

resources on messaging bills like this do nothing resolution, instead of working together with Democrats to solve problems for the American people.

UNITED CEMENT GROUP

HON. WESLEY HUNT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2024

Mr. HUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inquire about a possible and deliberate violation of U.S. imposed sanctions due to Russian aggression.

As the war in Ukraine carries on and as Russian sanctions are imposed, I worry that our focus on Russian assets and agents in Europe has overlooked assets and agents in former Soviet republics such as Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan.

I would like to draw specific attention to various companies registered in Cyprus which operate in these former Soviet republics. One such example is a Cyprus-registered company which operates in Uzbekistan and Russia called United Cement Group (UCG).

UCG acquired the Uzbekistan government's stake in one of the country's largest cement factories in early 2022 in what has been described as an "opaque" transaction with no formal tender and a significant discount on the sale price. This acquisition by UCG has positioned the company to now control about 50 percent of Uzbekistan's cement capacity.

We are seeing monopolization under the guise of privatization, to the benefit of Russia.

This is just one example of a bad actor in these relatively overlooked countries that are taking advantage of the international focus on Ukraine. I will be sending a letter to Treasury Secretary Yellen imploring her to further investigate these apparently corrupt improprieties and potential sanctions violations that continue to transpire in this region of the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2024

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was not present for Roll Call votes on March 13, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 86.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF GEORGE WILLIAM YOUNG

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2024

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I recognize the remarkable life of George William Young.

Mr. Young was third generation native of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. George was the second baby born at the then newly completed Broward General Hospital in 1938. He attended Broward County public schools and

graduated from Fort Lauderdale High School, and he was raised in a family with a long history of community service. His mother, Virginia S. Young, served on the School Board and was Mayor of Fort Lauderdale. His father, George F. Young, was a general contractor, as was his grandfather George Waugh Young. His grandfather established George Young Construction in 1911 and built many structures in Fort Lauderdale, including the Riverside Hotel and First United Methodist Church.

George was a man with many talents, but education was his calling. In 1969, he became Vice President of Student Affairs at Broward College, a position to which he would dedicate the next 30 years of his career. During his tenure, he developed student affairs divisions on four campuses, watching enrollment grow from 3,000 to 6,000 students. He believed everyone was entitled to a college education and devoted his career to mentoring those who might not otherwise have had the means to attend college.

After retirement, George applied the building skills his father and grandfather had imparted upon him, building his own home on Lower Matecumbe in the Florida Keys. He enjoyed his retirement there and in Hendersonville, North Carolina, where he spent many vacations visiting his grandparents as a child. His greatest joy, however, came as a grandfather to his three grandchildren. He spent countless hours and time helping to mentor his three grandchildren into thoughtful and community-minded human beings. He passed down many of his virtues and passions to them, including a love of history, Lionel train collecting, and fishing. His collection of vintage Lionel trains is one of the largest in the country, the result of a passion he developed as a teenager while employed as the Lionel train repairman at Hobby House in downtown Fort Lauderdale.

My heart is with George's family, friends, and colleagues, but his loss will be felt by our entire community. His humility and kindness touched everyone who knew him.

HONORING ROBERT FOSTER

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2024

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent who has dedicated decades of service to our community through his commitment to the Boys & Girls Club of Clifton, Mr. Robert Foster. For forty-seven years, Robert played an integral role, shaping the lives of countless young people in our district. "Mr. Bob", as he is affectionately referred to, announced his retirement in December of 2023 after serving as Executive Director for seventeen years. The Boys and Girls Club of Clifton is right to honor his legacy at their Annual Great Futures Gala.

Mr. Foster's involvement with the Boys & Girls Club began at the age of five when he followed his older brothers to the Club in Kingston, New York. Inspired and grateful for the coaching, mentoring, and encouragement he received, Mr. Foster knew from a young age that he would continue his participation by pursuing a career in the Boys & Girls Club of America (BGCA).

After obtaining a Bachelor of Science from Springfield College, Mr. Foster started his ca-

reer in the Boys & Girls Club of Clifton. He served as the first full-time Social Recreation/Team Director. During this time, Mr. Foster fulfilled diverse roles such as Swim Instructor, Coach, Program Director, Operations Director, and Assistant Executive Director. By 2006, Mr. Foster earned his Masters of Human Resource Development at Clemson University and was appointed as Executive Director at the Boys & Girls Club of Clifton. His work for the Boys & Girls Club expanded beyond Clifton serving as the Acting Director of the City of Garfield from 2007 to 2009 as well as the Treasurer and member of the Executive Board of the Boys & Girls Club of New Jersey.

As Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of Clifton, Mr. Foster's leadership contributed to the Club's growth ultimately accumulating 5,400 registered members. He collaborated with the Board of Trustees to manage an operational budget of \$6.4 million which accounted for 28 full-time and 175 part-time staff members, all program operations, and the appointment of a new chief executive officer. During his tenure, Mr. Foster partnered with the Clifton Board of Education to establish the Minds in Motion, 21st Century Grant for Schools No. 4, No. 12, and No. 17. Mr. Foster embodied the values of service over self and effectively empowered our youth by fostering their personal and academic growth.

Outside of the Boys & Girls Club, Mr. Foster's community service throughout the years includes his involvement in Clifton's Inter-agency Council, the Passaic County Workforce Development Council, Clifton Optimist Club, Rotary Club of Clifton, and his work as a Commissioner with the Clifton Board of Recreation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Mr. Foster's family, friends, and all those whose lives he has touched in recognizing Robert Foster for his dedication and contributions to his community and the State of New Jersey. May his work be a guiding light in our community and inspire others to strive for excellence in service.

HONORING REVEREND DR. ANTHONY L. RILEY

HON. CORI BUSH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2024

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise with the people of St. Louis to honor the outstanding tenure of Reverend Dr. Anthony L. Riley. Rev. Riley has served as Senior Pastor at Central Baptist Church for five years.

As a historically Black church in the St. Louis community, Central Baptist Church has a rich 178-year-old history. Rev. Riley has made his mark as the church's fourteenth senior pastor. He formerly served as Executive Pastor for the Luke Church in Texas, where he provided leadership to staff, associate ministers, and diaconate.

As a loving husband, devoted father, and dedicated pastor to the congregants of Central Baptist Church, Rev. Riley has consistently answered the call of public service. In 2022, Rev. Riley earned his Doctorate of Ministry degree in Leadership and Preaching at Virginia Union University's School of Theology. Within his education and ministry, Rev. Riley

has strived to establish holistic practices for the next generation of ministers. His goal of teaching and unifying our communities of faith distinguishes him as a leader for all people.

Rev. Riley truly embodies the principles of love, dignity, service, and humility that define the characteristics of a successful leader in ministry. On behalf of Missouri's First District,

I congratulate Rev. Riley on his five-year anniversary and thank him for his continued commitment to service.