



# ARTESIA DAILY PRESS

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TUESDAY

## Chase Foundation invests in AHS students

### Organization pledges \$1.5 million in college scholarships to Class of 2008

By SAMANTHA MORIN  
Daily Press Staff Writer

Artesia High School seniors and parents filled the bleachers in the red brick gym at Artesia High School Monday night for a scholarship announcement from the Chase Foundation and to visit with recruiters from 13 colleges from New Mexico and the western Texas area.

Senior counselor Leah Williams opened up the night by saying how blessed the school is to have "the Chase family share their bounty" with them and how blessed the students are.

Richard Price, director of the Chase Foundation, continued the presentation and delivered the news. "The Chase family is placing their trust in you and have committed \$1.5 million worth of dollars and scholarship money for you to go to school."

He told the students that they have a great opportunity before them to attend college and that with a college degree, they have a chance to make \$1 million more in the workforce than without a degree. Price also said that college graduation rates have declined, but he hopes the class of 2008 can reverse trends and go to college and get a degree.

Price explained that the Chase Foundation was established in September of 2006 to help families in the community and improve the quality of life. "We can make a difference. We can give youth an opportunity to get an education," commented Price.

"The Chase family is on a mission," continued Price, "with intent to see every child get a degree."

He explained that the Chase Foundation has partnered up with 19 colleges to provide matching scholarship funds for those students receiving the Chase Scholarship. The colleges participating in the scholarship matching program are: University of New Mexico, New Mexico State, NMSU-C, Eastern New Mexico University, South Plains College, College of the Southwest, New Mexico Tech, Western New Mexico University, New Mexico Military Institute, Lubbock Christian University, ENMU-R, Wayland Baptist University, Texas Tech, New Mexico Junior College, Angelo State, McMurry University, University of Texas Permian,

New Mexico Highlands and the University of Oklahoma. These colleges will help to provide additional funding for students receiving the Chase Foundation scholarships.

Price also said that the Chase scholarships are now the largest four-year renewable scholarships available.

Requirements for receiving a Chase Scholarship are that the student applying must have maintained a minimum of a 3.0 GPA in the first seven semesters at Artesia High School and must have been in the Artesia Public School system for three years. Once a student has received the scholarship and attends college, the student must maintain at least a 2.5 GPA and have at least 12 semester hours.

Students can receive up to \$5,000 for the four-year renewable scholarship, explained Price. He said that students attending an in-state college could have 90-100 percent of college paid for, including tuition, room and board and books. If a student attends an out-of-state college, they could receive up to a \$2,500 match from the school along with the \$5,000 from the Chase Foundation, totaling a possible \$7,500 in scholarship money.

"Applying to the Chase Scholarship program is so easy Brian Price could do it," said Price jokingly of his son. Applications are online only and can be found at [www.chasefoundation.com](http://www.chasefoundation.com). Price said to click on the scholarship link and it will bring up the scholarship page. There will be another link that says REVIEW APPLICATION PDF. This file is a 24 page brochure that explains the participating schools and what they will match along with other information.

On page 23, there is an "Apply Now" image that will bring up the application for the scholarship program. Price suggested printing the application once it is filled out. Once the application is submitted, a confirmation page will come up that needs to be printed. It is a signature page that must be signed and sent in with the applicant's high school transcript as well as the letter of acceptance from the college and information about other financial aid the student will be receiving.

"Don't wait 'til the last

minute," noted Price. The deadline for applications is April 1.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to further education and have future leaders to shape our community and continue the generosity of the Chase family," commented Price. "You are good people who will do great things. We want to give you a chance. We are here to do anything we can do to get you through college. We are not here just to run the program. We will go above and beyond that."

"The Chase family is proud of you. They have committed this money and they trust in you. It breaks their hearts when you don't finish school," said Price.

Price went on to say thank you to the Chase family. "Thanks for the unbelievable gift for the class of 2008, school system and youth and making this a better place to live."

The committee determining which students receive scholarships consists of Dr. Crit Caton, Robin Jackson, Johnny Knorr, Richard Price, Deb Chase and Karla Chase.

Price jokingly commented, "If I were you seniors, I'd start tomorrow bringing Principal Caton burritos."

Caton responded, "I like relleno with meat from Caraveo's."

With all joking aside, Caton told the students to make sure they finish strong, as there are still eight weeks left of school and hard work ahead of them.

"You have a golden opportunity. Some of you may be the first ones in your family to even graduate high school and for some, this may be the first chance that someone in your family gets to go to college," said Caton. "Grab ahold of this and do your best. Represent Artesia and your school and our community."

Representatives of colleges in attendance Monday were from New Mexico State, Wayland Baptist University, College of the Southwest, NMSU-Carlsbad, ENMU-Roswell, Eastern New Mexico University, University of New Mexico, New Mexico Junior College, Texas Tech University, Angelo State, University of Texas of the Permian Basin, McMurry University, and New Mexico Military Institute.



Above, Artesia High School senior Jordan Lovato speaks with Alex Gonzalez, special assistant to the vice president of enrollment management at the University of New Mexico, Monday night after it was announced that the Chase family has committed \$1.5 million dollars in scholarship money to the Class of 2008. At left, Richard Price, director of the Chase Foundation, speaks to the high school seniors and their parents about the tremendous opportunity they have been given.

Samantha Morin photos

### Richardson proclaims National Agriculture Week

LAS CRUCES — Governor Bill Richardson has proclaimed this week as National Agriculture Week throughout the state of New Mexico.

The governor noted that agriculture has always been a cornerstone of the economy in New Mexico and in the nation.

Richardson also noted that this week gives New Mexicans the opportunity to reflect on the essential partnerships between agriculturists and members of the urban community who have improved the quality of life for New Mexico's citizens.

"As America's number

one industry, agriculture provides 23 million jobs and is the single largest contributor in our net trade balance through the efforts of the farmers, farm workers, scientists, processors, shippers, retailers and others who provide us with the basis of a good life," Richardson stated in the proclamation.

"Each year, one American farmer provides food and fiber for more than 120 people. Our modern farmers and ranchers uphold the fine tradition of American farming and ensure a healthy, abundant food and fiber supply, while adopting

new advances in science, technology, production and marketing to meet changing consumer needs.

"Thoughtful practices and careful stewardship of America's agricultural resources provide a healthy and sustainable environment and provide for the proper nutrition and health of Americans, while ensuring protection of a safe and secure food supply.

"New Mexico agriculture is a major contributor to the state's economy with receipts of nearly \$3 billion and assets of well over \$12 billion," the governor stated.

### N.M. authorities investigate Texas man's death

SANTA ROSA, N.M. (AP) — State police said Monday they were treating the death of a Texas man whose body was found along an eastern New Mexico highway as a homicide.

The man has been identified as Thomas A. Hickman, 55, of Richland Hills, Texas. State police said Hickman, a regional manager of Red Lobster restaurants, has been described as a churchgoing family man who had been caring for his ill wife.

Hickman was last seen at a business meeting in Abilene, Texas, on March 13. He was supposed to have checked into a Lubbock hotel for a meeting

in that city the following day but he never showed up.

State police said Hickman's body was discovered Saturday by a passing motorist on U.S. 84 southeast of Santa Rosa. His vehicle was abandoned off the roadway nearby.

According to an autopsy, Hickman suffered a single gunshot wound.

Anyone who may have seen Hickman between Abilene and New Mexico is being asked to contact state police.

**DRUG & ALCOHOL SCREENING SERVICE**  
will be closed Friday, March 21 for Good Friday.

### Daily Roundup

#### Forecast

Tonight, partly cloudy and colder. Lows in the lower 30s. Northwest winds 10 to 15 mph. Wednesday, sunny and warmer. Highs around 70. West winds around 10 mph, shifting to the south in the afternoon.



### Weather Report

By The Associated Press

High pressure building over New Mexico from the west will cause warmer weather statewide through Friday, the National Weather Service said.

A cold front will drop south Thursday, kicking up wind across the east. Fire danger will increase along and east of a line between Clayton and El Paso, Texas.

Wind will decrease Friday as the cold front peters out. Thunderstorms should form Saturday afternoon, and some snow could fall mainly north of Interstate 40 early Sunday morning.

High temperatures Monday ranged from 37 degrees at Capulin to 68 degrees at Carlsbad and Roswell.

The New Mexico State University Ag Science Center south of Artesia reported the high Monday was 65 degrees, while the 24-hour low reached 38. It was 48 degrees at 7 a.m. today.

One year ago today, the high was 85 degrees and the low was 35.

The minimum 4-inch soil temperature is 51 degrees. The 10-day average is 48.2 degrees.

VISIT THE DAILY PRESS WEB SITE AT  
[www.artesianews.com](http://www.artesianews.com)

### Arrest warrant issued for man wanted in N.M. deputy's shooting

RUIDOSO DOWNS, N.M. (AP) — State police on Monday obtained an arrest warrant for a fugitive sought in the shooting of a Lincoln County sheriff's sergeant.

The warrant accuses Kurt Sohrbeck, 53, of attempted murder, aggravated fleeing from law enforcement, being a felon in possession of a firearm and tampering with evidence in the March 13 shooting of Sgt. Robert Shepperd.

Shepperd was shot in the head, upper chest and left arm after pursuing Sohrbeck through the back roads of Ruidoso Downs. Shepperd was in stable condition Monday at a hospital in El Paso, Texas.

According to a criminal complaint, Shepperd stopped to talk with Sohrbeck at a car lot in Ruidoso Downs. After being asked for his identification, Sohrbeck fled in a black pickup truck.

The complaint says Sohrbeck eventually came to a stop, got out of the truck and charged at Shepperd's police car with a revolver. Shepperd told investigators he remembered putting the car in reverse and being shot four times.

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2008 at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall  
Everyone is invited.

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