The museum's tribute includes a recreated watch tower and barracks, a detailed diorama of a German “stalag,” the names of those New Yorkers who were POWs during World War II and a tribute to American POWs in other conflicts. This will mark the first permanent museum tribute to American POWs in the New York region.

It is vital that we continue to remember the horrors of the Holocaust and pay tribute to both the victims and the brave soldiers who contributed to the liberation of Europe from Nazi rule. I strongly commend the leadership that the American Airpower Museum of Farmingdale has taken on this issue and urge other museums to follow suit.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM "SLIM" SOMERVELL

HON. MARYLIN N. MUSGRAVE
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Willis “Slim” Somervell, who has dedicated his life to God, his family, and the United States of America.

Slim has said, “You need to be true to yourself and you need to have beliefs and a value system. Without those, what are we?” These are wise words. As I learned about the life of service that Mr. Somervell has led, I am inspired by his beliefs and his values.

Service to America is one value Slim holds dear. He entered the United States Navy in 1941. In 1944, Slim was commissioned as a gunnery and navigation officer for the USS Landing Ship Medium 142.

In addition to having command of the Landing Ship Medium, he also commanded Patrol Craft 1262, which conducted air and sea rescues in the Caribbean. He was also Executive Officer of the Patrol Craft Escort 877.

Slim worked in the Fleet Weather Center in Washington, DC and conducted Navy weather research in Norfolk, Virginia. He served on the Forrestal, CVA–59. He was also the staff meteorologist for the commander of the U.S. Second Fleet, later for the Western Pacific 7th Fleet and ultimately commanded the Navy Research Facility in Norfolk, Virginia.

Devotion to family is another value that is important to Slim. While on assignment in Monterey, California, he met his wife Mary. They married in 1949 in Kerrville, Texas. They had five children, four girls and one boy. Slim and Mary are now grandparents of thirteen.

Slim will often tell you, “What more can a person ask for than children and grandchildren who turn out to be good citizens.” As you can tell, Slim is quite proud of his family.

After 30 years of faithful service to our country, Slim retired. But this did not slow him down. Slim took a job with the Bureau of Reclamation in their cloud seeding program. Later, Slim worked for the Department of Atmospheric Science at Colorado State University. Slim spent 15 years in that department as a manager, researcher and also a teacher.

In addition to service to family and service to our country, Slim also strongly believes in service to God. Slim and Mary attend Saint Joseph’s Catholic Church in Fort Collins, Colorado. There, Slim serves as a lector and a communion minister.

Slim has been truly blessed with a great career and a great family. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Somervell. May God continue to bless the Somervells for years to come.

A TRIBUTE TO MAE CATHERINE GREENE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Mae Catherine Greene in recognition for her dedication to her community.

Mae Catherine Greene fondly known as “Cat” by family and close friends is almost a life long resident of the east New York community of which she has been an integral and staunchly loyal advocate. She was born in Chadbourn, NC in March of 1957, the ninth of eleven children of a proud and independent working mother.

Mae obtained her education in the neighborhood she so greatly loves and admires. She attended P.S. 149, I.S. 292 and William H. Maxwell High School in New York. Mae, who has been married for almost 27 years to her childhood sweetheart, Richard Greene, is the proud mother of six children who still live in east New York as well.