

Charter Gives Cities Home Rule

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL
Assemblyman, 46th District

There are three chartered cities which are partially in the 46th Assembly District. These are:

The City of Los Angeles, a small portion of Venice, all of Playa del Rey, and all of Westchester lying within the 44th Postal Zone, except that portion east of Sepulveda Boulevard, make up that part of Los Angeles in the 46th District.

The City of Redondo Beach, most of Redondo Beach is in the 49th District, but most of what is sometimes called "North Redondo Beach" is in the 47th Assembly District, currently represented by Assemblyman Clayton Dills.

The City of Torrance, most of the City of Torrance is in the 68th Assembly District, represented by Vincent Thomas, especially the older part of Torrance. The second largest part of Torrance is in the 46th District, and the third largest part is in the 67th Assembly District, currently represented by Clayton Dills.

All other incorporated cities in the 46th Assembly District are general law cities, that is, they never have received a charter from the State Legislature, and, to my knowledge, they have never requested a charter during the 16 years that I have represented them.

Work on Crenshaw To Begin

An allocation of \$7,090 for additional work on Crenshaw Boulevard in the Palos Verdes Peninsula has been authorized, Supervisor Burton W. Chace said.

The money will be used for improvement of the intersection of Crenshaw Boulevard and Palos Verdes Drive North, Chace said.

Improvements include a left turn pocket for traffic going north on Crenshaw, pavement, curbs, gutters, drains, and excavation.

The County Road Department has budgeted more than \$2 million for the improvement of Crenshaw Boulevard in the area during 1966-67. Total cost of the improvement of Crenshaw, from Pacific Coast Highway to Crest Road, will be more than \$4 million, Chace said.

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THE HONORABLE George H. Murphy, State Legislative Counsel, in his official Opinion No. 7907, dated Sept. 1, said:

"Dear Mr. Chapel: 'Question: 'You have requested our opinion as to the advantages and disadvantages of a city moving from general law status to chartered city status.

"Opinion and Analysis: 'Whether or not there would be advantages or disadvantages in case a particular city moved from general law status to chartered city status is largely a political question which we are not in a position to answer.

"However, the principal legal effect of making such a move would be to grant 'home rule' to the city. Under our State Constitution, a chartered city is authorized to make and enforce all laws and regulations in respect to municipal affairs, subject only to the restrictions and limitations provided in their several charters, and in respect to other matters they shall be subject to and controlled by general laws."

"AMONG MATTERS which have been held up to be municipal affairs are the following: municipal elections, membership of local boards of health, control of city almshouses, establishment and operation of municipal hospitals, organization, maintenance, and operation of police and fire departments, licensing, taxing, and regulating of occupations operating in a city, and the manner of enacting municipal ordinances and resolutions.

"As indicated by the partial listing above of matters held to be municipal affairs, a chartered city may regulate matters of local concern which are considered by the courts to be municipal affairs, even if such regulation conflicts with provisions of the general state law regulating such matters. Conversely, a general law city is subject to regulation by the general laws of the state even though the matter is of strictly local concern.

Instructor Will Begin TV Series

Julius Summer Miller, El Camino College instructor of physics, will begin a 26-week series of half-hour television programs Sunday afternoon at 3:30 on CBS channel 2. The "Julius Summer Miller Show" will deal with the history of science and is the result of the instructor's recent sabbatical journey around the world.

"My emphasis is historical humanistic and biographical—the story of men—uncommon men with great ideas," Miller said.

A member of the faculty at El Camino since 1952, Miller has just returned from a summer of teaching in Australia at the School of Physics in Sydney, where he also witnessed the publication of his latest book entitled "Millergrams" which has already sold out its first printing.

Legislative Counsel's Official Opinion No. 7907, prepared at my request, which presents a brief discussion of the procedures afforded to a general law city in obtaining a charter from the Legislature.

"Very truly yours,
"GEORGE H. MURPHY,
"Legislative Counsel"
Next week I shall quote the

Bus Trip To Theater Scheduled

The Torrance Recreation Department will sponsor a trip to the Duke Ellington-Ella Fitzgerald Concert at the Greek Theatre next Wednesday evening.

Price, including transportation, seats, and trip insurance is \$4.75 or \$5.75 per person, depending on the location of seats desired.

The bus will depart from the Torrance City Hall, 3031 Torrance Blvd. at 7 p.m. and will return about midnight. Reservations can be made at the Joslyn Recreation Center. Deadline for payment is Monday.

Pre-Columbian Art Course Set

A three-unit UCLA Extension course on pre-Columbian art will be offered at North High School beginning Monday evening at 8. Dr. Arthur Schneider, artist, teacher, and authority on early New World art, will be the instructor. The UCLA Extension office at North High may be contacted for enrollment information.

Power File Installed at CHP Office

The California Highway Patrol is the first state department to install power driven files for its personnel records as part of the modernization of the filing system, according to Bradford M. Crittenden, Commissioner of the Patrol.

The new filing "cabinet" is 6 feet long, 10 feet high, and 3 feet thick. Within it are 16 revolving shelves containing personnel files. The operator sits in front of an opening the size of one shelf and by pushing the proper button can cause any of the 16 shelves to appear in the opening.

"There will eventually be two of these powered files and when fully installed the system will be able to store the active personnel records of the entire Patrol including those added because of planned expansion. This amounts to about 8,000 people," Crittenden said.

"The file is the key unit of the system which also includes a machine to microfilm records and a microfilm viewer." Besides the obvious saving in space required for records, there is another benefit, he added. Instead of using time and effort walking long aisles to reach the record wanted, the clerks can remain seated while the file comes to them.



RE-ELECTED . . . Redondo Beach City Councilman David K. Hayward (Seated) has been re-elected to the Southern California Rapid Transit District Board of Directors. Also re-elected during the annual meeting of the City Selection Committee were (from left) Kermit M. Bill, Huntington Park city councilman; Allen F. Daily, Glendale city councilman, and Harry A. Faulk, Pomona mayor and president of the Rapid Transit District board. Hayward represents the 16 cities in the Central and Southwest Corridor, which includes the Torrance and South Bay areas.

'Lights On' Plan Works, Hahn Reports

The County's "Lights on for Life" campaign over the Labor Day weekend has once again proved its value by preventing accidents and saving lives, according to Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

Hahn initiated the program in 1961 to help hold down the traffic toll on a weekend when deaths mar the holidays for hundreds of families. Eight persons died in Los Angeles County over the 1966 Labor Day weekend in traffic accidents.

"By cooperating in the 'Lights on for Life' campaign and turning their headlights on during the day to remind themselves and to remind others to drive safely, thousands of Los Angeles County motorists helped to once more hold down the fatality rate on the holidays over this long weekend," Hahn added.

"While this is a tragic figure," Hahn said, "it represents only 13.5 per cent of the total 59 traffic fatalities throughout the State of California."

APPROXIMATELY 40 per cent of all the registered vehicles are in Los Angeles County and if the death figure had paralleled that ratio, 24 people would have been killed in this County.

In 1960, the year before "Lights for Life" started, 36 per cent of the traffic deaths in the State occurred in this County.

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