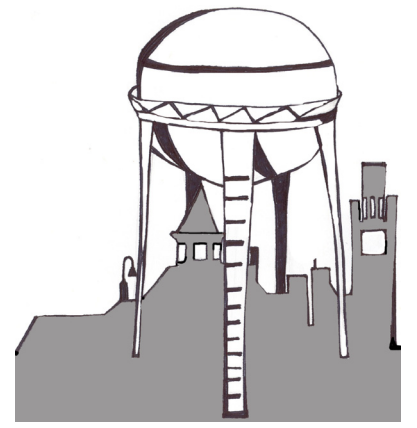


the water tower.

uvm's alternative newsmag

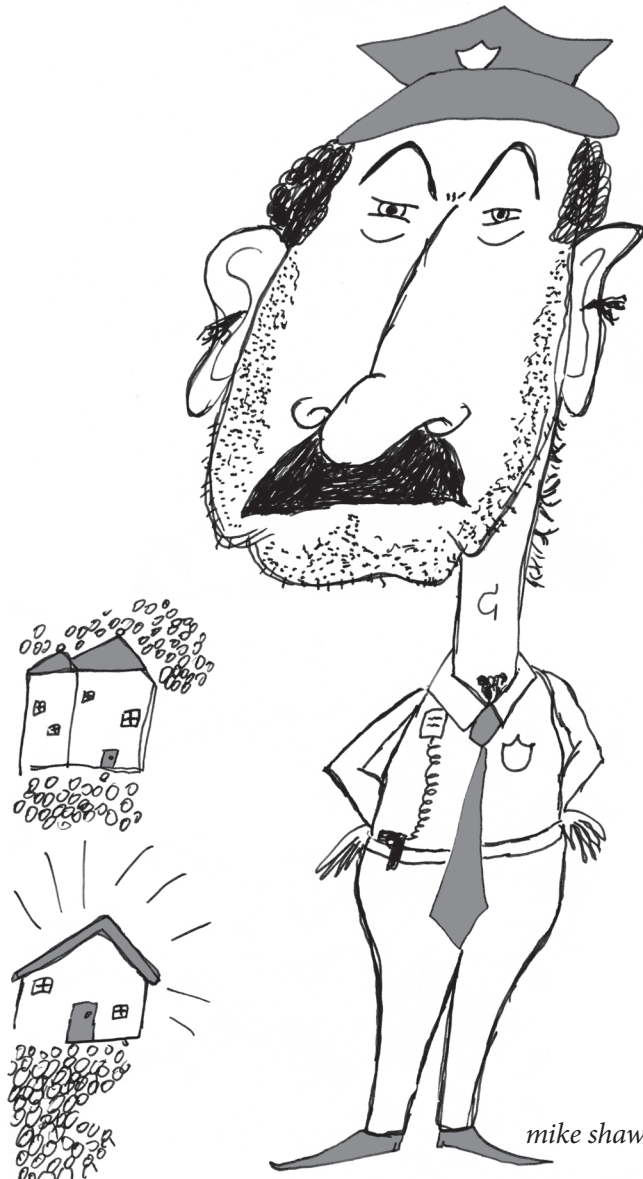


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know your rights

how to avoid noise violations, criminal records, and the po in general
(and still get your party on)



by karenbaptiste

It's Friday night, and that means one thing: it's time to throw down. Whether you're raging or just hanging out with a few friends, more often than not, over the clatter of pong balls and music flowing through the house, those dreaded knocks are heard. As you answer, you kindly ask Officer Barbrady what the problem is. Then, BOOM! They strike again: another noise complaint in Burlington.

For those of you who are new to living off campus, pay close attention so this doesn't happen to you. To start, good job opening the door. While Johnny Law looks intimidating, opening the door and cooperating is the best thing you can do. Don't be a dick and think you're above the law. Getting caught blows, but not answering the door just results in them calling up your landlord and issuing both you and your landlord a ticket. The best part is that they will actually contact you in class or at your job to serve you with the ticket.

Okay, so you were smart and opened up for the po; the deal is that if you get a noise complaint, it doesn't matter if you're just with your roommates. You're going to get a ticket anywhere from \$200 to \$500. What's even crazier is that even if you only have one guest at your house, according to Burlington law it's technically a party, and that ticket goes up to between \$300 and \$500.

That's all for a first time offense, too. If you get another noise complaint within

two years of the first one, the fine jumps up \$100 more for both types of tickets, with \$500 as the maximum fine. Then for a third time offense (still within two years of the first offense), this shit is criminal – literally. You're charged \$500. You have to appear in court. If you're convicted you get a criminal record. At least now you can get that thug life tattoo you always

wanted. Despite all this bullshit, there is a silver lining – but only for first and second time offenses. You can take a “restorative or reparative justice program” through the Community Justice Center. It's a three hour course and if you complete it, the judge will either waive part of, or the entire, fine. However, if you want to contest the ticket, the court fee is \$105, so pick your poison.

Here's how it works: “quiet hours” in Burlington kick in at 10 p.m. and end at 7 a.m. the next morning. (For all you suckers on campus, the “quiet hours” Sunday through Thursday are from 11:00 p.m. to 8 a.m., and Friday through Saturday they're 12 a.m. to 8 a.m.) But don't let this

fool you. Your neighbors are always able to drop the cops a line if you're being too loud. These “disturbing sounds” can be anything from people being loud to noise from a TV, radio, musical instrument, or phonograph. So a word to the wise: stop partying with A. Graham Bell. I know it's tempting, but that guy just can't keep himself or his phonograph under control.

You're charged \$500. You have to appear in court. If you're convicted you get a criminal record. At least now you can get that thug life tattoo you always wanted!

As much as our neighbors downtown hate it, we're college kids, and therefore we're bound to party. The thing is, you've got to be smart about it if you don't want to deal with the law banging down your door. To start, keep your doors and windows closed. Whether or not it's hot as balls in your place, sound travels, so try to keep it as contained as possible. Loud music is inevitable, but try to keep it at a reasonable level, especially if it's coming from somewhere besides the basement.

People come and go from party to party, but make sure they're not lingering outside your house. The cops are rolling by all over town and drunken college kids are obviously the first sign of shenanigans

nearby. (Not to mention that there's an organization called S.T.A.R.T. (“Stop Teen Alcohol Risk Team”) in thirteen counties across Vermont (including Chittenden! They have teams in Essex and Shelburne – no listing in B-town), which is composed of undercover cops. Their mission is to patrol the streets to crack down on all the young drunkards stumbling around.)

Even if you think you're not doing anything by hanging around outside, technically you're loitering if you're remaining idle in one location or wandering aimlessly. As a result, the cops have the right to tell you to leave wherever you are. So as a courtesy to whoever's house you're at, if you don't want to stay, then don't. Go to Mr. Mike's, KKD's, or Ali Baba's; just don't be the reason why someone has to get one of those hefty fines.

After a long week of classes, it's practically our right to party. So let's make the most of it and look out for each other. If you keep your shindig contained, quiet from the exterior, and have no stragglers in sight outside, then you should be golden. If we're careful, the cops will have no reason to bust our parties, so we can rage all night if we want. Just be smart about it; don't be a douche and think you can get away with blasting tunes and having a bonfire on your front lawn – that is, unless you have a few hundo to spare. ■

get
inside
me

news

BP's ideas for rescuing
chilean miners
by emilyhoogesteger

reflections

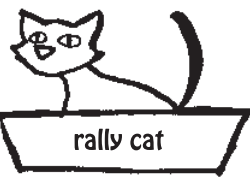
what's your (ben &
jerry's) flavor?
by lizcantrell

tunes

the walkmen
by jeremyklein

advertise for your
club or organization with
the water tower. we're
cheaper than the other guys.
watertowerads@gmail.com

cat litter.



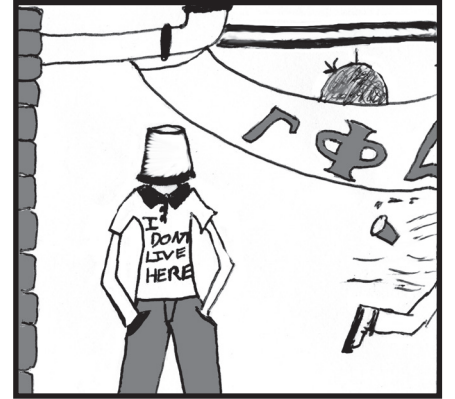
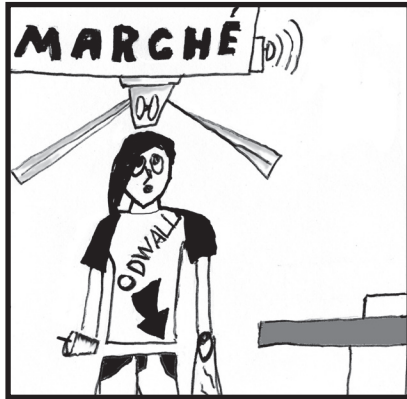
cat litter:
by drew diemar
artwork by greg jacobs

fessin' up to messin' up while dressin' up



No matter how envious I am of the clothes I see everybody wearing, I'm still reluctant to buy clothes, so I'm stuck with old beer shirts and stuff I've worn since middle school.

I can't even pull off the "so-old-and-lame-they're-cool" look. Why does everyone else know what to wear? Why can't they let me in on it?



tunes.



business as usual: in lisbon, the walkmen play to their strengths

by jeremyklein

It's safe to say that throughout their career, The Walkmen have flown under the radar. This may be because in the unstoppable monster that is New York "indie rock," they are rather unremarkable. Stacked up against some of their more popular contemporaries, their lyrics are not as clever, harmonies not as sweet, and melodies not as catchy. But The Walkmen never needed any of that to make great music, and with their latest disc, *Lisbon*, they prove it to still be true. As their sixth full-length release to date, *Lisbon* finds the band plowing forward just as always.

The Walkmen are known for playing vintage instruments, something that shines through specifically in the guitar sound. The tone and reverb on the guitar creates a surf rock sound, perfectly in tune with *Lisbon's* summer release. The tone reinforces the frustration, sorrow, and longing for the past that are present in Leithauser's vocals.

Allow me to make a terrible analogy—if one of their tracks were a car, Hamilton Leithauser's voice would be the person driving it. Likewise, Matt Barrick's drumming would be the engine keeping the songs going, and Paul Maroon's guitar would be the wheels that make what everyone else is doing actually mean something. The bass and organ players are not as present in the songs, so they'd be the passengers who are too frightened by Leithauser's driving to say anything (apol-

ogies to Walter Martin and Peter Bauer, respectively).

"Angela Surf City," the album's second track, perhaps best exemplifies this relationship. The drums start off in overdrive, pounded intently before the guitar enters with a fairly simple riff to fill in the gaps. At last, the vocals come in full of contempt for their subject: "Angela / holds a grudge / over nothing." "Victory" is another track that conveys Leithauser's frustration and contempt. On the surface, it has a rather uplifting sound fitting of its title. The song, though about victory, is in truth not about winning, but rather about never being able to attain what you want. For Leithauser, victory is always "right beside me," and "over my head," but never achieved. Another perfect example of his feelings is in "Stranded." Backed by a marching band-esque horn section, there's a sense of it being sang by the everyman, completely defeated, lamenting lines like "If you don't want me, you can tell me" and "I'm stranded and I'm sorry." He has lost whomever he loved, and tragically, he knows it.

The Walkmen do not indulge in excess, resulting in a total of zero solos appearing in their songs. Not many notes get wasted as a result. *Lisbon* is expertly calculated and executed, which for a rather unremarkable band, is truly something to remark.

Top Tracks: "Angela Surf City," "Juveniles," and "Victory"

SEEKING: UVM'S BEST BAND (/ARTIST/WHATEVER)

We know you secretly play guitar. We know you and your friends have five tracks on myspace with 11 listens. We know you want to be the next bedroom laptop maestro to start selling out the Music Hall of Williamsburg. And you, yeah you, we know you rap in front of the mirror Eight Mile style when you're high and nobody's home. So show us your stuff!

Even if you're not-so-underground and you already have stickers on all the lamp posts on campus, send links to your myspace, youtube, fileshare, etc, to thewatertowernews@gmail.com, or drop a CD at our desk at the SGA. We will take all music at face value, regardless of genre or recording quality, and reward originality above all. You've got all fall semester to get submissions in, and in the spring we'll run a front page, magazine-style profile and interview with the winner, and reveal our other favorites and runners-up.

The contest is open to all current students, grad or undergrad; non-Music Department faculty and staff; and even very recent grads who are still based in Burlington. Multiple projects from the same group are ok by us. Give us everything you've got. Don't be shy, you might just be UVM's best!

a diamond in the rough

an eclectic collection of talent snuffed out all too soon

by natehopkins

Haven't you ever wondered what happens to a band when they break up? Do they become long lost legends, or can they move onto bigger and better things? Some just keep playing—as was the case with Rage Against the Machine, when frontman Zack De La Rocha left and the rest of the band collaborated with Soundgarden's Chris Cornell to form the widely praised

Audio Slave. Krist Novoselic from Nirvana took a different path, and went on to become an active politician in the State of Washington long after the

suicide of Kurt Cobain (and we know it was you, Courtney!).

But what happens to the bands unlike Rage or Nirvana that never had the chance to make it to their prime? They often become lost to the world, outside the hearts and minds of their dear followers that is. Thus is the case with The Eclectic Collective (The EC), a nine-piece out of Boston that never quite made it far out of town, besides a few regional shows around New England. This rare gem of modern music is a bright, energetic, loud mix of jazz/rock/alternative/hip-hop/R&B that makes for what one could only describe as a super fusion of everything good known to man, blending powerful male and female vocals with extremely talented musicians. With complex layers of musicianship that range from wailing gospel-like keyboards, blaring horns, and multiple basses, the lyrics can't help but have you engaged as you find yourself deep in the EC's world of

troubled relationships and everyday hardships. The emotional spectrum of their songs is vivid and you will be riding their high one moment and hitting rock bottom with them the next. Live in concert, they were nothing short of mind blowing.

The only problem is... the band ceased to exist after putting out only two albums, despite the brilliance of their sophomore

"Their sophomore record ... is arguably the best 7-track album since Steely Dan's *Aja*."

record *The Flux*, which is arguably the best 7-track album since Steely Dan's *Aja*. Formed in 2001, the band broke up in 2008 due to some members going onto their

own personal projects. MySpace music pages will often proudly claim "THE EC IS DEAD; Bad Rabbits is a go." Bad Rabbits is a newer group consisting of several former members of The EC that create an equally raw sound but are not nearly as talented a group, as EC diehards would claim. To find these bands, one might have to do a little Google searching, and maybe even a blasphemous 30-second iTunes investigation. However, the archival music is readily available for anyone willing to pay an honest buck (and probably for those who aren't, too). I encourage you all to take a moment out of your busy days and explore the world of soon-to-be long lost music.

For fans of: 311, Otis Redding, Mayer Hawthorne

Top tracks: "Beautiful Mess" "Maintain" "Ocean of Tears"

dope mc's matching game

(fresher than your other tests, better than your ever-best)

this week: crews

- gucci mane
- fat joe
- juelz santana
- mannie fresh
- lil' wayne

- the diplomats
- 1017 brick squad
- hot boy\$
- terror squad
- big tymers

answers: (cheaters get merked)

A-2; B-4; C-1; D-5; E-3