

Mary Forde is the daughter of Anne (nee Sammon) and the late Liam Forde (Co. Mayo) and granddaughter of the late Anne (nee Fitzpatrick - Co. Cavan) and Dan (Co. Clare) Sammon. She is the loving sister of Patrick (Maria), Anne and William (Kristen) and proud aunt of Ashley, Patrick and Ava. Born and raised in Broad Channel, she graduated from St. Virgilius and Beach Channel HS and then received her Bachelors at Mount Saint Mary College and 2 Masters degrees at St. Joseph's College, Brooklyn. She is also an alum of the Buckley School of Irish Step Dancing and Music.

Mary is a Branch Banking Officer with Ridgewood Savings Bank (RSB). She began her career as a teller at the Breezy Point Branch 17 years ago and is currently the Branch Manager of the McLean Ave Branch in Yonkers. Over the years, Mary has shared RSB's spirit of community service on the Peninsula and in Broad Channel through her participation in the Cystic Fibrosis and Special Olympics Plunges, Relay for Life and Spring Beautification Day. Mary is a member of the BCAC and Rockaway WISH, as well. Mary joined Division 25 of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH) Division 25 in 2007 and has been their treasurer since 2009. In 2013, she was elected the Queens' County LAOH Treasurer, as well. For the past 2 years, Mary has been the corresponding secretary for the Queen's County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee following in her father's footsteps.

From Mary's earliest memories of dance and music lessons with Bernadette, JoAnn and Eileen Buckley to late Saturday nights at St. Francis de Sales' ceilis with the St. Brendan's Gaelic Society to current LAOH meetings and functions, keeping the Irish traditions and culture alive in Queens is an ongoing effort. Mary would like to thank her large Irish family, friends, LAOH sisters and RSB family for helping instill, foster and encourage the growth of her strong Irish roots.