The Gothenburg Chamber Ag Committee is joining forces with Agriculture Future of America (AFA) to support an agricultural scholarship program.

AFA is a 501(c)3 corporation dedicated to supporting higher education and leader development of future agriculture producers and rural business leaders. Founded in 1996, AFA works to create partnerships in rural communities where agri-businesses, educational institutions, government agencies, associations and individuals raise funds for agriculture scholarships and promote leader development.

AFA leverages the community fund-raising efforts by soliciting corporations and foundations to provide financial resources to match the community dollars. Since 1997, AFA's partnerships have awarded more than $7.5 million in academic scholarships, provided leader training to 9,000 students and young professionals.

AFA's objective is to work with communities to create scholarships for high school graduates entering college in the agricultural field.

A local committee has been formed to support the partnership for the Gothenburg Chamber Agriculture area. AFA will match raised community funds. The AFA Leader and Academic Scholarship is $4,200, consisting of a $3,200 academic scholarship. The additional $1,000 will sponsor the local recipient to the AFA Leaders Conference in Kansas City Nov. 7-10.

Eligibility requirements for the Gothenburg Chamber Ag Community Scholarship include any high school seniors enrolling in an accredited college of agriculture. They must be a student of the Gothenburg, Eustis-Farnam, Brady, Arnold and Callaway schools.

The scholarship application is available at your high school or can be requested by email at joe@gothenburgirrigation.com. Applications must be submitted by March 15..

For additional information on AFA and the Gothenburg Chamber Ag Community Scholarship

program contact Joe Richeson at 308-529-1181.