

# Neighbor to Neighbor

THE PEOPLE, PERSONALITIES  
& PASSIONS OF OUR COMMUNITY



## Mike's Music Has Friends Dancing in Their Seats

**Mike Anderson transforms his garage once a month for a booming music session for his neighbors that keeps them on their toes.**

By **LISA LAWSON**  
Daily Sun Staff Writer

### THE VILLAGES

Mike Anderson has proof that music is a good way to bring people together.

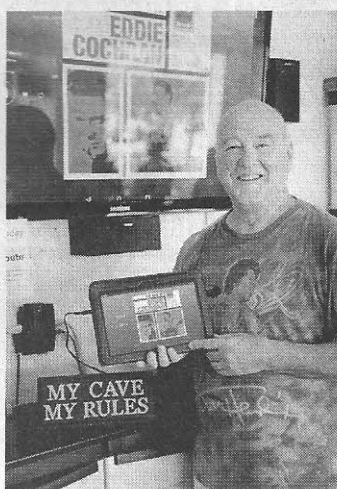
Anderson, of the Village of Tamarind Grove, hosted his monthly Mike's Music Monday gathering last week, and, as usual, it was a big hit with his neighbors.

"I started this to get to know people, and it has been a huge success," Anderson said. "I always have a theme and sometimes I try to make it relevant to current events. I thought since a music legend passed away this month, we should honor him."

For April, Anderson chose to do a tribute to Chuck Berry. Considered by many as the father of rock 'n' roll, Berry was an American guitarist, singer and songwriter known for hits songs like "Maybelene" and "Johnny B. Goode."

Once a month, Anderson's garage transforms into "Mike's Garage Mahal" with a booming surround sound system, a flat screen to play videos and lots of cheerful neighbors.

Anderson's wife, Maggie,



Photos by Erin Williams | Daily Sun  
**Mike Anderson, of the Village of Tamarind Grove, shows his setup for Mike's Music Monday where he creates a themed playlist for neighbors and friends.**

said she enjoys the music, but her favorite thing about the gatherings is being able to catch up with her friends.

"It's great to sit here, listen

to music and chat," Maggie said. "Sometimes people will dance, and that's fun too."

While a Chuck Berry song played, Mary Jo Goecke tapped her foot to the beat.

"I have been coming to this since Mike started it six years ago," Goecke said. "I love music, and it has brought us closer."

Many familiar songs played, which had some reminiscing about their high school days.

Susan and Al Ozenne said they love hearing the music they grew up listening to.

"We love all kinds of music," Susan said. "Some of us just see each other in passing, so it's nice to sit and talk."

The music was interrupted for a moment for a very special reason — it was Marty Jones' birthday.

"Let's all sing the special birthday song for Marty," Anderson said, laughing. "Hooray for the Birthday Person" is the name of the song.

John and Susan Phillips said they brought this special song with them from Pennsylvania.

"It's a funny song," Susan said. "It's definitely a song you should only sing to friends."

The musical night was ending, but Anderson had one more surprise.

"I hope you all enjoy this clip from 'Back to the Future,'" he said. "One of my favorite Chuck Berry songs, 'Johnny B. Goode,' is played in it."

*Lisa Lawson is a staff writer with The Villages Daily Sun. She can be reached at 352-753-1119, ext. 9173, or [lisa.lawson@thevillagesmedia.com](mailto:lisa.lawson@thevillagesmedia.com).*

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