

SHARK ENCOUNTER

**NO.13
MARCH**

A person in a shark mascot costume stands in the center of a large, brightly lit hall. The hall has a checkered floor and a ceiling with colorful, circular lights. Several people are visible in the background, some looking towards the shark mascot. The shark mascot is grey with a white belly and a large, open mouth showing sharp teeth.

**STUDENT
LIFE**

**A LOOK INTO RECENT
STUDENT EVENTS
PG.1-2**

**SHARK
FUNDRAISERS**
DEEP DIVE INTO THE
FUNDRAISERS OF
SPORT TEAMS
PG.3

**SHARK
COMMUNITY**

**SEE CURRENT EVENTS
OCCURRING ON
CAMPUS
PG.4**

STUDENT LIFE

Navy Ball Preparation

By: Makeila Peart

Riverview High School NJROTC students have been preparing for one of their biggest events of the year; Navy Ball. On Saturday, March 8, the NJROTC program hosted a formal event just for their cadets. "It's a space where the kids that are in this program, no matter who you are- you can be your awkward self in that space," said Lieutenant Watson, one of the Naval science instructors. All week students have been preparing for the event with some students even running for court. Freshman Chantal Minaya ran for countess, as it was her first navy ball. Students are all excited for the event. "It's my birthday, so I'll spending it with my friends," said Manaya, 9. For all Cadets, the event was a grade so it's mandatory that you show up. Navy Ball was a significant event for NJROTC cadets, emphasizing inclusivity and diversity.

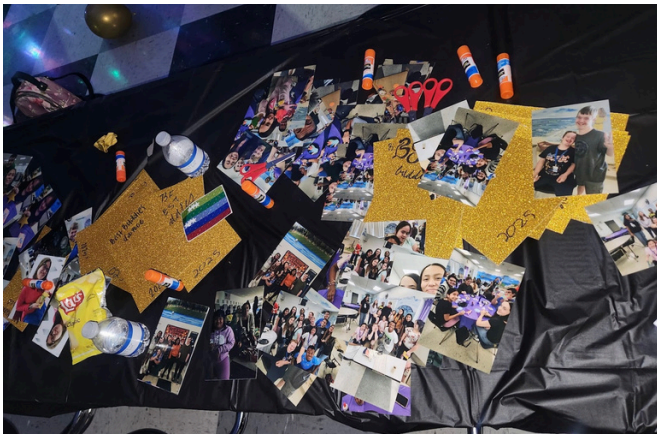


Photo by: Makeila Peart

Best Buddies Dance

by: Madyson Demian

Every year the club Best Buddies hosts a dance for the club members and their buddies. This year the theme was under the stars, and it highlighted all the fun elements of a school dance. The club decorated the cafeteria with star decorations, hung up banners, provided an arts and crafts station, supplied food, and even rendered a DJ. The Best Buddies dance was a fun dance the club looks forward to every year. "Our buddies don't get the chance to go to homecoming or prom, so they make this special for them. They bring family and other friends and just have fun," Faith Smith, 12, said. The club made sure the members, and their buddies are always included and also organizes other fun events to ensure an equal opportunity, and an amusing time. "The dance is welcome to any members who joined and the current students/buddies," said Dixiana Murrell.



Photos by Best Buddies

College Acceptances 2025

by Taylor Day

College is coming up fast for the seniors at Riverview High School as the school year is coming to an end. Many students have applied to many different schools, whether that be university or trade school, there are many different options and opportunities. "I applied to University of South Florida, it's my dream university because it has a really great science program that offers me opportunities to be a lab assistant and obtain some work experience before I'm out of college," said Kaiya Marrufo, 12. There can be multiple reasons as to why students applied to the schools that they did. There are also things they wish they had done to prepare themselves for what is coming up next for them, such as volunteering more or paying attention to when applications were due. "The factors I would say that affected my decisions were scholarship opportunities as well as opportunities to grow for the real world, and one thing I wish I knew before applying is a lot of the deadlines for performing arts happen early, like November and December early," said Marco Rodriguez, 12. As seniors are getting ready to leave their final year of high school, the junior class is rising on up, and there are some things that they prepare for and do for the upcoming year. There can be different things to know when going into your senior year, and Annabelle Bermudez has some advice for the class of 2026. "My advice for upcoming seniors would be to apply to any scholarship, any fee waiver and make sure you don't set your future on a specific school," said Bermudez, 12.



SAT Vs ACT

by Lylly Wyatt

If you're thinking about college, you might be wondering whether to take the SAT or ACT. Both tests are accepted by most colleges, but is one better than the other? The SAT focuses on problem-solving with Math and Reading/Writing sections. The ACT includes those, plus a Science section and moves at a faster pace. The SAT is scored out of 1600, while the ACT is scored on a scale of 1-36. "My experience with the SATs was Ok, it was a silent classroom with minimal distractions. The questions were boring and worded in a way that'll try to confuse you," said Logan Wilson, 12. Most colleges tend to accept both and don't have a favorite. They usually look at them the same and some colleges don't even look at them at all. If your worried about what will look better on your transcript it all depends on what college you're going to and what their requirements are.

ATTENTION JUNIORS

SAT SCHOOL DAY
WEDNESDAY
APRIL 2, 2025

ALL 11th graders will have the opportunity to take the SAT for FREE at school. No need to register, just come to school prepared for success

TAKING THE SAT CAN HELP YOU MEET GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND PREPARE FOR COLLEGE

FOR PREPARATION:

- COLLEGEBOARD.ORG
- PRACTICE TESTS
- KHANACADEMY.ORG
- PROVIDES FREE TEST PREP

SHARK FUNDRAISERS



Photo by Riverview Cheer Team

Mulch Madness Fundraiser

by Emma Hillguber

Riverview High School Football is hosting its own Mulch Fundraiser program. Ran by coach Tony Rodriduez, the program is supposed to raise money for the RVHS football team. "We're raising money for one we got seven on seven tournaments, and we always have two teams and the cost for both teams, per tournament we play is about \$425 a team. So that's a pretty expense right there in itself," said Rodriduez. Not only is the money raised going toward expenses, but also food for the team. "We also got a black and blue game coming up on May 21, and we like to do a per game meal for the team, and that will help us pay for that as well," said Rodriduez. Delivery and insolation are on March 15 and sales run until March 8. "I feel positive feeling about this, it helps support use it helps support our family, the football family," said Koby Holloman, 11. Players are all eager to help support the sport they love. "My feelings about his fundraiser are amazing, I think this is a great way to help our team and raise money for new gear and equipment we may need," said Dominic Prsaud, 10.

Easter Cheer Fundraiser

By Mordecai Shackelford

Feb 20- April 16 Riverview's cheerleading team will be holding a fundraiser to garner funds for what the team will need next year, this includes uniforms, equipment and gear. The fundraiser entails making a purchase from the cheer team that will get you 40-110 plastic eggs "filled with yummy treats" with prices ranging from \$30-\$65. "The cheer coaches will come out and put the eggs in your yard the day before Easter," Said Alanna Walker, 12. "We're coming the day before Easter so it'll be a surprise for the little ones like it came from the Easter Bunny," Walker said. The team has no specific money goal to reach, however, Walker said, "no there's no specific goal we're just trying to raise as much money for the team as possible so we can have everything we need for next year." If you have little siblings or would like to contribute to the donations you can scan the poster below and make your purchase from the cheer team to help raise funds so they can have all they need for next year.

MULCH MADNESS

\$7.50 per bag (3 cu. ft) pine bark nugget (HOA approved)
5 bag minimum order
Price includes delivery and installation
(installation areas must be prepared and ready for mulch prior to our arrival)

Additional donations are welcome.
Sale is running 1/18 - 3/8
Delivery and installation - Saturday, March 15th

Please call or text Heather at 813-644-2786 to place your order

How much mulch do you need?		
Area to cover **	For 2 in deep mulch coverage	3 inches deep mulch coverage
10x10	6 bags	9 bags
10x20	12 bags	17 bags
10x30	17 bags	25 bags
10x40	29 bags	34 bags

** Approximate recommendations


#ATTACKAS1

Photo by Riverview Football team

SHARK COMMUNITY



Strawberry Festival

By: Serenity Scott

Photo by: Briyana Smith

On Feb 27-March 9, Plant City hosted their annual Strawberry Festival. The festival has rides, events, food and so much more. "My Favorite Part of the festival is riding the Feris Wheel," said Olivia Germany, 9. Students in the East Side of Hillsborough County had Strawberry Festival Day on Monday, March 3 to go to the festival and have fun. Students also had a "Kids through high school free day" on Saturday, March 1 where they got in the festival free. "The Strawberry Festival is so fun, and they have great food too," said Lanazja Taylor, 11. The Strawberry Festival is home to weird foods like fried alligator, pickle pizza, deep fried strawberry and burgers. The festival is also known for their rides and performances. Singers like Nelly and Jon Pardi are performing at the festival.

FCA Movie Night

by Isabella Jolley

Riverview High School was playing Prince of Egypt hosted by Fellowship of Christian Students Feb 28. The club chose that particular movie because it is a "Fun cartoon that a lot of people know that as so had a good message about god," said Giovanni Cintron 12. Fellowship of Christian Students holds many events; some are a fundraiser and others are just to get the club together for a fun event. "This was a fundraiser for events, and stuff," said Cintron. Look for additional events hosted by FCS.

Holi Celebration

By Sara Ramar

Holi is a popular Hindu festival celebrated as the festival of colors, love, and spring. Holi celebrations take different forms in various parts of India and can last between 40 days in some religions and just two days in others. It marks the victory of good over evil and celebrates the eternal love of the deities Radha and Khrishna. Participants would throw colored water and powder on one another, and societal norms are temporarily set aside during the celebration. "I love celebrating Holi with my family and friends. It's such a fun holiday where being messy is fun," said Dhiya Charath, 11. However, Holi is not just about throwing color on each other, but it's also about loud music along with shouts of "Holi hai!" (It's Holi!) and a bunch of traditional foods including Jalebi, gujiya, malpua and puran poli. "My favorite part about Holi is getting to have fun with the people I love, and also all the delicious foods and sweets we get," said Sanjana Deepak, 11. At Holi's conclusion, when everyone bathes, gets into clean clothes, and visits friends, teachers, and relatives, the ordered patterns of society are reasserted and renewed.

Photo by Sara Ramar



SHARK HIGHLIGHTS

Women's History Month

By Brianna Cookson

Women's History Month was started in 1978, initially started as Women's History Week and set to take place during the week of March 8. In 1987 Congress made the decision to officially designate the whole month of March to celebrating the contributions of women to the many aspects of society. Regardless of that huge step it still tends to be overlooked. So just how much do people know?



"Just all of those things like reproductive health and fighting for our own rights, especially in society right now, unfortunately, just inequality, being treated differently in multiple different places, or just like different kinds of places. I think all of those experiences sort of tie me into this month," said Alexandra Carrusini, 11



"You know, I feel like it's very important because I have a lot of important women around me, like my mom, my girlfriend, of course. So, them having the opportunity to grow from their history really impacts me as well," said Samuel Primm, 10



"The importance of Women's History Month is to celebrate all of the females, the strong and brave females who have come before us and allow us to have our rights, and allow us to actually, like, you know, learn and have a good education," said Charity Williams, 10



"No, it's not celebrated enough because women didn't get enough credit back in the day," said Jonathan Wilshire, 10

Announcements

RIVERVIEW HIGH SCHOOL
MATH HONOR SOCIETY

MATH TUTORING

Got a MATH problem?
We're here to help you solve it.

Tuesdays and Thursdays during
ALL 3 lunches

- YOU MUST GET A PASS FROM ROOM 406 BEFORE SCHOOL EACH DAY THAT YOU WANT TO ATTEND TUTORING
- EACH SESSION IS LIMITED TO 15 STUDENTS SO PICK UP YOUR LUNCH PASS EARLY!!!
- LAPTOPS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE
- STUDENTS MUST BRING WORK FROM THEIR MATH CLASS

Riverview High School

FINS TUTORING

Media Center 3:45-4:45

AFTER SCHOOL: TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

Great Opportunity to work on Credit Recovery

Tuesday: Math
Wednesday: General help in areas needed
Thursday: College Readiness/SAT/ACT

Student Closet

We are accepting donations!

Are you a RVHS student in need? Let us know!

Donations must be new or practically new items like the following:

- clothing (girls and boys, all sizes)
- shirts
- pants
- socks
- hygiene products
- school supplies
- etc



Items can go to room 235A or the main office.
Questions: Shelley.Hunsucker@cps.net

SENIOR SLIVER LETTERS

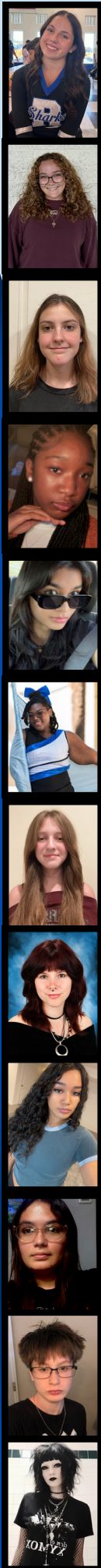
Family and friends can now send notes of encouragement and congratulations to graduating seniors. These will be hand delivered at the end of the year.

- Do not forget to write the students full name on the outside of the letter.
- Letters/ Cards only
- No gifts or monetary gifts

Mail to: 11311 Boyette Road
Riverview, FL 33569
~Ms. Rodrigues
OR
Drop off:
In front office for Ms. Rodrigues (rm. 205)

Due: May 2nd 2025

SHARK ENCOUNTER STAFF



Natalie Ashline is a junior at Riverview High School. She is a former Journalism student and is currently a staff editor of the Shark Encounter newspaper. She is an honor student and a future AP diploma graduate. Outside of school, she has a part time job and enjoys hanging out with her friends.

Briyana Smith is a staff editor for Riverview Shark Encounter. This is her second year in newspaper and her third year in Journalism. During her time in Journalism, she has done interviews and written creative stories. When she is not interviewing or writing she is on the softball field pitching or hanging out with friends.

Emma Hillguber is a staff writer for the Riverview shark encounter in her second year in Journalism. She uses programs like Microsoft and Canva to help make her work. She is in classes such as AP World History and honors class. As a staff writer, she values using techniques and working carefully in order to make sure everything she writes is appropriate and accurate. And when she's not doing any of this she is at home drawing or playing with her two dogs Mocha and Piper and two cats Lafayette and Draks.

Makeila Peart is a staff writer with Riverview high school Shark Encounter. This is her second year in Journalism and her first year doing hands on newspaper work. She focuses on gathering, analyzing, and dispersing news and information around the school. Outside of school, Makeila enjoys Arts of design and traveling.

Sara Ramar is a staff writer for the Riverview High School newspaper. During her three years of Journalism, she would learn how to interview people and how to write and create a story. One year, one of her stories ended up in the online school newspaper. As a staff writer she is getting used to what it will be like to write for newspapers in the future. When she is not tackling journalism, she hangs out with her friends after school and works at her part time job.

Serenity Scott is a staff writer with Riverview High School Encounter. This is Her second year in Journalism. Serenity's role is to take pictures and document stories. She is also in the Riverview Blue Radiance Color Guard. She's in classes such as US History Honors And Communication Technology. She enjoys hanging out with friends and performing at competitions and Football games.

Brianna Cookson is currently a member of the Riverview High School newspaper staff Shark Encounter. She is considered honest to a core as a person and has the ability to properly communicate ideas without causing unnecessary conflicts, which is important to have when writing on current or important events. When not doing newspaper work, she is enjoying art, reading, and just spending time outside and with people close to her.

Taylor Day is a staff writer for Riverview High School's Shark Encounter. She writes stories about current events and is a pensive and creative writer. She has been in Journalism for two years and has improved in writing and communicating with others. She enjoys music, drawing, and taking photos when she is not interviewing or transcribing her work.

Madyson Demian is a staff writer for Shark Encounter News. As this is her first year in newspaper, it is her second year in Journalism. Using her innovative abilities, she contributes to stories by expressing her creativeness on paper. When Madyson is not creating a new story, she is on the field making plays in flag football, or out with friends being nutty.

Isabella Jolly is a staff writer for the Shark Encounter. She likes helping animals and likes to help the earth. Outside of school she enjoys going on walks with my dog, reading books and learning about the government and photography. She also enjoy traveling and learning about other cultures and learning how they live.

Mordecai Shackleford is a junior at Riverview High School. With a past history in writing and graphic design, he plays a role in writing and designing the school's newspaper. In his free time, he likes to skateboard and draw

Lylliana Wyatt is a staff writer for the Riverview High schools Shark Encounter. She is a writer who goes over current/important events around the school. She has been in Journalism for two years, along with previous experience in creative writing. When she is not working on a story, she enjoys listening to music, skating and creating art.