



# Match Jr.

Pine View School • 1 Python Path • Osprey, FL 34229 • (941) 486-2001

## Third-Grade Showcase

Page 3



PHOTO BY ANA EASTER

Hip Hop to the Top [entertainment pg. 5]

Putting on the Green [sports pg. 8]

Spring Break Joke Box [humor pg. 11]

# MATCH JR.

## news

[p.3]  
In Brief: Third-Grade Showcase

Third Grade Rocks Revival  
entertainment

[p.4]  
A World of Unique Instruments

How to make: Pipe Cleaner Flowers

[p.5]  
Hip Hop to the Top

Family Forte

## features

[p.6 & 7]  
Match Spring Flower Hunt

## sports

[p.8]  
Engulfed in Golf

Taekwondo(n't) mess with him

## student corner

[p.9]  
Valentines Day Crafts

## humor

[p.10]  
Never Ending Lunch Line

[p.11]  
Spring Break Jokebox

## focus

[p.12]  
Unleashing Creativity

Thanking our sponsors



Smiling for the camera, third-grader Alisha Sandeep poses with her golf trophy. Sandeep was inspired by her father to begin playing golf and has been doing so ever since. PHOTO PROVIDED BY SANDEEP PISIPATI



Students act in the play they wrote in the Third-Grade Showcase. The Showcase took place Feb. 8, 2024, and three third-grade classes participated. PHOTO BY ANA EASTER

**Match Staff:**  
**Editor-in-Chief**  
Jiayi Zhu\*  
**Asst. Editor-in-Chief**  
Ava Lenerz, Elena Herman  
**Layout Artists**  
Ana Easter, Timothy Nesanelis

**Torch Staff:**  
**Editor-in-Chief** Isabella Kulawik\*  
**Asst. Editors-in-Chief** Sanya Patel\*, Kai Sprunger\*  
**Copy Editor** Kai Sprunger\*  
**Managing Editor** Terry Shen  
**News Editor** Lindsay Luberecki\*  
**News Asst. Editors** Alex Lieberman, Sora Fancher  
**Sci-Tech Editor** Jakob Roche  
**Entertainment Editor** Robyn Schoenberg  
**Entertainment Asst. Editor** Colette

Freeman  
**Sports Editor** Megan Ma  
**Humor Editor** Aly Zaleski\*  
**Opinion Editor** Allie Chung\*  
**Opinion Asst. Editor** Madelyn Bailey\*  
**Adviser** Christopher Lenerz  
**Principal** Dr. Stephen Covert

**PVTorch.com Staff:**  
**Web Editor** Sivan Levy  
**Director of Digital Media** Nathan DeSouza

**Social Media Editor** Melissa White  
**Graphic Designer** Andrew Ashby  
**Webmaster** Emmy Li

**Spark Staff:**  
**Editor-in-Chief** Ava Lenerz  
**Asst. Editor-in-Chief** Timothy Nesanelis, Sora Fancher

\*Denotes member of editorial board.

Match Jr. covers topics, issues, and events of relevance to students grades two and three. Match Jr. is published four times a year by Pine View School and maintains membership in the Florida Scholastic Press Association. Press run is 500 copies. Copies are provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff. All content is subject to prior approval by administration.

**Reader input.** Submit story ideas, comments and questions to the editor of the publication. Address general comments and questions to the Editor-in-Chief at [jiayi.zhu@pineviewtorch.com](mailto:jiayi.zhu@pineviewtorch.com).

**Sponsorships and subscriptions.** To be a sponsor or purchase a subscription, email [terry.shen@pineviewtorch.com](mailto:terry.shen@pineviewtorch.com). The Match reserves the right to refuse any sponsorship.

# In Brief: Third-Grade Showcase

by Emmy Li

Bright lights flash on stage as the third-grade playwrights and performers grace the stage with playful creativity. The Third-Grade Showcase, hosted Feb. 8, 2024 by four of the six third-grade classes, was in full swing.

This annual event allows third-graders to put the skills they learned in the classroom—reading, writing, communicating—and combine them with their own inventiveness to create something that brings joy to a greater audience. Third-grade teacher and team leader Sara Kolsky has organized

the event for the past four years.

“It’s part of our curriculum, and so we’re able to use that and speaking and listening, which is also part of our standard,” Kolsky said. “They

got to experience [the event] from start to finish, and Florida Studio

Theatre had also been involved in this process.”

Two or three students from each class came up with a narrative in screenplay format, line by line,

and then the whole class worked to bring the production together for parents and classmates alike.

This year, topics ranged from exploring a mysterious cave to finding a magical stone, often set in whimsical settings and featuring unique characters. Despite not having as much help as previous years’ students did, the third-grade classes pulled off a dazzling performance.

“They got to fully experience taking an idea and putting it together,” Kolsky said. “This year, we did it 100 percent ourselves with no help from teaching artists.”

PHOTO BY ANA EASTER



Students act in the play they wrote in the Third Grade Showcase. The Showcase took place Feb. 8, 2024 and three third-grade classes participated.

# Third-Grade Rocks Revival



A photo framed in third-grade teacher Vicky Singleton’s classroom portrays the third-grade teachers posing after the Third Grade Rocks performance. After six years of absence, the performance is returning.

By Allie Chung

A tradition that all former Pine View third-graders will never forget is Third-Grade Rocks, the annual performance based off of the 1973 musical, “Schoolhouse Rock!” In reality, though, not all former third-grade students will remember.

In 2019, Pine View stopped the an-

nual third-grade performance as well as the third-grade sleepover. Now, after six long years, Third-Grade Rocks has made its return to the big stage.

“I give Dr. Covert a lot of credit, because I went to him several times about it and he told me when the kids want it to come back, it’ll come back. And enough kids said things, so it came back,” third-grade teacher Vicky Singleton said.

When looking through old senior letters from the past four years, the number of times that Third-Grade Rocks was mentioned could not be ignored. Seniors constantly conversed with Dr. Covert and expressed their longing for the tradition to come back. Sticking to his word, Dr. Covert granted Singleton permission and she began the planning process for this year’s show. However, not all third-grade teachers were on board.

Singleton and Mini Abeysekera are

the only third-grade teachers that were teaching when Third-Grade Rocks was active. Likewise, they are the only teachers who will participate this year.

Recently, the third-graders who are not able to participate in Third-Grade Rocks performed in the Third-Grade Showcase Feb. 8.

“My students don’t know about Schoolhouse Rocks. They only know about Showcase... they were thrilled to be on stage performing the showcase,” third-grade teacher Sara Kolsky said.

What stands out about Third-Grade Rocks is that the students must memorize and speak their parts, which contrasts from the Third-Grade Showcase.

“That’s what I missed about it, and I thought that giving kids a chance to be on stage...and get over stage fright...and work as a group and know how to communicate and how to cooperate and all the things aside from the curriculum

that are in the songs are such life skills,” Singleton said.

Unable to convince all their coworkers, a new tradition has been implemented: having the second-graders perform the singing roles while the third-graders occupy the speaking roles. These newly recruited second-graders have filled in for the third-graders who have participated in the Third-Grade Showcase instead.

Though Third-Grade Rocks is well known to high schoolers and a fraction of the middle schoolers, the current third-grade class is not familiar with the performance, as it has been suspended for six years. When seeing their peers act in the Third-Grade Showcase, Singleton’s students felt excluded from the fun. However, knowing the memories that her students will make down the road, Singleton assures her class that Third-Grade Rocks is just as entertaining.

PHOTO BY ALLIE CHUNG

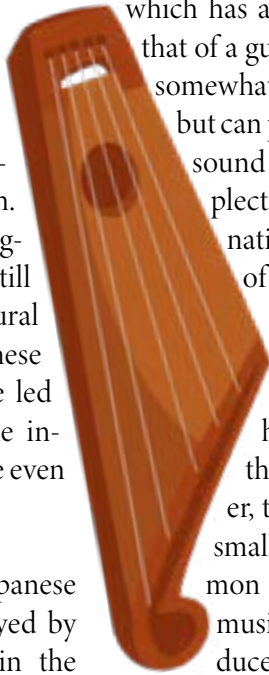
## A World of Unique Instruments

by Isabella Kulawik

Around the world, music has been used for years as a form of communication and expression. It has developed alongside civilizations, and still holds significant cultural value today. All of these different customs have led to some highly unique instruments that produce even more unique sounds.

### The Koto:

The Koto is a Japanese instrument that is played by plucking the strings in the right hand with plectrums,



which has a similar effect to that of a guitar pick. It has a somewhat delicate sound but can produce a cutting sound from the steel plectra. It is also the national instrument of Japan.

### The Autoharp

The autoharp is similar to the Koto. However, this instrument is smaller and is common in American folk music. It was introduced to the US from Germany in the 1890s.

I actually have my autoharp at home and recently listened to music with it. It is one of the easiest instruments since you press a button to play a chord, and strum using a guitar pick.

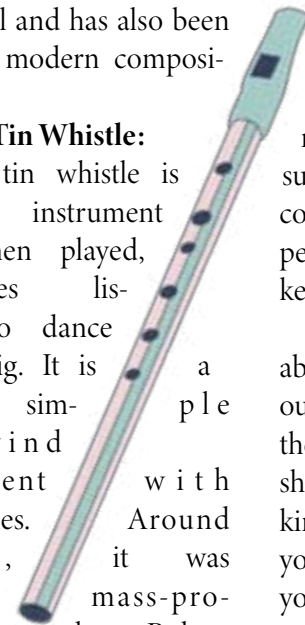
### The Theremin:

The Theremin is an electrical instrument. First invented in the 1920s, it is a more recent instrument that originated in the Soviet Union. The instrument uses electricity flow, which produces sound waves. The waves change through the use of hand motions to change the pitch. The noise produced

is straight out of a science fiction novel and has also been heard in modern compositions.

### The Tin Whistle:

The tin whistle is an Irish instrument that, when played, encourages listeners to dance a little jig. It is a relatively simple woodwind instrument with six holes. Around 1840, it was mass-produced by Robert Clark in tin, giving it its



name. However, varieties of the tin whistle have been around since the 12th century. It can also be made from other materials, such as brass and wood, and comes in different sizes so people can play in different keys.

The instruments listed above are only a few of the outstanding instruments in the world. Therefore, you should search for even more kinds of instruments from your own culture and beyond, keeping these splendid sounds alive, one note at a time.

## HOW TO MAKE: PIPE CLEANER FLOWERS

### Materials:

- pipe cleaners
- scissors\*
- hot glue gun\*
- wooden skewer
- green yarn/ribbon (optional)

### 1 Create the petals



X6

### 2 Assemble with glue

Save excess pipe cleaner scraps to add a pop of color!



### 3 Attach wooden skewer

Then, wrap the stick with green yarn or ribbon! You may also make leaves using the petal method.



# Hip Hop to the Top

by Megan Ma

Dressed beautifully while stepping on stage, the dancers prepare to dazzle the audience as the music starts. One of these dancers, third-grader Adalaya Kuntz, does hip-hop at her studio Dance with Janis.

Kuntz practices for an hour every week along with other activities on top of school, which can be very overwhelming. Still, Kuntz's mother, Jessica Lange, expresses that they have found

a good balance where Kuntz can finish all her homework and have fun with her friends at dance. Alongside practices, Kuntz has also been in a couple of performances.

"We've been on stage and we were performing, [it was] fun," Kuntz said.

Kuntz expresses herself as a very creative person, creating freestyle dances with her friends from dance after class. The freestyles are their own spin off of the dance that was practiced in class. Since

Pine View is a very academically oriented school, Lange wanted Kuntz to be able to express herself in other ways outside of school.

"We wanted to make sure she had something to kind of exert some of her more artistic side," Lange said.

Lange has also seen how Kuntz is a caring and strong person in the studio.

"She's definitely a leader, she took control of everything and what was really cute was she made sure each

of the other two girls in her group had a part that they felt was personal to their choosing, and it was a really good dance, it was super cute," Lange said.

Watching Kuntz dance, Lange explains how she finds her as an inspiring and thoughtful person during dance and after class as well.

"She is very inspiring with just how caring she is, her making sure other people feel included," Lange said.



Adalaya Kuntz stands with her mom at a dance competition. Kuntz practices hip hop for an hour each week. PHOTO PROVIDED BY JESSICA LANGE

# Family Forte



Second-grader Timothy Shaitanoff reads music and plays a song on his piano. Shaitanoff has improved his piano skills enough to play duets with his siblings this year. PHOTO PROVIDED BY TATYANA SHAITANOFF

by Andrew Ashby

Hands dancing across his home piano, second-grader Timothy Shaitanoff plays "Jingle Bells," one of his favorite pieces.

Shaitanoff has been playing piano over the course of three years, following in the

footsteps of his older siblings Alexander, Nicholas, and Anastasia Shaitanoff.

When he was a baby, Shaitanoff was brought to his siblings' piano classes; Watching them play got him interested in playing himself. Eventually, when he was four,

his older sister began to teach him how to play using her old piano books.

Shaitanoff then continued to take lessons with Valerya Beyn, a family friend who had already been teaching his siblings, in New York. During COVID, however, Shaitanoff had to start taking his piano classes online.

"It was so hectic and stressful for everyone that music classes were pushed back a little bit on the list of priorities. So I think that's when he slowed down...and it was a year ago when he picked back up on a regular basis," Shaitanoff's mother, Tatyana Shaitanoff, said.

After moving to Florida, Shaitanoff continued to take remote classes weekly with

Beyn, who has now been their family's piano teacher for almost nine years. With her guidance, Shaitanoff has been getting better at piano and now can even play duets with his siblings.

"I think if anything, just playing for yourself is very beneficial [as well as] playing for your friends or family members," Tatyana Shaitanoff said. "We actually did a lot of family concerts...in New York, we would do annual concerts like a talent show with our friends and it was just sharing your talent and your love for art with your friends and family. It's a very special moment."

Shaitanoff's dedication to playing the piano is clear. He practices every day, and

hopes to continue practicing and improving his skills.

"[I want to be] as good as my siblings," Shaitanoff said.












Shaitanoff poses for a photo with his siblings. He was inspired by his siblings to start playing piano. PHOTO PROVIDED BY TATYANA SHAITANOFF

GRAPHIC BY ELENA HERMAN

# Match Spring Flower Hunt

THESE FLOWERS ARE HIDDEN THROUGHOUT THE MATCH. FIND THEM ALL TO WIN A \$5 TARGET GIFT CARD. BRING YOUR COMPLETED CHART TO MR. LENERZ IN ROOM 117 (BUILDING 17) FIRST TO WIN!

	DAISY page. <input type="checkbox"/>		POPPY page. <input type="checkbox"/>		ROSE page. <input type="checkbox"/>
	SUN-FLOWER page. <input type="checkbox"/>		LILY page. <input type="checkbox"/>		ORCHID page. <input type="checkbox"/>
	FORGET-ME-NOT page. <input type="checkbox"/>		MARIGOLD page. <input type="checkbox"/>		PANSY page. <input type="checkbox"/>

HISTORICALLY, THE JUICE FROM BLUEBELL FLOWERS WAS USED TO MAKE GLUE.

## Flower Facts

BAMBOO ACTUALLY GROWS FLOWERS, BUT IT ONLY BLOOMS EVERY FEW YEARS.

WHITE FLOWERS SMELL STRONGER THAN COLORFUL ONES DO.

TULIP BULBS CAN BE REPLACED WITH ONIONS IN A RECIPE.

BLUE IS THE RAREST FLOWER COLOR.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT FLOWERS HAVE DIFFERENT MEANINGS?



HONEYSUCKLE: HAPPINESS



VIOLET: FAITHFULNESS



HOLLYHOCK: AMBITION



TANSY: DECLARING WAR



IRIS: HOPE



GARDENIA: SECRET LOVE

# Engulfed in Golf



Smiling for the camera, third-grader Alisha Sandeep poses with her golf trophy. Sandeep was inspired by her father to begin playing golf and has been doing so ever since. PHOTO PROVIDED BY SANDEEP PISIPATI

by Aly Zaleski

On the course, there's no team counting on third-grader Alisha Sandeep. It's all her. Sandeep, the breeze, and her club. A swing, a hit, and — if she's

lucky — a hole in one! This is Sandeep's world when she's out doing what she loves: golf.

Starting in 2021, Sandeep seized a new opportunity by playing golf. Because COVID restrictions began to be lifted, Sandeep and her parents decided it was the perfect time to take up something new.

"As a golfer, it was my dream to spend Saturdays golfing with my daughter," Sandeep's father, Sandeep Pisipati said.

This dream was realized when Sandeep fell in love with the sport while

playing with the PGA Junior League. Being paired with another player, she learned new things about her sport and her teamwork skills — something that's usually foreign to golf players.

Through practice, dedication, and a positive outlook, she and her teammate swung a winning championship in the 2022 season and got first place.

"It feels really good [to win] and you feel proud of yourself. If you don't win you just move on and see what you have to work on," Sandeep said.

Practice isn't all that makes perfect for Sandeep, however. One of her biggest inspirations is local Olympic golfer Nelly Korda. Sitting at the top of the Women's World Golf Rankings, Korda is a renown professional that Sandeep has taken enjoyment in

watching so close to home in Sarasota.

Another person Sandeep recognizes as one of her biggest influences is her dad. Pisipati, a golfer himself, goes out of his way to encourage his daughter in her passion.

"She has implemented what her coach is teaching her... and I can see her smiling ear to ear when watching and playing," Pisipati said.

With her hard work and appreciation for golf, Sandeep is planning on continuing to higher levels, and eventually playing on her own. Golf continues to teach her valuable lessons that she can take into her future.

"It's a hard game, so don't get frustrated if you're not getting it right. It takes a lot of time. Try to learn from what you've done," Sandeep said.

# Taekwondo(n't) mess with him

by Colette Freeman

In a school where talents shine bright, one second-grader stands out with his great gifts in Taekwondo. This student is Dominick Todorov, whose journey in the martial arts world began five years ago.

Since the age of three, Todorov has been improving his skills on the mat at Sung Cho's Taekwondo. Ever since his first visit, he has found a love for the sport.

"At first I didn't want to go, but when the class was over I didn't want to leave," Todorov said.

With lots of commitment and discipline, he has climbed through the ranks, showing his speed, strength, and focus.

"He has been to many tour-

naments and won numerous medals and trophies," said Miglena Kircheva, Todorov's mother.

Todorov's wins in Taekwondo extend far beyond the dojo. He has gained skills from the sport important in his daily life, as well.

"[Taekwondo] really taught me how to defend myself, if somebody ever does something bad to me," Todorov said.

Despite his young age, Todorov shows the spirit of a true martial artist — humble yet ambitious, and disciplined yet always eager to learn. Additionally, he gave advice to those seeking out the sport.

"...Start and always focus, so that you learn well, and if somebody wants to be rude to you, know how

to defend yourself," Todorov said.

He approaches each training session with eagerness, pushing his limits and facing challenges with a good attitude, with positive role models to help him.

"When I do sparring, I try to be like the older kids," Todorov said.

As Todorov continues in Taekwondo, he finds himself wanting to continue the sport throughout both middle and high school, with his parents' support. He is grateful for what the sport has given him.

"Martial arts training is a great complement to academic work," Todorov said. "[Taekwondo] has been really fun, and I've learned a lot."



Showing off his awards, second-grader Dominick Todorov poses for a picture at his taekwondo tournament. PHOTO PROVIDED BY MIGLENA KIRCHEVA

IN HONOR OF VALENTINE'S DAY,  
SECOND-GRADERS IN MISTY TUCAK'S  
CLASS CREATED THEIR OWN HEART  
DESIGNS BY SEWING WITH COLORED  
YARN!

MILA  
SHAH-DZIATSEL

HADLEY  
CHADWICK

ISABEL  
ANDERSON

MALIK  
AJIB



## The Never Ending Lunch Line

by Nathan DeSouza

The time is now 12:05, and I, Lun Shline, am the third of ten kids with the highest honor that can be given to a Pine View elementary schooler.

No, it's not being the student of the month. No, it's not getting a 4.0 GPA and getting food for PV Pride. Although being chosen to be part of Pine View News is pretty awesome (even if it is for one morning), it cannot top what I have.

For the first time this school year, I was admitted into the high school lunch line!

I've only heard about the line by word of mouth. Tiers upon tiers of drinks: colorful canned drinks, ICE, some gray canned beverages, and much more! And — stealing the spotlight from all the other goods — is the sushi, which elementary schoolers aren't allowed to touch.

I grew happier with every passing minute during the lunch period. With a wide grin on my face, I look around to see if my excitement is felt by my schoolmates, too, and... oh.

As my classmates had their backs to the wall, and hands tucked behind their backs, their eyes all seemed to be following the clique of high school girls who walk in front of us and go into the line inside. This isn't weird, I heard it's normal that the high schoolers get to go in first... then it hit me.

We haven't moved up the line at all. I've been so blinded by my eagerness to get into line that I hadn't noticed that nobody was getting in.

From that point on, seconds turned into minutes. It seemed like we only moved up once every month.

I was so stuck in thought I didn't even know I was being called on to go in.

YES! This is finally the moment I've been waiting for!

I rushed into the line accompanied

by the aid yelling "slowly" to me, but it did not matter.

The high schoolers were still blocking the view of the latter half of the lunch line. This is okay, I can wait.

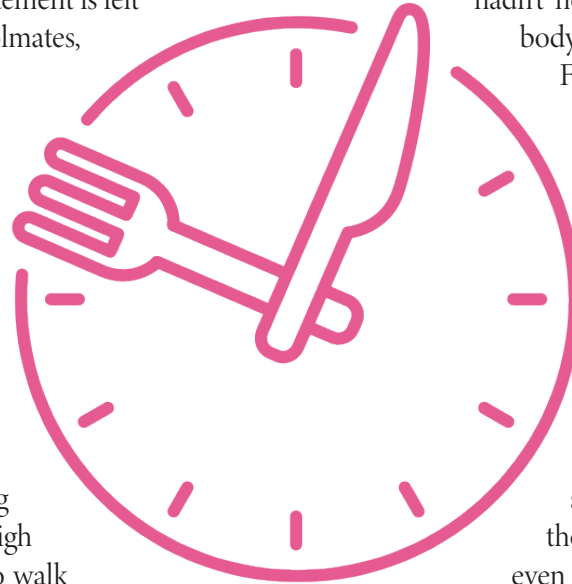
After what felt like more draining minutes, I finally got a glimpse of the esteemed drink rack. I bathe in its fluorescent light until...

"Hey kid. Move," a high school boy says behind my back.

Sheepishly I carry my lunch to the register, put in my student ID and leave. I sit down, ready to devour a well-earned meal after the arduous lunch line I had to go through. As I open the packaging to my usual PB&J, I notice no one else is sitting at my table. In fact, no one was in the lunchroom.

Lunch was over.

GRAPHIC BY ANA EASTER



As they stand in what feels like a never ending lunch line, second-grade students (left to right) Daniel Gao, Zachary Friedman and Mark Buermann wait wearily for their turn to buy lunch. PHOTO ART BY NATHAN DESOUZA

# Spring Break Joke Box

Unscramble the bold words and use them to solve the word search!

How does a flower ride a bike? - it **telaps**

What time should you use your trampoline? - **pngsir** time

How did the students walk out of school for spring break? - they **ramhcde**

What falls but never gets hurt? - the **nira**

S	J	M	S	T	V	U	O	O	Z
I	P	K	U	V	C	E	N	S	A
M	A	R	C	H	E	D	P	W	L
E	T	V	I	B	A	I	E	C	A
R	A	Q	W	N	Y	Y	T	O	T
G	W	E	A	L	G	H	A	M	I
Y	G	A	Q	A	O	T	L	F	E
R	I	O	D	N	L	S	S	O	N
J	A	N	I	C	Q	X	V	D	C
R	A	I	N	E	J	T	U	T	E



## A special thank you to our sponsors...

Our publication would not have been possible without the gracious support of our sponsors. We sincerely thank you for your contributions.

### Silver Sponsors

Sallapudi Orthodontics

The Fancher Family

### Bronze Sponsors

IHG Hotels and Resorts

Dr. Kyle Doan DC

### Family Sponsors

The Majorsky Family

Riva Cleaning Service

Ana Toroño

The Cirka Family

The Spica Family

The Barrett Family

Clever Cup Coffee Shop

## [a column]

# Unleashing Creativity



Jiayi Zhu,

Match Editor-in-Chief

Flying broomsticks. Impossible technology. Unimaginable creatures.

For as long as I can remember, creativity has always encircled my life and identity. Whether it was making up silly stories with my vocabulary words or doodling on my assignments, tapping into my imagination was like traveling to another world, just for a second.

The truth is, there's creativity in everyone. Sometimes, creativity is as simple as taking a single step in a different direction, or making the leap without fully knowing your destination yet. Finding the courage to unleash your creativity leads to a widened viewpoint of the world and experiences gained.

Creativity brings people together, like in the Variety Show, Valentine's Day Post Office, or the Hovercraft Project. It creates opportunities, such as submitting your

writing or artwork to a local contest. Creativity is also linear to productivity — it helps us solve problems and work smarter, not harder (and who doesn't love doing that?).

You're not always going to want to put yourself out there. One thing I try to remember, though, is this: What is there to lose, and isn't there so much more to gain?

Being creative has helped me in countless ways throughout my life. Finding creative outlets has allowed me to express myself and find confidence in what I do. This column, for one, is a creative outlet that I'm grateful for. Plus, thinking creatively helps me overcome obstacles and allows me to learn skills that were once completely unknown to me.

Life without creativity is stagnation. What would life be like if the Wright brothers had never invented the airplane? Or if Van Gogh gave up painting before he created the "Starry Night"? More importantly, what would life be like if you never took a creative leap?

If there's one thing you take away from this column, keep this in mind: if you open up your mind through creativity, possibilities can become beautifully endless.