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El Paso County Historic Commission - Historic Cemeteries Report

1. Historic Concordia Cemetery:
 - a. February 7 – Committal Ceremony for Sunset Heights (Upson) unknown Historical Remains held, 1 pm. At Concordia's Historic Remains area. Sunset Heights Neighborhood Association has been contacted for donations to assist with headstone cost of \$250., Concordia Heritage Association will donate remaining \$250 as well as the plot . Perches Funeral Homes donated the child's casket. Cost of adult casket and opening & closing of grave was ZMC was paid by El Paso Water Company . (\$1900). Additional plot was opened, due to existing Plot with Cleveland Square Historic Remains is full.
 - b. February 8 – Concordia Heritage Association supported the Black History Month Bus Tours of Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Monument of 42 Buffalo Soldiers for 6 bus tours, 50 attendees each from 10 am – 4 pm. With a 10 minute overview of Concordia Cemetery (provided Concordia Cemetery brochures of maps, CHA events of 2025 , shade and water, plus Skittles candies).
 - c. February 13 - Concordia Heritage Association President provided three hour tour of Chinese Cemetery to visitors from UT-Austin, graduate students. Bonus for CHA was that the two students read and spoke Chinese and translated several headstones. Dedication of Chinese Memorial Pagoda is still pending completion of inscription for the two memorial slabs, one in Cantonese and the other in English.
 - d. January 25 – Concordia Heritage Association opened 25 year Time Capsule buried January 1, 2000. List of items in the 55 gallon drum was impressive, including Articles of Incorporation . 99% were in good condition.
 - e. Pending: Prospect Historical unknown Remains burial in Concordia Cemetery (coordinated by Peter Condon/CHA.
 - f. Texas Historical Marker proposed for Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Monument (Red Morgan contact : 915 877-3392, morganja44.comBuffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club of El Paso).
 - g. Al Borrego requested consent from the committee to work on the application of a Historic Cemetery designation and Medallion for the two Socorro Mission cemeteries. Committee approved.

Patricia Kidney
Chair, Historic Cemeteries Committee
February 18, 2025
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