



# COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

*Patrick S. Blacklock*  
County Administrator

Beth Gabor  
Public Information Officer

625 Court Street, Room 202 • Woodland, CA 95695  
(530) 666-8150 • FAX (530) 668-4029  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
December 14, 2010

Contact: Beth Gabor, Public Information Officer  
(530) 666-8042 [w] • (530) 219-8464 [c]

## **Helen M. Thomson to Receive SSVMS Award**

(Woodland, CA) – In January, current Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Helen M. Thomson will be awarded the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society’s “Medical Community Service Award for 2010.” This award is presented to a non-physician community member or leader of a community organization in the El Dorado, Sacramento and Yolo County area who has made a significant contribution to a medical or public health problem and deserves high recognition for such valued medical service. As a member of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, and former Chair of the California Legislature’s Assembly Health Committee, Supervisor Thomson is being recognized for her leadership as Chair of Yolo County’s Future of the Safety Net collaboration.

“Faced with serious cuts to services for Yolo County’s medically indigent patients and a serious problem for patients accessing specialty care, Supervisor Thomson pulled together the four major local health systems and other stakeholders to lay out successful strategies for mitigating these problems,” said Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society Executive Director, William Sandberg. “Still meeting and still providing leadership and monitoring progress, Supervisor Thomson’s involvement was a critical factor in getting the health systems and other stakeholders to work together to solve common problems.”

“During her 36 years in elected office, Helen Thomson has been a tireless advocate for public health,” said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Vice-Chair Matt Rexroad. “This is evident in legislation she authored while serving in the California State Legislature and policy she directed during her tenure on the Yolo County Board of Supervisors.”

Helen Thomson will be recognized during the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society’s Annual Awards and Installation Dinner to be held January 21, 2011.

Founded in 1868, the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society, encompassing the counties of El Dorado, Sacramento and Yolo, is a voluntary, non-profit organization of medical doctors (MD) and doctors of osteopathy (DO) and medical students. With over 2,200 physician members and medical students, Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society is the largest physician organization in our region. For more information about the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society, visit: [www.ssvms.org](http://www.ssvms.org).

###