

# SHARK ENCOUNTER

**NO.13  
MARCH**



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# STUDENT LIFE

## Relay for Life

By: Taylor Day

Riverview's Student Government Association, also known as SGA, participated in the Relay for Life, which is a fundraising event to fight cancer. The event was held at Raymond James Stadium and students were put into teams to engage in different activities to raise money. "The funds go towards general cancer research and technology to treat a variety of cancers," said Kaiden Davis, 12. The students enjoyed working together as teams and doing fun activities during this event. There were many things to do, such as playing soccer, selling popcorn and being able to pie others in the face. "I walked every hour around the track, pied people in the face and played soccer, which was my favorite as we started to play with an ex Brazilian player and he made it really entertaining and technical," said Sanai Ames, 12. Relay for Life isn't just a way to raise money, it is also a way to bring people together by doing fun activities and engaging with others. "Each booth is trying to raise money in their own way, we are all coming together as a team and do something good for the community," said Diana Pimentel, 12.



Photo by: Kadien Davis



Photo by: Mia Santizo



Photo by: Mia Santizo

## Last Pep Rally

by: Lylliana Wyatt

Before heading into spring break, students gathered for an exciting pep rally to end the week. Each grade represented a different TV network from their childhood. Freshmen were PBS Kids, sophomores were Cartoon Network, Juniors were Disney Channel, and seniors were Nickelodeon. "The pep rally was really fun. I really liked dressing up too, it was cool to see all the costumes," said Venus Boyne, 10. While it was the 2025 last pep rally, it was also the last day before spring break. "I didn't go to the pep rally but it was fun to participate in the spirit day," said Logan Wilson, 12. The pep rally featured a variety of activities and competitions between teachers and students, all focused on getting everyone excited for the break. Students showed off their outfits based on the theme. The pep rally was a great way to end the week on a high note and boost school spirit.

# Tampa Bay Construction Career Fair

by: Makeila Peart

On Wednesday, March 26, some of Riverview High School's students took a field trip to a construction site fair to learn more about construction. It was a great opportunity for those who are old enough to get spot interviews and a chance to get hired on the spot. This field trip was a great way to get a look into the construction industry and learn something new. "I feel like it's really a good opportunity for students to, like, try something new and see how they like it, even if they will not work in construction," said Olesia Bexhova, 12. The field trip gave out information like: what the students will do, how much the job pays, the benefits of working in the company etc. Tyson Hyde, a program adviser here at Riverview, went on the field trip for the first time just to get an experience with the students. "Just getting those exposures and experiences to things that they normally wouldn't see, I think, is a huge benefit," said Hyde. It's important to realize how such a small field trip can impact students in so many ways, offering a firsthand glimpse into construction and broadening their perspectives on potential career paths. The construction career fair emphasized the importance of hands-on experiences in shaping future career choices.



Photo by Tyson Hyde

# Future Carrer Academy Hiring Event

by Mordecai Shackelford

A student at Riverview High School who attended the FCA hiring event was the only one who chose a career path. Tylee Stewart, 12, chose at the FCA hiring event to pursue the medical field. Stewart said, "I chose the medical field because I wanted to make a difference as a nurse and previously really just liked what the field has to offer." Stewart had not only considered the medical field to pursue but an Industrial Trade as well. Stewart said, "I also thought about trying for Industrial Trade I found it super interesting and aside from nursing, it really aligns with what I want to do." Stewart wishes to pursue areas in the medical field similar to nursing or caretaking of patients. When asked what his position would entail, he said, "I would be taking care of patients, I would also have to be responsible for cleaning patients as well and keeping them hygienic." This leaves many possibilities for careers because there are many sub-fields within the medical field itself, with what he expects to do he could pursue being a nurse, a physician, a physiotherapist, or even an occupational therapist. There are many options of what to pursue in the medical field and also in Industrial Trade giving students the opportunity to choose to pursue anything from being a mechanist to something called a Solar photovoltaic installer which is someone who installs solar panels in homes and businesses. The Future Career hiring event was an amazing opportunity for students at Riverview to explore possible career paths and plan for a successful future.

**Future Career Academy Hiring Event**  
**FIND A GREAT CAREER!**

**Do you have a plan for after high school?**  
 The Future Career Fair is here to help connect you to the great jobs and training opportunities - right here in your community!

- Network with 50+ area employers
- Learn about training, certification and internship opportunities
- Find the career path that is right for YOU!

Register to Secure Your Seat!

**Our community's top employers will be present and ready to hire in the following industries:**

• Agribusiness	• Education	• Healthcare	• Professional Services
• Automotive	• Entrepreneurship	• Hospitality	• Retail
• Construction	• Finance	• Information Technology	• Trades
• Distribution	• Government	• Manufacturing	• Utilities

FOR INFORMATION VISIT:  
**TheFutureCareerAcademy.com**  
**PERMISSION SLIP REQUIRED TO ATTEND!**

# SHARK SPORTS



Photo by Brianna Cookson

## State Wrestler

By Brianna Cookson

On March 6-8, James Aguilar competed at Silver Spurs Arena for States in Wrestling. "It was amazing, like it was you know, I felt like I was going to do good, so I felt good going," said Aguilar, 11. Aguilar was the only male student at Riverview High School to qualify for states this year. "It was more like, I have to be more technical, and just really careful," said Aguilar. With only the season to prepare for states, he wasted no time at all when it came to readying himself for his matches. "Waking up early, going to a practice then going to another practice later in the day," said Aguilar. In all, wrestling is a fun sport and a great opportunity for students who are looking for physical activity in a team setting. "I mean it's fun and all of the teammates are fun too," said Aguilar.

## Scholar Athlete Awards

by Madison Demian

The Scholar Athlete Award is an award given to athletes in Hillsborough County with the highest GPA's who show hard work and dedication on and off the field. The student athletes chosen were Isaiah Washington, Devin German, and Blake Czyzyk. All three of these athletes have been excelling on and off the field, pushing themselves past the goal. On Feb 27, they celebrated at the Sheraton Tampa Hotel alongside the 27 other student athletes from other schools. 60 candidates were listed to receive the award and only 30 were chosen. "I was shocked, but I felt like all my hard work not only in the classroom but on the field worked off, I didn't try to gain this award. I actually didn't even know of it until after my football season. I just strive to be the best I can," said Washington, 12. Teammate German, 12, shared a similar experience. "I didn't specifically try to earn this award, but I always strive to do the best in life so that I have the opportunity to achieve outstanding recognition, and I'm very humble and appreciative to get this prestigious award," said German. All three athletes excel within their crafts both on and off the work field, meeting above the standard GPA requirement (weighted and unweighted) alongside significant hours of community service, while all still displaying leadership. These athletes are well deserving of this reward and recognition.



Photo courtesy of Coach Rodriguez

# SHARK COMMUNITY

## Thesians State Winners

By Sara Ramar

Theater goes to a states competition every March, typically during our spring break. States takes place in Tampa, and during states you can attend shows and go to workshops that teach you things like choreography, stage combat, or just plain advice about different career aspects of theatre. This year Theater left states with six winning seniors due to their amazing performances. Half of our winners earned the Superior troupe: Marco Rodriguez with King of the World, Eva Bigham and Amber Towers with Proof and Angelina Arnaez with Fly, Fly Away. "I feel very happy especially with my performance, I'm proud of myself growth. I had high hopes to get superior, it was the highest score you can get, but I didn't want to be overly confident because I didn't want to mess myself up, so I try my best to not think about the score until after my performance," said Angelina Arnaez, 12. The other half of our winners earned the Excellents troupe: Ari Arnaez and Nora Wright with Laughing Wild, Jimenez and co. with Hold Me, Bat Boy and LaMara Lofton with The Witches' Princess Costume Design. "It feels really good knowing I got this far competitively. This was my first time costume designing for a show. I honestly had no idea what to expect because this was my first time taking something like this to states, but I knew I had done all I could to prepare and put my all into my designs," said Lofton, 12.

Photo by Eva Bigham



Photo by: Serenity Scott

## Winter Guard's Last Performance

By: Serenity Scott

On March 27-29 the Blue Radiance Color Guard traveled to Daytona for the FFCC Regional AA Championships. On Wednesday, March 26 the Color Guard showcased their show to family and friends before they went off to championships. The team's theme was "We Are Creativity", and they truly have embodied that. The preparation for this moment was very hectic. "I'm mostly prepared to preform to my best abilities, so we can win," said Kaliyah Farquharson, 9. Color Guard is a very mental sport. Many people who do Color Guard have to tackle the mental battles of doing the sport. "My mental throughout this season has been all over the place but, I managed to bring it back up to do what I love," said Alyssa Humphrey, 10

## Spring Break

by Emma Hillguber

Spring Break was from March 15-23. Students and teachers took this break as a chance to relax from the busy school schedule. "I primarily worked a bunch and spent time with friends," said Nickolas Williams, 11. Earning a paycheck in addition to schoolwork can add to the overall stress a student has. But some used Spring Break as a way to go to events and learn new things to relieve that stress. "Over this spring break it was average," said Virginia Rogers, 10, "aside from two stand out events which were the Renaissance Festival and learning to Irish dance for St. Paddi's day." Spring Break and Saint Patrick's Day recently passed. "For Saint Patrick's Day my family decided on a whim to go learn Irish dancing, and it was fun watching us all struggle," said Rogers. Rogers wasn't the only one that celebrated St Patrick's Day. Williams also celebrated the holiday with friends. "I went to go hang out with friends at chili's for Saint Patrick's Day," said Williams. While Spring Break has passed, the end of the school year will be here before students even realize.

# SHARK HIGHLIGHTS

## Riverview's New Branding

by Isabella Jolley

Riverview High School has rebranded. "The process was Mr. Spiro and I noticed inconsistency with the use of our shark," said Saskia Marina. Branding, for a school or company, should represent the story it wants to tell. "Spiro felt very strongly it didn't represent our school and who we are, which started the process of have consistent color and branding consistent," said Marina. Riverview High School students preferred the Home of The Sharks logo compared to the Attack as One Logo. "I like the first one for sure," said Nayeli Veg. Mr. Spiro, along with his rebranding team, did an amazing job with the new branding for Riverview High School. Make sure to stay on the lookout for all the new branding images.



Brand images created by Jostens



Created By: Jostens

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


**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**

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

# 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.



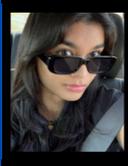
**Briyana Smith** is a staff editor for Riverview Shark Encounter. This is her second year in newspaper and her third year in Journalism. During her time in Journalism, she has done interviews and written creative stories. When she is not interviewing or writing she is on the softball field pitching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



**Lylyana 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.