

A TRIBUTE TO HANES BRANDS,  
INCORPORATED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mrs. Foxx) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today and honor Hanes Brands, Incorporated. Well over a century old, Hanes Brands started in 1901 when J. Wesley Hanes founded Shamrock Mills, a manufacturer of men's hosiery. In 1902, Pleasant Hanes founded the P.H. Hanes Knitting Company and began manufacturing two piece men's undergarments. In 1910, Shamrock Mills, the original production site for J. Wesley Hanes products, changed its name to Hanes Hosiery Mill and also began to manufacture women's hosiery.

As their businesses expanded, the two different Hanes companies merged in 1965. Then in 1988, Adams-Mills Sock Company was acquired and later would become the Sarah Lee Sock Company. Hanes went on to manufacture undershirts, briefs, sleepwear and knitted shorts. But this was only the start of an emerging company that would grow to become a leading manufacturer of undergarments to T-shirts, casual and active wear to socks.

It was the humble beginning of J. Wesley Hanes in 1901 that placed Hanes Brands on the path to a major corporation that currently employs 50,000 people. On September 6, 2006, Hanes Brands spun off from its parent company Sarah Lee and emerged as a publicly held and traded company with a net worth of \$4.5 billion.

Hanes Brands sells high volume, high quality apparel, and can credit its success to anticipating what the consumer wants and working to meet those needs in value, fit, comfort and customer service.

It is the largest seller of apparel essentials in the United States. Last year, Hanes Brands manufactured and sold over 400 million T-shirts and nearly half a billion pairs of socks. Hanes Brands is now listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HBI. A recent survey showed that Hanes brands can be found in eight of ten American households.

Currently Hanes Brands manufactures some of the most commonly known clothing lines, such as Hanes, Champion, Playtex, Bali, L'eggs, Just My Size, Hanes Hosiery, Barely There, Wonderbra and Outer Banks, as well as Duofold Performance Base Layer. Hanes Brands has grown into a full service clothing line and has established itself as a tremendous asset for Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Hanes Brands is a fantastic company that spurs economic growth and employs many people from the Fifth District of North Carolina. It is also a responsible corporate partner in the community, and I know it will continue to act in the future as an important neighbor in the community.

Hanes Brands' new emergence as a stand-alone company will provide op-

portunities in education, will support further economic development and will continue to build value and leadership within the community. I have no doubt that after 105 years in business, Hanes' commitment to the community will grow even stronger through the years. That is why North Carolina and Winston-Salem are blessed to have such a responsible and growth-oriented corporation headquartered there. The opportunities are limitless.

Not only does Hanes Brands have a long standing tradition of quality manufacturing and customer service, but Hanes Brands also adheres to strict values, which has made it successful and has clearly added to the longevity and popularity of the company. All persons involved with the company are proud of their work and reputation. They strive for the best, and that is what has made them so successful since their inception in 1901.

I believe some of the reasons for Hanes Brands' success are the four core principles it adheres to: Number one, integrity/ethical standards; two, inclusivity/diversity; three, quality/superior performance; and four, reliability/commitment.

It follows these values and understands that in order to succeed and become successful, it must set forth a mission statement, which it has. I believe it is a fantastic vision that sets a course for success and accomplishments.

Hanes Brands' mission statement is: "To profitably grow our leading brands by intimately understanding our customers, out-executing our competition and leveraging our sustainable competitive advantage."

With such forward thinking and dedication to its goals, it is no wonder that Hanes Brands is one of the most recognizable names in clothing and why eight out of ten American households have Hanes Brands products.

I cannot stress enough the importance of this move by Hanes Brands to become a separate company and how its new revitalized presence in Winston-Salem will bring so many wonderful opportunities to the local community.

I am proud to represent Hanes Brands and recognize it is an outstanding company and community leader. As a strong supporter of those people and companies which strive for success, all the while contributing to the community, I commend Hanes Brands for its continued commitment to excellence. I am eager to watch Hanes Brands progress and stand ready to assist in any way I can.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN BRIAN  
CHONTOSH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. I must say, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate our colleague from North Carolina briefing us on Hanes. I must say those briefs were uplifting. Cross my heart.

But what I would like to address in the remaining couple of minutes we have here is something that keeps coming up. We keep hearing from people about we want to blame America first. That is not what we should be about. We even heard a former Marine common this floor and accuse current active duty Marines of being cold-blooded killers, without them being charged, without a trial, based on nothing but hearsay.

So it is my deep pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to come and pay tribute to those who have won some of our Nation's highest honors.

On occasion, events occur that become synonymous with the dates on which they occur; December 7, 1941, and September 11, 2001, for example. For Marine Captain Brian Chontosh, March 25, 2003, that is such a day.

That day, while leading his weapons platoon for 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, north of Highway 1 outside of Baghdad, then 29-year-old Lieutenant Chontosh's platoon moved into a coordinated ambush of mortars, rocket propelled grenades and automatic weapons fire. With coalition tanks blocking the road ahead, he realized his platoon was caught in a kill zone.

He had his driver move the vehicle through a breach along his flank where he was immediately taken under fire from entrenched machine gun. Without hesitation, Captain Chontosh ordered the driver to advance directly at the enemy position, enabling his .50 caliber machine gunner to silence the enemy. He then directed his driver into the enemy trench, where he jumped out of his vehicle and began to clear the trench with his rifle and 9 millimeter pistol.

The citation for Chontosh's Navy Cross picks up the narrative: "With complete disregard for his safety, he twice picked up discarded enemy rifles and continued his ferocious attack. When his audacious attack ended, he had cleared over 200 meters of the enemy trench, killing more than 20 enemy soldiers and wounding several others. By his longstanding display of decisive leadership, unlimited courage in the face of enemy fire and utmost devotion to duty, First Lieutenant Chontosh reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest tradition of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service."

In effect since April 1917 and established by an act of Congress on February 4, 1919, the Navy Cross may be