

**[Mid-Columbia Health Foundation Philanthropy Awards]**

Hello, my name is Amanda Evans, Executive Director of the Mid-Columbia Health Foundation. Over the years the Mid-Columbia Health Foundation has celebrated the amazing businesses, people, and organizations doing good throughout the gorge. In doing so they have honored many worthy examples of philanthropic excellence.

Past honorees include Columbia Bank for their sponsorship of the annual Festival of Trees. They have also honored The Dalles Lion's Club for their service to the community through their sight screenings and other volunteer endeavors. They have honored the likes of Dennis Morgan who has dedicated a lifetime to supporting this community through volunteerism and charitable donations. And tonight, I have the distinct pleasure of adding another name to the list of those whose passion for helping the community deserves honor.

The winner of the Mid-Columbia Health Foundation's Excellence in Philanthropy award never fails to surprise me with her generosity. She has been a donor to the Mid-Columbia Health Foundation for more than 17 years. In that time her donations have helped pay for nursing scholarships, new equipment for MCMC, assistance for patients in need, and much much more. She has been a constant source of encouragement, positive energy, and knowledge. For these reasons, and because of the additional countless charities and projects she supports, I am honored to present the Mid-Columbia Health Foundation, Excellence in Philanthropy Award to the one and only: **Vesta Smith**