



From the editor:

Tamarac Optimist Club is celebrating its 29th year! Many charter members are still active in the growth and stability of TOC. That's Awesome!!

Nancy DeNiro

## Tamarac OC Elects New Officers for 2022-2023

At the April 21st meeting, Nancy D announced the election results for Co-Presidents and four Directors for next Optimist year 2022-2023.

Tamarac's Co-Presidents will be **Claire Merrill and Bonnie West**. New Directors are **Sue Morgan and Mary Gelb**. **Nancy O'Brien and Nancy Kennedy** were re-elected for a second term as Director. Rounding out the BOD for 2022-23 are Directors **Judy Barrow and Pearl Meulemans**, Secretary **Joy Criminger**, Treasurer **Nancy DeNiro**.



**Bonnie West**



**Claire Merrill**



**Sue Morgan**



**Mary Gelb**



**Nancy Kennedy**



**Nancy O'Brien**

## April Programs

April 7



Linda Williams

“How to Have a  
Difficult  
Conversation”

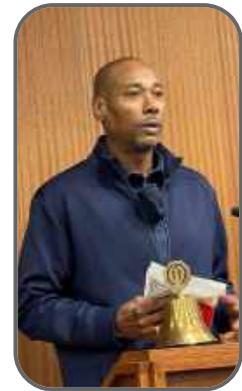
April 14



Pickens Technology College

Pamela Rouch and Samantha  
O'Neill

April 21



Joe Levigne, Pres

“Colorado Feeding  
Kids”

April 28



Mary Grace Wake,  
Lt. Gov. –

“Broadcasting  
Happiness”

Save these dates:



June 19 - TOC give away  
Fathers Day Trucker Hats  
July 16 - DTC give-away  
Mandelorian beverage wrap



### BIRTHDAYS

Nadou Lawson	5/15
Tamara Kirch	5/16
Kathy Sullivan	5/16
Carol Grams	5/18
Judith Barrow	5/19
Sue Slaby	5/26
Marilyn Mehlman	5/31

## Tamarac 2022 Visual Arts Competition

Thirteen young artists submitted their art this year. There were 3 age groups, and each group's 1st place winner competed for overall contest 1st place. Each participant received a certificate of participation, and the top three winners received \$20 Michael's gift cards. 1st place received an additional \$40 gift card. First place to the right by **Frances Meredith - age 7 ¾**  
Topic was "Optimism"



2nd Place - Hailey Snyder



3rd Place - Hayzl O'Connor  
(she was Kathy Sullivan's PenPal this year)

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## 1st Place Essay Winner

First place essay winner, **Jenna Donohue**, read her essay at the April 14th meeting. She received a first place medal and a check for \$250. She is pictured here with her mother and essay contest chair, **Joyce Laman**.

The topic for this year's essay was "How Does an Optimistic Mindset Change My Tomorrow?"



## International Rescue Committee Speaker Reaches Out

On May 5, **Ndeye Ndao** from the IRC gave a wonderful presentation on their efforts with refugees. She sent back the links for further information for members to find out more about the IRC. She said “Thank you again for inviting me yesterday to share more about IRC and the work we do. I had a great time and it was a pleasure meeting the women in your church. Please see below links to use to get to know us and how to support us.”

### What the IRC does to help refugees:

<https://denvergov.org/Community/Neighborhoods/I-Am-Denver/Featured-Stories/International-Rescue-Committee-Refugees-Rebuild-Lives>

Support our **Global Operations of humanitarian response including our work in Afghanistan and Ukraine:** <https://help.rescue.org/donate/tax-deductible-gift>

Support IRC Denver’s overall mission of resetting refugees from many countries:

<https://help.rescue.org/donate/us-denver-co>

### Community Sponsorship Opportunities:

- **Volunteer opportunities: Resettlement Support Volunteers**
- **Mentors**
- **New Roots Garden Volunteers**
- **Food Program Delivery Volunteers**



### Other ways to help:

Donate Furniture and Household Goods - • Smaller household items that are on our list of items we can accept can be dropped off anytime our office building is open.(6:30 am – 6:00 pm M-F and 8:30 am – 2:00 pm Saturdays) - Furniture drop-off is by appointment only.

- **Amazon Wishlist** – our most needed items  
[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/103ZRAV0K2YLO?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/103ZRAV0K2YLO?ref_=wl_share)
- Conduct a donation drive of the most needed items

With gratitude,

Ndeye

## GOG (Girls on the Go) Visits Innovation School Kathy Sullivan

The Tamarac ladies had a very educational tour of the **Cherry Creek Innovation Campus**. This is a state-of-the-art college and career prep facility. The students are provided opportunities to for hands on real-world, and valuable college credit and/or industry-recognized certifications. This campus offers a new kind of bridge to college and successful careers. WOW

After the tour we enjoyed a nice lunch at Perfect Landing at Centennial Airport. The day was pretty windy so we didn't see to many planes taking off and landing.

**Watch the tidbits for upcoming GOG activities.**



## Happy Buck Committee Claire Merrill



The latest \$500 Happy Bucks award went to Camp POSTCARD - **(Peace Officers Striving To Create And Reinforce Dreams)**. Camp POSTCARD is a free week-long summer camp designed to benefit 5th and 6th graders from the Denver/Aurora metro area who demonstrate leadership skills and might not otherwise be able to afford such an experience. For many of our youth, this represents their first camp experience. This popular and successful Volunteers of America program has proven to be an important opportunity to build strong, positive adult/youth relationships and valuable life skills that serve the campers, their families, and their communities.

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## Volunteers Needed at Jr Golf Girl's Tournament

TOC needs 8 volunteers for the Girls Tournament (ages 10-18) on **Thursday, June 16, at Meadow Hills Golf Course in Aurora**. Volunteers need to arrive no later than 7:30 am and the tournament starts at 8:00. You will be paired with the junior girls you will be scoring for. Volunteers can ride in pairs in golf carts. The junior girls will be walking or pushing a golf cart.

The girls should be done around 1:00 pm. We'll have an awards ceremony which volunteers are welcome to attend. Lunch will be available at the snack bar. We'll have an Optimist "tab" you can charge lunch to.

Contact Diane Young, [diyoung@comcast.net](mailto:diyoung@comcast.net), to volunteer.



## Don't forget to sign up for Dime-a-Day this year!

With just one dime a day, you can become part of the movement of "Helping Optimists Help Kids" and become part of a large group of Foundation supporters who realize what a difference they make every day in the lives of children. Contact Lois Jean Gallaway 303-771-1551



## Hand in Hand Optimist Club Activities Linda Williams

### Ramadan Celebration for Children in Jordan

The **Hand in Hand Optimist Club** in Jordan held a **charity iftar\*** meal on April 27th with children and some of their mothers to break their Ramadan fast at sunset that day. Approximately 50 children and mothers from the Jabal el-Hussein Camp for refugees shared a meal of rice with vegetables, roasted chicken, water, juice, dates and dessert. There was also entertainment, a clown, games, dancing and competitions for the children. The dinner was held at the Lod Charitable Society located inside the el-Hussein United Nations camp, which was established in 1948. (Email Nancy D if you want to view a video. It needs to be send via email)

**The Hand in Hand Club is our newly sponsored club in Amman, Jordan and we sent approximately \$300 to them to help defray the costs of the food and entertainment. Hand in Hand was very grateful for our help with this special event.**

**\*NOTE: “Iftar literally means ‘breakfast.’... Iftar is very much a social event, involving family and community members. It is common for people to host others for dinner, or gather as a community for a potluck. It is also common for people to invite and share food with those less fortunate.” [taken from learnreligions.com]**

