



THE CITY OF
Reidsville
NORTH CAROLINA

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Art Sculpture Taking Shape

The fabrication stage for the art sculpture which will take center stage in Reidsville's downtown area is primarily complete.

Artist Jim Gallucci estimates the 17-foot sculpture should be ready in about six weeks. He will be working with the Artist Selection Panel and City leaders to determine the best time for installation of the brushed stainless steel art work in the roundabout of Morehead and Scales streets. He estimates the actual installation should take about three days.

The sculpture has evolved since Mr. Gallucci first brought forth an initial concept back in September of 2014. Listening to feedback from citizens and elected officials, the artist redesigned the top of the sculpture and added engraved graphics to the side panels of the art work depicting the history of Reidsville.

The sculpture, which will be lighted at night, grew out of Mr. Gallucci's vision of new growth for Reidsville but with the addition of the panels, depicts how this growth comes from the City's past. "When I look at the sculpture, I am struck by the phrase 'Our Future is Bright,'" said Mayor Jay Donecker.

Mr. Gallucci has named the sculpture "Budding Future."

Renderings of the sculpture and the historic panels can now be seen in the lobby of Reidsville City Hall. The panels feature people, things and places unique to the City of Reidsville and the Rockingham County area. Officials have expressed the hope that the addition of these historical panels will be incorporated into educational lessons for local students and can lead to walking/driving tours throughout the City based on the items included in the sculpture.

Ideas for the historic panels originated with Mr. Gallucci, the Artist Selection Panel and elected officials. Grouped in categories, the five panels include transportation, industry & business, the arts, education, and government. Several of the items represent "firsts" within Reidsville, including Susie Sharp, North Carolina's first female State Supreme Court Justice; David Settle Reid, for whose family the City is named and was the State's first Democratic Governor. Others include H.K. Griggs Sr., who was the first African-American principal of Reidsville Senior High School following consolidation of the Reidsville City schools and Clarence "Tuck" Tucker, who was the first African-American Rockingham County Commissioner since Reconstruction.

Other symbols depict the importance of the railroad in Reidsville, American Tobacco Company, the arts and various industries.

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