

## OVERNIGHT: PEAR-FECTION

**THE CONCERT:** "Paired to Pear-fection," the third program of the Cactus Pear Music Festival, featuring the music of Eric Satie, Timothy Kramer and Antonin Dvorak, at Coker United Methodist Church.

**AUDIENCE:** 700

**FIRST TAKE:** Outstanding teamwork marked the songful Dvorak Quartet No. 2 in E-flat major, with piano, lead by violinist Stephanie Sant'Ambrogio. The players unfolded sweetness, intense drama, bohemian melodies and soaring lyricism to conclude Thursday night's program. French composer Satie's quirky "Three Pieces in the Form of a Pear," for four-hands piano, sounded like a walk in the park with dreamy thoughts of croissants interrupted by wayward soccer balls that had to be kicked back to players. Pianists James Winn and Judith Lynn Stillman played as if one musician. The entertaining world premiere of San Antonio composer Kramer, "Three Pairs Suite," mixed moods, tempos and textures with its sextet lineup of strings, winds and percussion. Much of the music was whimsical, like reality stuck on fast forward.

**OF NOTE:** Festival founder and former San Antonio Symphony concertmaster Sant'Ambrogio was surprised with an impromptu quintet version of "Happy Birthday" during the concert.

— David Hendricks

# Extension of road getting in gear for 2014 finish

## Texas Research Parkway financing agreement OK'd.

BY JOHN W. GONZALEZ  
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For now, it's still just a dotted line marked "proposed" on local maps, but within a few years, a long-contemplated addition to the Texas Research Parkway will become a reality in far West Bexar County.

County commissioners this week approved a financing agreement to accelerate completion of the parkway between Culebra and Potranco roads. Potranco also is slated for upgrades from the parkway to Loop 1604. Work, due to start in the third quarter of 2012, could be completed in 2014, officials said.

After fronting the \$55.6 million for construction, the county will be reimbursed by the state, but

**This is a great project for the West Side.**

**NELSON WOLFF**  
county judge

first the commissioners on Tuesday needed to authorize financing through the Westside 211 Improvement District.

"This is a great project for the West Side," County Judge Nelson Wolff said, although Commissioner Sergio "Chico" Rodriguez said traffic snarls during construction could be a nuisance.

"We'll make it the least painful possible," Commissioner Kevin Wolff said.

Plans for the parkway, also known as Texas 211, call for filling the 7.6-mile gap from Culebra to Potranco. Potranco, which is

FM 1957, will be widened from two to four lanes on the 4.7-mile stretch from Loop 1604 to just west of the parkway.

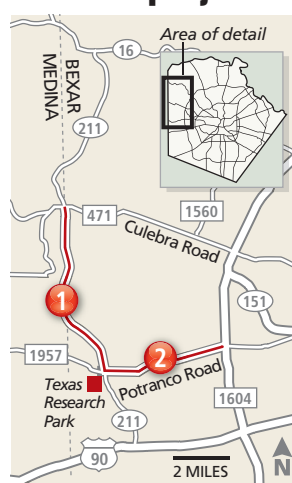
Currently the parkway has two disjointed segments, from U.S. 90 to Potranco and from Culebra to Bandera Road. County officials said the financing arrangement with the state will accelerate the projects by at least a decade, hastening relief for the area's overburdened roads.

Officials said improvements to the two arteries are crucial because in the next decade, most of the county's home building will be in western Bexar.

In addition to the \$55.6 million being spent by the county, developers have agreed to contribute \$15 million for right-of-way, environmental clearances, design costs and other expenses.

The county plans to issue about \$63 million in

## Planned projects



- TEXAS 211** will consist of a 2-lane rural highway, which completes the 7.6-mile gap from Culebra Road to Potranco Road
- FM 1957 (POTRANCO ROAD)** will widen the 4.7-mile existing 2-lane roadway to 4 lanes from Loop 1604 to just west of Texas 211

Source: Bexar County

EXPRESS-NEWS GRAPHIC

bonds in 2012. Texas Department of Transportation would reimburse the county's construction costs upon completion of the projects.

# Pop movie history still pops with 'Grease' karaoke show

BY STEFANIE ARIAS  
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If you're planning to attend the "Grease" Sing-A-Long at the Santikos Palladium movie theater at The Rim, you've got only two more days to do it.

The karaoke version of the 1978 musical starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John originally was to run for two weekends, but now tonight's and Saturday's shows are the only ones on the schedule.

If you're a fan of the movie, it's worth it.

Thursday's sold-out first show was packed with guys dressed as T-Birds

and gals as Pink Ladies.

Elena Flores said she got to the theater two and a half hours early to make sure she was at the front of the line.

"This is the first time I'm going to see it on the big screen," she said. "I love the movie."

Ted Ferrara said he saw "Grease" on the big screen when it first came out.

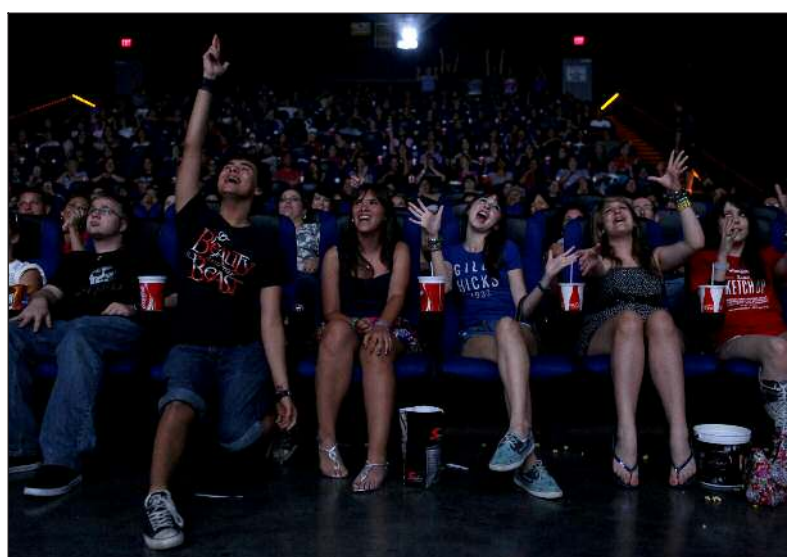
"I'm going to be the loudest one in there," he said.

He had a run for his money. Not only did the audience sing along to every song, but many people recited each line word for word.

The lyrics were shown on the screen, and, despite what the trailer indicated, were not edited for content. (Swear words and suggestive lyrics were replaced with graphics, but they weren't dubbed on the soundtrack.)

Standing up and dancing were discouraged by theater security personnel. But that didn't stop anybody from doing the "Hand Jive" or the arm motions during "Greased Lightnin'."

Security either gave up or didn't care by the time the finale came around. Several people were on their feet for "We Go Together."



LISA KRANTZ/lkrantz@express-news.net

"Grease" fans (from left) Alex Kiris, Isaac Navarro, Josette Allen, Erin Biediger, Julienne Bajusz and Taylor Dean get into the '70s groove of "Greased Lightnin'."



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