



A message from the Senior Center Wednesday, June 28, 2023

Mayor Ruthanne Fuller, members of the Newton Police Department, and District Attorney Marian Ryan invite you to join them today, Wednesday, June 28th, at the Horace Mann Elementary School auditorium (225 Nevada St.) from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. as the community comes together to remember Gilda "Jill" D'Amore, her husband, Bruno D'Amore, and her mother, Lucia Arpino, who were killed inside their Broadway Street home in Newton this past weekend.

We at the Senior Center share our City's sadness over this senseless tragedy, because Jill wasn't just a longtime Newtonian to us, she was a beloved member of the Senior Center community and an active volunteer.

As Senior Center participants and staff members know, Jill was always friendly, calm, and mild-mannered. She was always happy to help with a project or task.

"Jill served ice cream at our senior socials and was unfailingly kind and gracious. She always made everyone feel so welcome," says Ilana Seidmann, Program Coordinator at the Newton Senior Center. "Every time we needed help, Jill always said 'yes' without a moment's hesitation. We were grateful for her positive and unflappable demeanor, and all the seniors and other volunteers adored her."

"Jill was often the person behind the scenes, working in the store, guiding people to their programs, setting up decorations, and cleaning up so that others could enjoy the events," says Julie Joy, Volunteer Coordinator. "She was always willing to help when we needed her, no matter how busy the job was. Jill was cheerful, reliable, humble. She led with her heart and was a cherished member of our volunteer family."

Several staff members will attend the City's event tonight, which will include a brief presentation by a counselor from the Riverside Trauma Center, who will help lead a community conversation about how people typically respond to traumatic events like the one we are experiencing in our community.

Additional counselors will share ideas about how we might cope in the days and weeks ahead, as well as how to talk to our families and children about this tragedy. If you or a loved one needs immediate support in crisis, please contact the following resources:

- Riverside Emergency Services **800-529-5077** (available 24/7)
- Massachusetts Behavioral Health Help Line **833-773-2445** (available 24/7 by phone or text)
- **988** Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (available 24/7 by phone or text)

If you would like to talk with one of the City's social services staff members, please call the City of Newton Health and Human Services Department (Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.) at 617-796-1420. Ask to speak with a social worker to learn about resources and referrals to local mental health providers.

The Senior Center community misses Jill dearly, and we are thinking of her family and loved ones at this difficult time. We hope your memories of them will be a blessing.

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