

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Hanover Theatre Hosting State Police Association of Massachusetts Benevolent Fund Benefit for Trooper Clardy's Family



Worcester, Mass. (April 29, 2016) The State Police Association of Massachusetts Benevolent Fund presents a benefit night for the family of Trooper Clardy, who was killed during a routine traffic stop earlier this year. *Lenny Clarke and Friends: A Benefit Night for the Family of Trooper Clardy* at The Hanover Theatre on Sunday, May 22 at 7 p.m.

Boston comedy legend Lenny Clarke, famous for his thick Boston accent and role as Uncle Teddy on the series *Rescue Me*, headlines this benefit performance. Since his early days in Boston, Clarke has starred in his own network sitcom *Lenny*, and in such TV shows as *Contest Searchlight*, *The Job*, *The John Larroquette Show* and *It's All Relative*, as well as movies such as *Monument Ave.*, *Fever Pitch* and *Southie*.

A roster of popular Boston comics join Lenny Clarke for this event, including Tony V, Artie Januario, Christine Hurley, Frank Santorelli, Dave Russo, Johnny Pizzi and Graig Murphy. Tony V has a street wise humor tempered with a genuine feel for the human condition that quickly propelled him to headliner status on the national comedy club circuit. Tony's credits include being named "Funniest Person in Massachusetts" by Showtime television.

Artie Januario is one of Boston's premier comedians. Artie's relatable and hilarious act has brought him all around the country, including headlining stints in Las Vegas and Atlantic City. Christine Hurley has an innate ability to see humor in "everyday" situations. Her stories and views on motherhood and marriage are exactly what everyone is living through—people get it and love it.

Frank Santorelli is an Italian-American who is best known for playing the recurring role of “Georgie the Bartender” in *The Sopranos* and is also well-known for his star role in *The Godfathers of Comedy*. Dave Russo is a mainstay of Boston comedy, and has been for the last fifteen years. The Boston Examiner currently hails him as the “Best Male Comic.”

Johnny Pizzi is a sure fire crowd pleaser with more than 20 years of experience. Johnny’s humor is wild and exciting without being offensive or vulgar. Lastly, Graig Murphy wows audiences with his impressions of local sports owners and players, and can keep the laughs coming with his talented wit.

Tickets to *Lenny Clarke and Friends: A Benefit Night for the Family of Trooper Clardy* start at \$35. Discounts are available to members of The Hanover Theatre and groups of 10 or more. Tickets are available online at TheHanoverTheatre.org, by phone at 877.571.SHOW (7469) or at The Hanover Theatre box office located at 2 Southbridge Street in downtown Worcester.

About the State Police Association of Massachusetts Benevolent Fund

The State Police Association of Massachusetts (SPAM) Benevolent Fund was created in 2010. SPAM is the only legally recognized bargaining unity for troopers and sergeants of the Massachusetts State Police. At the time of the Benevolent Fund’s inception in 2010, members of the SPAM Executive Board determined that the time had come to set up a fund that would enable assistance to Massachusetts State troopers, sergeants and their families in certain times of need. The goal is to provide assistance to SPAM members who are unable to perform their duties due to extended illness or injury, and assist with other public safety tragedies. The SPAM Benevolent Fund awards fifteen scholarships annually to eligible children and/or dependents of its members.

About The Hanover Theatre

The Hanover Theatre continues to draw over 180,000 patrons annually with world-class performances and headlining acts including Broadway hits (“*Les Misérables*,” “*Jersey Boys*”); comedians (Dave Chappelle, Jay Leno, Daniel Tosh); musical acts (Neil Young, Aretha Franklin, John Legend, Donny Osmond); and everything in between (“*A Christmas Carol*,” Maya Angelou, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre). Consistently ranked by POLLSTAR as one of the Top Theatres in the World, the theatre opened in March of 2008 following a \$32 million historic renovation. Over the last eight seasons, the theatre has established its place as a world-class performing arts venue, acting as a catalyst for the economic development of downtown Worcester. In the spring of 2015, the theatre finalized the purchase of a vacant, three-floor former office building with street-level retail space at 551 Main Street. The building houses office space for theatre administration, function areas, a restaurant on the ground floor and a performing arts conservatory on the lower level. The building opens June 2, 2016.

Worcester Center for Performing Arts, a registered not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, owns and operates The Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.