

# TARPON SPRINGS BEACON

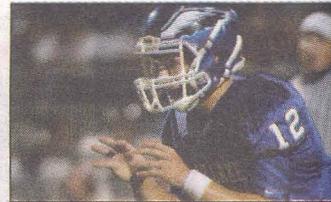
Suncoast News



## History lesson

Tours this weekend  
at Cycadia Cemetery.

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## Time running o

This weeks  
football recap.

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## Boat builder to aid at-risk students

Stamas Yacht  
offering 'exciting' look  
at manufacturing

BY KATHRYN WILLIAMS  
Tampa Bay Newspapers

TARPON SPRINGS - Stamas Yacht has never opened its doors to the public before.

Sure, the company has brought in the occasional person here and there for a tour, especially if they are building a boat, but otherwise, their doors stay closed.

This will change at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14, when Stamas Yacht brings in students from

**STUDENTS, PAGE 4**

## Tarpon contingent to Macy's Thanksgiving Da



REBECCA CULPEPPER LEIG

Seven members of the Tarpon Springs High School Color Guard, seen here after capturing 2016 WGI World Championship in Daytona, Ohio, have been selected to take part in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade, in New York City.

## Fish tails

Angling club sponsors  
outing for veterans  
Page 3

## Promoting education

Locals earn  
human rights award  
Page 8

## Tarpon Arts events and a

For more information  
and tickets, visit TarponArts.org or call 727-942-5605.

## Learn about Greek Bouzouki

The City of Tarpon Springs and TarponArts

will present a series of workshops in Greek bouzouki for youth and adults by Leonidas Zafiris and Elias Poulos.

Originally from Greece, Leonidas Zafiris is a professional bouzouki musician and teacher. Prior

to working in Toronto for many years, Zafiris played bouzouki for many of the top vocalists in Greece over 25 years.

Born in Greece, Elias Poulos is known as a singer, but he is also an accomplished bouzouki

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# Students

From page 1

Tarpon Spring's High School drop preven-

tion program, in honor of National Manufacturing Month.

Three faculty members from the high

school, around 30 students, and government officials, including Tarpon Springs Economic Development Manager Karen Lemmons; City Manager Mark LeCouris; Mayor Chris Alahouzos and U.S. Rep. Gus Bilirakis, R-Palm Harbor.

"This is really exciting for us," said Anna E. Stamas, director and part owner of the company. "We've never opened the company before."

The goal of the tour is to teach students at Tarpon Springs High School whose path might not be leading to college they have another option.

"We hope to expose them to the exciting and lucrative world of manufacturing," Stamas said. Manufacturing is in her blood.

Stamas Yacht is a family-owned and -operated organization

with roots deep in Tarpon Springs.

After 60 years in business, it is the oldest continuously operating family-owned boat builder in the United States.

It all started in the late 1930s, when Peter and Nicholas Stamas, Tarpon High School students, built a 22-foot boat in their backyard and won first prize at the Florida State Fair. By 1952, the brother had opened Stamas Yacht.

Nicholas Stamas has passed away, and brother Peter, now 93, has passed the reigns of the company to his children.

Anna Stamas owns the company with her three brothers, George P., Bill P., and CEO and president of Stamas Yacht John P. Stamas. Although Anna is in real estate, George is a developer and Bill is a

pilot, they all stay involved in their father's company.

In fact, even their grandchildren are involved, Peter G. Stamas and Billy G. Stamas are members of the operations team.

Since Stamas and her three brothers, as well as most of their children, attended Tarpon High, she said she couldn't think of a better school to welcome into the company's doors to some present-day Spongers.

Because the company is a working factory, Stamas Yacht usually doesn't allow tours. It's either too dangerous, or it forces them to shut down operations for a stretch of time, causing a pause in productivity.

For these high school students, however, Stamas Yacht is clearing out a space just for this opportunity.

"My feeling is a lot of the younger generation likes to be hands-on, and techy," Stamas said. "I see it in my son, in my kids. I want to show these kids."

The high school students will go on a tour of the facility, led by John P. Stamas, and learn about the different roles of each employee and about the manufacturing industry.

Although she wasn't thrilled about having to limit the tour to just one group and a small section of Tarpon Springs High, Stamas thinks picking the students in the drop prevention program may have the most impact.

Stamas hopes this will improve the public perception of manufacturing and give these students another road for their future.

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<p><b>CHAPEL OF THE DIVINE SPIRIT</b> 5814 Audin Ln. Holiday (727)938-3234</p>	<p><b>FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b> 6310 Trouble Creek R, NPR Pastor "Ed" Hartman Jr Sunday School 9:30am</p>

## Fishing

From page 3

Wish to Fish," said Chet Jasak, president of Fish-On. "We take

Veterans out and underprivileged children."

The Children's Wish-to-Fish outings take 30 children from a group

home for abandoned and abused children on a day on free fishing aboard the Miss Virginia charter boat.

"They love it," Jasak

said. The club also sponsors the Joshua House and Hope Children's Lodge, where they do similar fishing trips, and provides support for the YMCA Children's Fishing Tournament and the Pasco

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