



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**2021 ExxonMobil Community Philanthropic Award Recipients**

Individual – **Tricia Simpson**

Corporate – **Hollywood Casino Joliet**

The 2021 ExxonMobil Individual and Corporate Community Philanthropic Awards were presented to Tricia Simpson and Hollywood Casino Joliet on Saturday, August 28, 2021 at Arroyo Trails by the People for Channahon Parks Foundation.

Tricia Simpson is the 2021 ExxonMobil Individual Community Philanthropic Award recipient. Tricia has more than 30 years of experience in public and government affairs and corporate communications. She retired from Exxon Mobil Corporation after more than 20 years of service in a variety of capacities including public affairs, government relations and issue advisor. Prior to joining Exxon Mobil she served as the Public Affairs Director at two former nuclear weapons production facilities in Hanford, Washington, and Cincinnati, Ohio.

During her time at the ExxonMobil Joliet Refinery in Channahon — which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2022 — she had the privilege of representing nearly 1000 employees and contractors who work at the refinery and are involved in countless community and education outreach initiatives throughout the region that support children, families and veterans.

Tricia was proud to serve as the President of the AMITA St. Joseph Medical Center Foundation Board; President of the Rialto Square Theater Foundation Board; President of the Channahon Economic Development Corporation; President of the Board of the Community Foundation of Will County, and Board member of the American Red Cross of the Illinois River Valley and the Joliet Chamber of Commerce and Industry. She received the ATHENA Award from the Joliet Chamber of Commerce, the Founders Award from the AMITA St. Joseph Medical Center, the Superintendents Award from the Joliet Township High School District and is very proud to receive the ExxonMobil Philanthropy Award from the Channahon Parks Foundation.

Tricia continues her service to the Community Foundation of Will County and the Rialto Square Theatre Foundation boards. She also volunteers at the Durango Food Bank and is a member of the Durango Rotary Club. She is married to Danny who retired in May 2021 and they have two sons, Chase and Ben. Chase is a sales and marketing director for CN Railway in Houston and Ben will be a sophomore at Durango High School in Fall 2021.

The 2021 ExxonMobil Corporate Community Philanthropic Award was presented to Hollywood Casino Joliet. Over the past 10 years, Hollywood Joliet has contributed nearly \$1 million in cash and in-kind donations to support non-profit organizations in our surrounding area. We are happy to be able to support

organizations who do great things for our community, such as Will County Habitat for Humanity, Cornerstone Services, Guardian Angel, the Northern Illinois Food Bank, and the People for Channahon Parks Foundation. Hollywood Joliet also supports scholarship programs at Joliet Junior College, Lewis University and St. Francis University. Additionally, we are proud to support the growth of our local economy as a long-term investor of the Will County Center for Economic Development.

Commitment to our communities is not an attribute specific to Hollywood Joliet, but a culture that is supported and modeled by our parent company, Penn National Gaming. Last year, despite the financial impact from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and all of its properties being temporarily closed, Penn continued to provide for its charitable partners with \$6 million from properties and the Penn National Gaming Foundation being contributed to worthwhile charities and civic organizations in host communities. An additional \$14 million in economic development funds were provided to host communities in Kansas, Indiana, and Iowa.

Also in 2020, the Penn National Gaming Foundation created the COVID-19 Relief Fund to provide financial assistance to its team members throughout the country with over \$3.7 million in contributions from Penn's Board of Directors, corporate executives and property leaders. To date, more than \$2.5 million has been distributed to help current and former team members. Additionally, Penn raised over \$600,000 in funds for the Hurricane Laura Disaster Relief Fund, distributing over \$500,000 to team members in Lake Charles. On the social justice front, 2020 also witnessed the formation of Penn's Diversity Committee to ensure the cultivation of a culture and environment where all the Company's team members and communities, regardless of differences, truly belong. Hollywood Joliet VP and General Manager, Lydia Garvey, serves as an inaugural member of this committee. One significant accomplishment of the Diversity Committee has been to execute on Penn National's \$1 million annual commitment to fund scholarships and promote equity in higher education opportunities for the children of team members. This year, 58 scholarships were awarded, with 57% of those scholarships going to first-generation college students.

In 2021, as a way to continue to give back to our veterans, first responders and active-duty military, Hollywood Casino Joliet rolled out Penn's myHeroes rewards program to provide exclusive discounts and offers to those who have served and continue to serve our country and communities.

Hollywood Joliet is proud to be a contributing member of the local community and looks forward to continuing its commitment to support organizations that assist those in need and help our community thrive by making it a great place to work and live.

The People for Channahon Parks Foundation is proud to partner with ExxonMobil to recognize individuals and businesses who donate their time, talents and treasures to improve the quality of life for their neighbors. Together we will recognize these individuals and businesses by awarding them the ExxonMobil Community Philanthropic Award. The Foundation would like to thank ExxonMobil for generously supporting the Channahon community and continuously demonstrating true philanthropic spirit.

The People for Channahon Parks Foundation was formed in 2009. The Foundation is a 501(c)3 not for profit organization that solicits support for the Channahon Park District through volunteerism, gifts and grants, memberships, and planned giving opportunities. A Board of Directors consisting of 9 local community members acts to improve the quality of life for people utilizing the park system.

For more information visit [www.PeopleForChannahonParks.org](http://www.PeopleForChannahonParks.org) or call 815-467-7275.

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