

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: March 28, 2011
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Plans Underway for 22nd Annual Strimbu Memorial BBQ

--Date set for May 4, 2011

The 22nd Annual Strimbu BBQ is planned for Wednesday, May 4, 2011 at the Yankee Lake Ballroom in Brookfield as part of a fund raising effort for the Strimbu Memorial Fund.

Since its inception in 1990, the Strimbu Memorial Fund has awarded over \$1.75 million, with over \$138,000 bestowed last year in grants to various community programs and in scholarships to area high school seniors.

“The Strimbu Memorial Fund was created to perpetuate the work of the late Nick Strimbu Jr.,” said Board President John “Chip” Mastrian. “Mr. Strimbu had a passion for leading individuals and economic development agencies to attract, assist and retain the industrial base of the valley. In addition, when we award scholarships to area students, we are investing in the life of a person—and that is worth millions.”

The fund awards leadership scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each to qualified local high school seniors in 11 local school districts, with an additional \$10,000 awarded to the overall leader. In addition, the fund contributes to economic development agencies and projects, and selected humanitarian projects and programs, as well.

Annually the event draws a sell-out crowd of 1,600. According to officials, it is the largest event between Cleveland and Pittsburgh in terms of attendance.

With doors opening at 5 p.m., the BBQ will get into full swing with an endless array of food, reminiscent of a full-scale Texas bar-b-que including a multitude of appetizers, plus beef, turkey, duck, pig, ox, fish and lamb served straight from the spit. In addition, six-foot in diameter paella skillets greet guests with more mouth-watering offerings.

“The event is also known for its giveaway of a bag of Vidalia onions to all those in attendance,” said Mastrian. “This tradition started as the Strimbus, through their trucking company, always brought back the onions from the South to give to their friends.”

The event will feature both silent and live auctions, with many unique items such as a Victory Hammer 8-Ball motorcycle, black angus steer, a jewelry collection from Thom Duma Jewelers,

NASCAR packages, a Lake Erie walleye fishing trip, travel and sports packages, just to name a few.

Live music will be provided by “Pipe Dreams,” playing music from the mid-60s and the Fab 4, and featuring its original hit song “London Girls.”

Tickets are \$85 and are available from any board member including Connie Schenker at 724.704.7115 or John Holliday at 724.699.8869. More information can also be found at www.strimbumemorialfund.org.