

# The Big Jump. *Communication* KUSP

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By RICK CHATENEVER  
Sentinel Staff Writer

"It was a big jump that was ready to happen."

That's the way Stephanie Kaza, president of the board of directors of radio station KUSP, describes the move of the non-commercial FM station to its "new home" in the old Twin Lakes Baptist Church building.

The station, now located on the second floor at 203 Eighth Ave., is inviting the public to a fundraising open house Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A brunch and studio tours are on tap, and many of the station's programmers will be on hand to give listeners a chance to match names with faces.

The station "was really beginning to burst out all over" its old location, atop O'Neill's Yacht Center over-

looking the beach and yacht harbor, observed Kaza. She said the station had spent more than three years looking for new lodgings, getting eviction notices several times along the way.

The search led to "garages, warehouses . . . and a turkey farm over on 41st Avenue," before they found the present multi-room complex, which affords four times the space of the old studio.

In the new suite are a "live music room" with

space for up to 15 musicians — or else the cast of KUSP's "15 Minute Comedy Hour," complete with scripts, coffee cups and beer bottles. There is also the production studio/mixing room, with its 16-track mixer, and space for four or five engineers — "instead of one-and-a-half."

Although the studio's "heart" — the air room — doesn't have the expansive ocean view of the O'Neill location, it does have space for the station's record library ("It was beginning to

go out the door at the old place,") and an impressive console, complete with three turntables, for KUSP's all-volunteer array of programmers.

("Programmers" is a high-falutin' way of saying "disc jockey." In KUSP's case though, the platter spinners' tastes just happen to be global, including a vast selection of ethnic musics to complement the station's classical, jazz and rock 'n' roll programs.)

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# KUSP

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"Another thing we're excited about is that we now have a bathroom," according to station programmer Jill Henry. She said that in the old studio, programmers had to "put on a long cut and make a run for the public restrooms across the parking lot."

Additionally there is a reception room and a large office space for the station's news and administrative staff. One of the benefits of the new lodgings is that it "allows all those things to go on at once."

Kaza estimated the cost for the move at between \$2,000 and \$3,000, which covered only materials. All of the rest, from sheet-rocking to wiring, came about from donated labor.

"It was just a shell before we moved stuff in," said Kaza.

KUSP, 89 on the FM dial, is non-commercial, deriving its support from listener subscriptions and donations from area businesses and individuals. Kaza said that the ranks of the station's local subscribers had increased to almost 1500.

In inviting the public to Sunday's brunch Kaza observed, "we feel so much that we're part of the community when we're on the air. But our audience is invisible. It will be nice to make it a reality."



TOP — Programmers Roberto Johansson and Devra Miller are surrounded by the record library in KUSP's new air room.

ABOVE — Newsman Dave Hack works at the 16-channel mixer.