

## Press release - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

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### Glens Falls guitarist starts cigar box guitar business

**GLENS FALLS** – Paul Cardone of Glens Falls retired after 30 years as an aide with Capital District DDSO. Now he makes electric three-string cigar box guitars by hand in his studio at the Shirt Factory Arts and Healing Center in Glens Falls. The business, **Cigar Box Guitars by Doc**, had its start in November of 2012.

"I was researching music online and came across this guy playing a Muddy Waters tune on a cigar box guitar," says Mr. Cardone. "I investigated and found a website called Cigar Box Nation which has instructions and support for making your own. The first guitar I made back in May 2012 was out of an olive oil can. I've been making them ever since and each one is better and better."

The three-string fretless guitars have pickups installed so they're electric. They are meant to be played with a slide. Find them for sale at **Samantha's Cafe and Catering** at Union Square, 11 Broad Street in Glens Falls, New York, and out of the **Cigar Box Guitars by Doc Studio** in Suite 311, The Shirt Factory Arts and Healing Center at the corner of Lawrence and Cooper Streets in Glens Falls, New York. Prices start at \$120, and you can pick your own box, buy a ready-made guitar or bring one in to be converted into a custom guitar.



Each guitar is unique, many of them incorporating "stuff found in your junk drawer or woodshed," says Mr. Cardone. "I use drain covers, eyebolts, a lot of different types of grommets and ferrules, hinges. I just got a great idea for a tremolo system using a doorstop. I'm making my own slides out of wine bottle necks. I also make amplifiers out of cigar boxes. They're 2.5 watts and they run off a nine-volt battery."

The sound? "Right out of the Delta," says Mr. Cardone. "You can play all styles of music, but the slide gives it that blues tone."

"Being left-handed, I never got to play a good guitar," Mr. Cardone says. "You always had to pay 25% more for a left-handed guitar, so I'd just play a right-handed one strung upside-down. It taught me that it's not really the guitar – it's the hand. You just work with what you have."

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Photos attached: Paul Cardone in his studio, a guitar on the workbench, a finished guitar with a shower drain cover, five cigar box guitars. More photos or higher-resolution versions are available upon request. Paul Cardone is available for interviews.

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