

**YOUR NEIGHBORS** / Local names in the news**Artist speaks to Rotary about sculpting stone**

Sculptor Knut Huneke speaking to the Rotary Club of Kinston on Oct. 24, described the process by which he turns huge blocks of basalt and granite, some weighing 4 tons or more, into archaic modern cubistic sculpture.

A resident of Heidelberg, Germany, who was in Kinston to work and mount an exhibition, Huneke approaches the work holistically, keeping in mind that whether the sculpture ends up as an abstract piece or a human or animal figure that it begins as a piece of stone that had admirable qualities before he applied the chisel.

"I want to show the stone," he said. "This is part of the story itself."

This is work both brutish and refined. For instance, after selecting a piece of stone that has been blasted out of a quarry in the Rhine Valley, Huneke lets its raw shape help determine its finished form. He draws an outline on the stone of the sculpted image he perceives and cuts away what doesn't belong, sometimes using a chainsaw, sometimes a four-pound hammer and chisel or, for the delicate work, a diamond-blade saw.

It's also focused work.

"You have to concentrate every day and all day long for a week on that rock," he said.

Every sculptor must confront two "crucial decisions" in producing any piece, he said: "to start — to destroy a nice natural piece — and then to stop."



Submitted photo

**Sculptor Knut Huneke, right, was introduced to the Rotary Club of Kinston by member Eric Rouse.**