



### **Dr. June Robertson McCarroll (1867 – 1954)**

June Robertson McCarroll was born June 30, 1867, in the Adirondacks and began her medical career in Chicago. She left a promising practice for Indio, California in 1904; becoming the sole practicing physician for the entire Coachella Valley.

Finally, she was appointed the *first Indian doctor by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1907*. She traveled by horseback, horse and buggy, and automobile, to provide medical care throughout the valley under very primitive conditions.

An encounter with a large truck on a narrow road in 1917 resulted in her model-T abandoning the road for a sandy ditch. This led Dr. June to the idea that a white stripe painted in the center of the road would make automobile travel safer. **She personally painted the first known stripe in California on Indio Boulevard, then part of**

**Highway 99, during 1917.**

A letter writing campaign initiated by the Indio Women's Club eventually led to adoption of the practice by the California Highway Commission in 1924. Dr. June also started the first library in the Coachella Valley.

She died on March 30, 1954. A nearby portion of the freeway was named in her honor on April 24, 2002.