

Team in the 5,000-meter event. In her most recent major race, Elva finished fourth in the Boulder Bolder, running the 10-kilometer race in the Elite Division.

Mr. Speaker, Elva's accomplishments are certainly deserving of praise before this body of Congress and this nation. She has accomplished more in her short career than some could hope for in an entire lifetime. Congratulations, Elva, on your induction into the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Hall of Fame and good luck with your future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING LOUIE WONG  
FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE  
TO CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Louie Wong for his distinguished service to Calexico.

Louie was born in China and has made his home in Calexico since 1971. Mr. Wong and his wife own and operate YUM YUM Restaurant in Calexico where they serve, "the Best Chinese Food in Town." The YUM YUM restaurant has become a hub of activity for the Calexico community, hosting local politicians who meet to share ideas and concerns over plates of good food.

As a successful local businessman and a community activist, Louie has a long record of supporting numerous community organizations. He has just completed a term as President of the Calexico Chamber of Commerce where he has served with great distinction. He is a past recipient of the coveted Lava Lamp Award, presented annually by the Calexico Chamber of Commerce for service to the community. He was an early champion of Calexico's new cultural arts center, located in the renovated De Anza Hotel. The plan involves creating four rooms, or chambers, each dedicated to a different artistic discipline. Louie has supported this vision since its inception, by building community support for the plan and raising money, including personally paying for the architectural renderings.

Louie is a member of numerous community organizations and committees, including serving as a Trustee of the Imperial Valley College Board of Trustees, and on the Imperial Valley College Foundation Board of Directors. He has been much honored for his community service, receiving the first community service citation ever presented by the Calexico Unified School District and the Man of the Year Award from the Calexico Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He has served as Grand Marshal of the Calexico Christmas Parade.

Mr. Speaker, Louie Wong is a community leader, equally at home creating regional cultural arts centers as he is serving up Chinese food at high school football games to raise money for charity. He gives wholeheartedly to the organizations he supports that benefit the people of Calexico. While his service as President of the Calexico Chamber of Commerce is coming to an end, I have no doubt that he will find even more ways to improve the quality of life in his community.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES L.  
STUPPARD

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend and congratulate Commander Charles L. Stuppard, United States Navy, who is leaving from the Joint Chiefs of Staff to be the next Commanding Officer of the USS *Arleigh Burke* (DDG51). The *Arleigh Burke* is a guided missile AEGIS Destroyer with a complement of about 325 personnel including 25 Officers. Commander Stuppard is slated to be at the helm of this powerful Navy vessel in April 2004.

Commander Stuppard joined the Naval Officer Corps in 1985. He obtained his Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from Cornell University and his Master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College. Commander Stuppard's achievements and accomplishments are truly exemplary and I hope many young people from my district and around the country will follow in his footsteps as an Officer and a Gentleman. I congratulate Commander Stuppard for a job well done and wish him and his family fair winds and following seas.

A TRIBUTE TO GEORGETOWN, COLORADO—ONE OF AMERICA'S  
DOZEN DISTINCTIVE DESTINATIONS

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the town of Georgetown, Colorado, for being selected by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as one of its 2003 Dozen Distinctive Destination locations. This designation acknowledges the outstanding work of the residents of Georgetown in protecting, respecting and celebrating their unique history and cultural heritage.

Anyone who has spent time in Georgetown knows of the wealth of historical structures that have been preserved and protected. This heritage provides a lasting reminder of the early years of mining and living in rugged mountainous areas of Colorado and the West.

Georgetown, the county seat of Clear Creek County, was established in 1864, when the discovery of the Belmont Lode started a stampede of prospectors and ultimately gave the town its nickname, "Silver Queen of the Rockies." The town still operates under an 1868 charter from Colorado's territorial legislature.

As the National Trust notes in its announcement of this designation: "Many vestiges of the town's heyday remain, including the Georgetown Loop Railroad, a marvel of engineering, hailed as the most complex railroad loop in the world at the turn of the century. Today, the historic railroad is still thrilling passengers as it traverses the Devil's Gate High Bridge, soaring 95 feet above Clear Creek. A year-round vacation wonderland, Georgetown's spectacular setting provides unlimited

opportunities for fun. Summer months offer trout fishing, back-country hiking, biking, rafting and more—while during ski season, Georgetown is a convenient base for hitting the nearby slopes."

It was for these reasons and more that the National Trust, the country's largest private, nonprofit preservation organization, named Georgetown to its 2003 list of America's Dozen Distinctive Destinations, an annual list of unique and lovingly preserved communities in the United States.

In recognizing Georgetown, the National Trust singled out the Hamill House Museum, completed in 1879 as the home of silver baron William A. Hamill and adorned with furnishings delivered from its owner's birthplace in England. Another notable landmark is the Hotel de Paris, built in 1876. In its heyday, it was one of the finest hotels and gourmet restaurants in the state. Today the Colonial Dames operates the hotel as a museum.

Also noted by the National Trust are the town's holiday celebrations, which include a Christmas Market, Santa Lucia Processional, and horse-drawn wagon rides.

This is the fourth time the National Trust for Historic Preservation has compiled a list of A Dozen Distinctive Destinations. More than 50 destinations in 27 states were nominated by preservation organizations and local communities. Georgetown was selected because it met the National Trust's criteria of well-managed growth, a commitment to historic preservation with a protected historic core and meaningful context, interesting and attractive architecture, cultural diversity, activities for families with children, an economic base of locally-owned small businesses, and walkability for residents and visitors.

The National Trust also noted that Georgetown residents have taken forceful action to protect their town's character and sense of place and have worked hard to preserve the historic and scenic assets of their communities, with rewards that transcend town limits. In so doing, Georgetown has preserved its quality of life for its residents and tourists alike. Georgetown and towns like it in Colorado and throughout the west preserve the allure of the western lifestyle and the respect that settlers had and still have for the special places that have been established.

In announcing the places on the list of distinctive destinations, Richard Moe, the President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, had this to say about Georgetown: "It is encouraging to see communities so committed to the preservation of their historic landmarks, the revitalization of their downtown areas, and the protection of their unique heritage. Georgetown represents a truly distinctive slice of America. That makes it an exciting alternative to the homogenization of many other vacation spots. It is my hope that more American cities and towns will follow Georgetown's lead in preserving their own spirit of place."

All I can add to that is, "amen," and my own congratulations to the people of Georgetown for this honor, so well earned through their efforts to preserve one of the places that makes Colorado such a special place to live.