

# AG LEADERS

2023 Ag Leaders Luncheon honors Ag Leaders & Supporters of the Montgomery Agricultural Center and Fair with a special tribute to Lonnie Luther & Eric Spates

## Hall of Fame Award - Eric Spates



## 2023 Montgomery County Agricultural Center Leadership Award Lonnie Luther



### The Ag Leaders Purpose

To provide an opportunity for leaders in the agricultural community to come together during the annual Agricultural Fair to commemorate the importance of agriculture, share ideas, concerns and successes impacting our county.

The Luncheon, held during the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair includes an educational program with important information on current legislation, agricultural land use issues, trends in agricultural production and demographic trends. The Luncheon also serves as an opportunity for interaction and exchange of information among invited guests with the intention of facilitating communication in the future.

The Luncheon is also the occasion in which a farmer or a farm family are inducted into the Montgomery County Agriculture Hall of Fame. The farmers are honored for their extraordinary contribution to the agricultural community in Montgomery County as well as the State of Maryland. The honoree is generally submitted for induction into the Maryland Agriculture Hall of Fame.

Invited guests include agricultural producers of all types in Montgomery County, elected officials from County and State government as well as the following agencies who support the agricultural communities: Agricultural Services- a division of the County Department of Economic Development; USDA Farm Service Agency; USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service; Maryland Department of Agriculture - Soil Conservation District; University of Maryland Extension.

The Ag Leaders Luncheon is sponsored by: Montgomery County Agricultural Center, Inc., the Montgomery County Office of Agriculture and the Montgomery County Extension Office.

The Montgomery County Fair officially opened in 1949. It was made possible by many volunteers, contributors, families, and government officials who, over the years continue to make the Fair a place for youth and others to gather and show results of their work, to enjoy camaraderie and to educate others about agriculture.