAGROVE — If you were driving through Seagrove Friday morning, you may have noticed a little activity at the intersection of Business 220 and N.C. 705.

The first of several artistic sculptures created by Carolina Bronze Sculpture, entitled “Balancing Time II,” was erected in the heart of Seagrove, on the corner near Seagrove Stoneware

Walker said. “We have such a great community of artists up and down this road and we need to support all of them. We have identified 8-10 sites where we could possibly install different sculptures. We have to make sure each location will work and that we can create sculpture paths for visitors to walk on.”

The Walkers said that the next sculpture will be also in the immediate downtown area and will be a little more traditional than the



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Ed and Melissa Walker are the owners of Carolina Bronze Sculpture.

"We are doing this as a way to develop arts and tourism in Seagrove," Ed

Walker said. "We have such a great community of artists up and down this road and we need to support all of them. We have identified 8-10 sites where we could possibly install different sculptures. We have to make sure each location will work and that we can create sculpture paths for visitors to walk on."

The Walkers said that the next sculpture will be also in the immediate downtown area and will be a little more traditional than the one installed Friday.

"We plan on 2-3 more in the downtown area," Melissa Walker said. "We

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Paul Church / The Courier-Tribune

THE FIRST OF MANY — A contemporary sculpture, entitled 'Balancing Time II,' is now on display in Seagrove. Next, a more traditional sculpture is in the works for a nearby location. Find this story at www.courier-tribune.com for a time-lapse video of its installation



Paul Church / The Courier-Tribune

EASY DOES IT — Workers at Carolina Bronze Sculpture installed a 12-foot tall contemporary sculpture in Seagrove Friday morning. The sculpture is the first of several planned for the downtown area.

Sculpture

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plan on 2-3 more in the downtown area," Melissa Walker said. "We want to try to do a variety in order to appeal to folks in town and those who visit. The community is really excited about it."

Carolina Bronze Sculptures was established in 1990 by Ed Walker, who is originally from the Burlington area. He graduated from East Carolina University with a BFA degree in Sculpture in 1975 and attended graduate school at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, obtaining his

MFA in Sculpture in 1979. He moved to New Orleans in 1980 and began doing metal fabrication.

Returning to North Carolina in 1989, he founded Carolina Bronze Sculpture. The foundry was originally located in Asheboro, before relocating to its present facility in Seagrove in 1994.

Carolina Bronze Sculpture is a fine arts bronze foundry serving artists, architects, museums and non-profits around the world. It specializes in fine arts bronze casting and fabrication, using both traditional techniques and in-house, state of the art digital tools.

Walker and his team have created

many sculptures including ones of Ronald and Nancy Reagan, George W. Bush and George Herbert Walker Bush, Shoeless Joe Jackson, Daniel Boone, Neil Armstrong and others. His contemporary pieces are also on display across the state and around the country, including "Skate ... A Rift In Time," a part of the Downtown Asheboro Outdoor Exhibition. "Skate ... A Rift In Time" is fabricated from fiberglass and painted with epoxy paint. It is installed in front of the Register of Deeds office on Worth Street.

The Walkers are also in the process of establishing a sculpture park be-

hind the foundry on Maple Springs Road in Seagrove.

"There is still a lot of work to do to landscape the area, put in a walking path and set out large scale outdoor sculptures," Walker said. "We are planning for 15-20 sculptures along a walking path around a 2 ½-acre pond and we have 45 acres to expand later. We put a call out to other sculptors and already have 11 commitments."

"Some will be on permanent display and others will rotate."

Walker said that plans are to dedicate the sculpture garden in October 2016 during the 38th Annual Tri-State Sculptors Conference.