

## Wildlife mural brings Everglades to city

By **DAVID DiPINO**  
FORUM STAFF WRITER

For the past two months, and some mornings as early as 5 a.m., artist Dana Donaty and her assistant Rainy Nigg have been working on "Observations," a 12-foot-high and 75-foot-wide mural painted on the exterior of the Delray Camera Shop at the roundabout intersection of Northeast Second Avenue and Northeast Second Street in Pineapple Grove.

"Observations" is the first installation of the Pineapple Grove Artscape Program, a project that will display four murals, sculptured bicycle racks, scooter spaces and sidewalk art. In the city of Delray Beach, where a variety of art involves seascapes or beach scenes, Donaty and Nigg, Delray Camera Shop owner Chris Reich



**WILDLIFE BEAUTY:** Artist Dana Donaty of Delray Beach, owner of Dana Donaty Designs, adds finishing touches to a mural painted on the side of the building that houses the Delray Camera Shop in Delray Beach. Palm Beach County has made it possible for four murals to be painted at Pineapple Grove. **Staff photo/Jackie Gerena**

and manager Jim Ward, said the mural is a nice change because it focuses

on a scene from the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge

bordering the Everglades. "The building was a canvas waiting for something,"

Reich said.

Most of the mural was completed at Camilucci Signs in Delray Beach. Donaty and Nigg painted the mural on 4-by-10 aluminum signwriters panels. The panels were then attached to the building. Both artists have spent the majority of their time on the project cutting-in to fill the exterior of the mural.

Because the building is privately owned, they will be able to remove the panels in the case of a hurricane or if the mural needs to be moved.

Originally the 75-foot wall, a side drive-up window and storage garage were painted orange. Over the years, weather took its toll on the building at 186 NE Second Ave. and turned

■ **ARTSCAPE** continues on 16