

small sailboat found mired in a coral reef in the Bahamas.

Following these assignments at sea, then-Lieutenant Howe served from 1985 to 1988 at the First Coast Guard District Operations Center in Boston, Massachusetts, as a search and rescue coordinator; at night, he earned a master's degree from Harvard University Extension School.

Because of his genuine love of the sea and expertise in Coast Guard operations, he earned command of the newly-commissioned USCGC *Metompkin*, homeported in Charleston, South Carolina. On *Metompkin's* first patrol, the cutter sped 140 miles at top speed across 25-foot waves to rescue three fishermen whose boat had been swamped; later, his crew rescued several fishermen whose vessels were destroyed during the height of Hurricane Hugo.

In 1991, he was assigned as Public Affairs Officer for the Seventh Coast Guard District in Miami, Florida, a position he held until 1995, and during which he acted as media spokesman for three mass migrations, two huge oil spills, a plethora of high-profile migrant and drug cases, and the Coast Guard response to Hurricane Andrew. After leaving the Seventh District, then-Lieutenant Commander Howe was assigned as Executive Officer aboard USCGC *Northland*, homeported in Portsmouth, Virginia.

Due to his in-depth understanding and mastery of naval operations, he was then detailed as the Coast Guard Liaison to the Naval Doctrine Command in Norfolk, Virginia, where he conceived and wrote from scratch the Coast Guard's first ever tactical manual for counter drug and migrant interdiction operations. Next, Commander Howe earned command of the 270-foot cutter *Tampa*, homeported in Portsmouth, Virginia, leading his crew to several notable drug seizures and receiving the highest readiness evaluation ever achieved for a like-sized cutter.

Following command, Commander Howe was selected to attend the prestigious U.S. Marine Corps War College in Quantico, Virginia, where he earned a second master's degree and was named one of two Distinguished Graduates. He then served as the Deputy Chief of the Coast Guard Office of Congressional and Governmental Affairs from 2002 until 2003.

After this challenging assignment, Captain Howe was chosen to serve at the highest levels of government, working in the Office of the Vice President as a Special Advisor for homeland security, focusing on border and transportation issues. Finally, Captain Howe was assigned as the Chief of the Coast Guard's Office of Congressional and Governmental Affairs.

Captain Howe has earned numerous military decorations during his 27 years of active duty, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, four Meritorious Service Medals, five Coast Guard Commendation Medals, and 12 unit and team awards. He has also received a number of other honors, including the Harvard University Derek Bok Prize for public service, along with the Thomas Jefferson, Alex Haley, and Commander Jim Simpson Awards for excellence in media and public relations.

This week, Captain Howe will leave his post and retire after 27 years of honorable service to the Coast Guard and the Nation. He will be missed in the United States House of Rep-

resentatives. It has been my pleasure to work with Captain Howe. On behalf of all who have also been fortunate to work with him, we wish Captain Howe, his wife Shira, and his five wonderful children (Margaret, Marc, Mary, James, and Iris) the best in all of their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 93RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

**HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 24, 2008*

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today with Armenians throughout the United States, Armenia, and the world in commemorating the 93rd anniversary of the Armenian genocide, one of the darkest episodes in Europe's recent past. This week, members and friends of the Armenian community gather to remember April 24, 1915, when the arrest and murder of 200 Armenian politicians, academics, and community leaders in Constantinople marked the beginning of an 8-year campaign of extermination against the Armenian people by the Ottoman Empire.

Between 1915 and 1923, approximately 1.5 million Armenians were killed and more than 500,000 were exiled to the desert to die of thirst or starvation. The Armenian genocide was the first mass murder of the 20th century, a century that was sadly to be marked by many similar attempts at racial or ethnic extermination, from the Holocaust to the Rwandan genocide and now the ongoing genocide in Darfur, Sudan.

While today is the day in which we solemnly remember the victims of the Armenian genocide, I believe it is also a day in which we can celebrate the extraordinary vitality and strength of the Armenian people, who have fought successfully to preserve their culture and identity for over a thousand years. The Armenian people withstood the horrors of genocide, two world wars, and several decades of Soviet dominance in order to establish modern Armenia. Armenia has defiantly rebuilt itself as a nation and a society—a triumph of human spirit in the face of overwhelming adversity.

It is my firm belief that only by learning from and commemorating the past can we work toward a future free from racial, ethnic, and religious hate. By acknowledging the Armenian genocide and speaking out against the principles by which it was conducted, we can send a clear message: never again.

CONGRATULATING THE CHICAGO CUBS ON THEIR 10,000TH FRANCHISE WIN

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 24, 2008*

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Chicago Cubs on their 10,000th franchise victory. Last night, the Cubs were away from the friendly confines of Wrigley Field, located in the heart of the Fifth

Congressional District, and beat the Colorado Rockies in Denver to reach this historic milestone.

My hometown Cubbies are one of only two teams in MLB history to win 10,000 games. This year marks the Cubs 138th season, and 100th anniversary of our last World Series Championship, but like all Cubs fans, I have faith that this is our year.

Almost 142 years ago today, the Cubs played their first game in the National League as the Chicago White Stockings, and they finished in first place in that 1876 season. In 1902, the team officially became the Cubs, and northsiders have been rooting for our Cubbies ever since.

The Cubs' home, Wrigley Field, is located at 1060 W. Addison in my district, and is the oldest National League ballpark and second oldest in the majors. Countless memories have been created at Wrigley Field as Chicago families and fans across the country have come to watch the wins and losses of our Cubs.

Chicagoans are very excited about our Cubs this year, with the team playing great baseball and sitting in first place in the Central with a record of 15–6. Manager Lou Pinella has done a terrific job with an outstanding complement of players, from pitchers Carlos Zambrano, Ted Lilly, and Carlos Marmol to Derrek Lee, Aramis Ramirez, newcomer Kosuke Fukudome, and last night's hero, Ryan Theriot.

Great players have filled Cubs lore over the years, and we will never forget legends like Ernie Banks, Gabby Hartnett, Ron Santo, Billy Williams, Mordecai "Three Finger" Brown, Ryne Sandberg, Mark Grace, and others.

Last night's victory was hard fought, with the Cubs defeating the Rockies in 10 innings to earn that 10,000th victory. Madam Speaker, as the Representative of Wrigley Field and all the residents of the 5th Congressional District of Illinois, as well as hundreds of thousands of Chicago Cubs fans, I congratulate the Cubs on this wonderful milestone. I'm looking forward to many more victories and hope to see that "W" flag flying at Wrigley Field throughout the summer and fall.

A TRIBUTE TO JUNIUS NORFLEET, A PIONEERING ARTIST, MUSICIAN AND AN AMERICAN ORIGINAL

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 24, 2008*

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, on this day it is my esteemed honor to enter into the RECORD a heartfelt tribute to a great artist, musician and a Chicagoan for most of his life, the late Junious Norfleet. America may not know Junious Norfleet's name but they surely know his music. Junious, also known as "Bud," was the youngest brother of the famed Norfleet Brothers whose artistry—a skillful mix of R&B, jazz and gospel—grew in popularity in the 1950s. Junious provided the jazzy, sultry but powerful voice of a tenor whose tone, skillful delivery and showmanship propelled him to the lead of this pioneering musical group. Junious' life on Earth ended on March 25, 2008, following complications from a stroke. He leaves behind his wife, Janet Norfleet, Chicago's first female postmaster, and thousands