

## SIP PAINT REPEAT

Colorful Sips offers creative relaxation

By BRIAN WIERIMA

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When walking into a Colorful Sips painting class session inside the Sanibel Community House, the ambience of the environment is perfectly suited to let one's inner-creativity flow right out on the canvas.

Students of Sissi Janku can expect relaxation turning into art every first and third Wednesday of each month, as the world traveled artist adds a calm atmosphere by flooding each sense with enjoyment.

A would-be artist can expect soft crooning music to soften the mood audibly, while healthy fruit snacks are

See COLORFUL SIPS, page 54

Sanibel painters Pat Macchia, Suzanne Baker, Toni Boie, Bob and Candy Schaeffer are hard at work March 9. BRIAN WIERIMA



## Second Chance Cell Dog Program is a two-way street

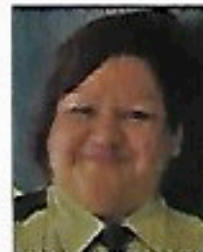
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(This will be a two-part series on the Gulf Coast Humane Society's successful Second Chance Pal Cell Dog Program, ran in conjunction with the Florida Department of Corrections. The first part will focus on the first week of training the FDC inmates had in the last week of November, 2015. The second part re-visits the inmates and their K9 students and update on how far each party has come and finally graduation.)

When one needs a second or third chance in life, sometimes it's better to learn from someone who has walked in their shoes.

Or as regarding the K9 type of Gulf Coast



FDC Officer Adela Davis

ed.

Humane Society - paws. As is the case with many dogs which are brought into the GCHS, obedience is lacking due to neglect, abuse or just a tough life the pooch has endured through its life. What results is unruly behavior which makes it tough for the dog to be adopt-

ed. But several years ago, the GCHS paired up with the Florida Department of Corrections in Fort Myers and set up the Second Chance Pals Cell Dog Program,

which places homeless shelter dogs in an obedience training program with carefully selected inmates.

Once in the program, the intensive dog training last from eight to 16 weeks, which has a 100-percent graduation and adopted rate once the session has ended.

"Failure is not an option for these dogs," said FDC Officer Adela Davis, who runs the program from the inside of the Corrections facility in Fort Myers.

Since GCHS is a no-kill shelter, dogs who don't get adopted can stay with the shelter for an undetermined amount of time. But those dogs who have went through the

See SECOND CHANCE, page 56