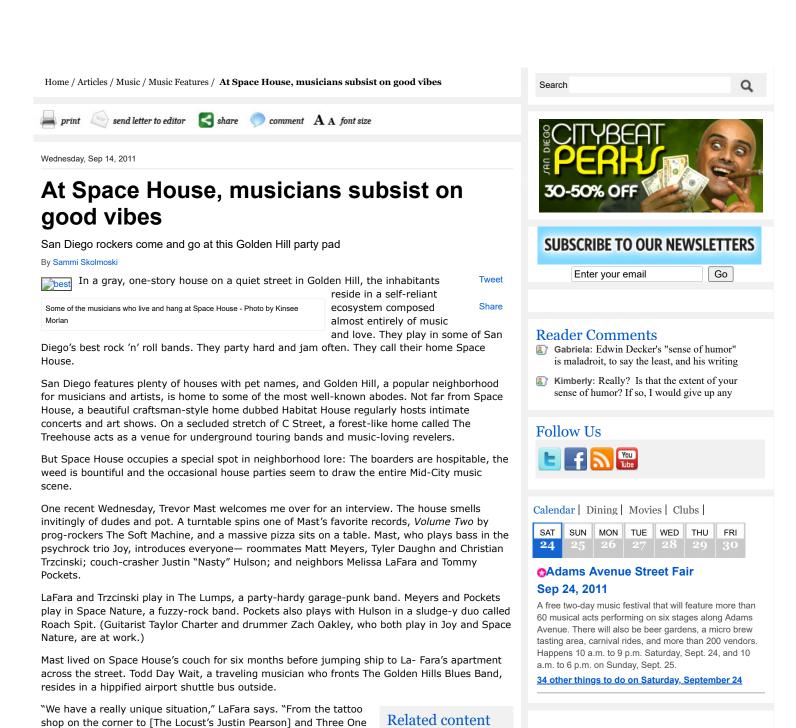
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Dollars for detritus

o Zack Nielsen now

proud owner
Still tasty after all

Habitat House's

G [Records] a few blocks down—there's just so much going on right

Meyers moved into Space House more than two years ago and is

the only original tenant. Since then, many people have come and

here," Mast says. They left behind much of the musical equipment

gone. "At one point, the house had eight or nine people living

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that furnishes the jam room in the dank basement, where the four bands all practice.

The neighboring law office doesn't appreciate the racket, but Trzcinski is more concerned with the recent wave of former Space Housers who've reclaimed their gear.

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Space House Golden Hill The Lumps Joy

"We're trying to get our hands on amps and keep our hands on them without them breaking or the people that own them taking them back," he says.

That's what happened to a bass amp recently. LaFara says to Mast: "So, you don't have a bass amp, which means I don't have a bass amp, which means Tyler doesn't have a bass amp." They make plans to purchase a new one and split it three ways. La- Fara, a polite astrologist and numerologist who has the onstage ferocity of a female Iggy Pop, notes the significance of that detail: "Three is the number of expression."

As Roach Spit kicks out some jams and Trzcinski works on his scooter, I sit on the porch and listen to endless tales about Mast, most of which revolve around his affinity for mushroom stems ("They taste like Cheetos without the cheese-ness!"). All around, there's evidence of last night's exploits: A ladder is haphazardly wedged between the side of the house and the gate. A tall can, still wrapped in a brown bag, rests in the highest reaches of a tree. Mast's feet are still itchy from a barefoot jaunt across the rooftop. "Apparently, it's covered in fiberglass," he laughs.

Inside the house, Trzcinski hands me a tattoo gun fashioned out of a fork, a Discman motor, a battery, a guitar string and a button. Everyone here has a self-administered tattoo; Pockets even managed to ink a hamburger with majestic angel wings on his chest.

By the time I conclude my evening with a group sing-a-long to Neil Young's "On the Beach," Space House's many cockroaches have laid claim to the pizza. But here, even vermin are put to good use.

"I've been making them into Roach Spit buttons," LaFara laughs. "If you smash them dead on, they smush the way I was going to smush them anyway."

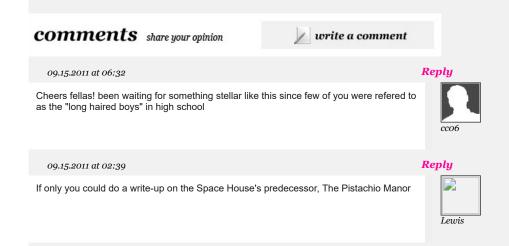
The Lumps play with Tori Cobras and Homeless Sexuals at Eleven on Friday, Sept. 16. Joy plays with White Hills and Plant Tribe at Soda Bar on Saturday, Sept. 17. thelumpsrawk.com, myspace.com/joymusicsd

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