

## Big Band gives PAC a helping hand

ASTORIA — The North Coast Big Band will perform a benefit concert for the Clatsop Community College Performing Arts Center 2 p.m. Sunday, April 15. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door.



Ken Kirby

The concert will feature music from the big band era, as well as the music of Thelonious Monk, Chuck Mangione, Gerry Mulligan,

W.C. Handy, Fats Domino, Wes Montgomery and Marvin Gaye. Soloists include David Drury, Ken Kirby, Bob Walters, Terry Dahlgren, Mike Evans, Judy Shatto, Rachel Lake and Peter Hinsbeeck.

The North Coast Big Band is dedicated to preserving music from the Big Band Era to the present. For additional information, call Lee Stromquist at 503-861-1328.



North Coast Big Band



David Drury

## High-octane Irish music at the Liberty

ASTORIA — The Press Gang, a group based in Portland, Maine, that performs Irish-inspired music, plays the Liberty Theatre 7 p.m. Saturday, April 14, as part of a CD release party.

General admission tickets are \$25.

The Press Gang fuses the talents of squeezebox player Christian “Junior” Stevens, fiddler Alden Robinson, flute-player and vocalist Hanz Araki, and guitarist Owen Marshall into a high-octane musical partnership. The quartet blends their skill and fluency in traditional Irish music with their curiosity and aptitude for other styles. The joy that these musicians pour into playing music together is unmistakable and infectious. The result is a unique sound, at once energetic and sensitive, innovative and reverent.

The Liberty Theatre is located at 1203 Commercial St.

Make a night of it by dining at Carruthers Restaurant, a Liberty sponsor, beforehand. For a package price, you can get a prix fixe and a ticket to the show. Purchasers must call to make a reservation: 503-975-5305. Gratuity is not included.



The Press Gang

COURTESY LIBERTY THEATRE

## Guitarist goes for baroque – and beyond

ASTORIA — Classical-world guitarist Aaron Larget-Caplan performs “Baroque & Beyond” 3 p.m. Sunday, April 15, at Grace Episcopal Church, in Astoria.

The Astoria Music Festival presents this afternoon of chamber music, including concertos, fandangos and other music from Vivaldi, Bach and John Cage. Members of the Astoria Music Festival Orchestra — including Grammy-nominated violinist Adam LaMotte — will also perform. The church, admired for its rich acoustics, is located at 1545 Franklin St.

Noted for his “astounding technical proficiency and artistic delicacy” by the Boston Musical Intelligencer, Larget-Caplan is on a solo two-week 10-concert tour in Oregon and California. An international touring and recording artist based in Boston, he has performed solo and chamber music in Russia, Europe and across the U.S. He is on the faculty of the University of Massachusetts Boston.

At 16, Larget-Caplan made his debut at the Tabor



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Guitarist Aaron Larget-Caplan

Opera House. He first performed in Astoria while a student at New England Conservatory. Since then he has premiered more than 65 solo and chamber compositions, commissioned dozens of pieces for his New Lullaby Project, directed concert series and brought classical music into schools and community settings. A gifted performer and speaker, he is sought for his deft programming of new and standard repertoire while connecting with audiences with a Bernstein-esque ease.

General admission tickets are \$20 and available through the Liberty Theatre — in person at the box office, online at [libertyastoria.org](http://libertyastoria.org), or by phone.