

# Let the sun shine in!

By RICK WOOD  
Staff Reporter

The renovation of this Kayak Estates home can be summed up in a song made famous in the 1969 musical "Hair."

Dave Pelletier and Pearl Schaar, of Pelletier + Schaar architectural firm, used several design elements to transform a dark den into an open vista to sublimely let the sun shine in.

"The owners were interested in creating an indoor-outdoor space that could take advantage of the views and the sunny-exposure side of the property," said Pelletier, the project's lead designer. "They also enjoy spending time outside working on landscaping projects and entertaining friends and family."

The emphasis of the addition was to create a place that felt like a stage to nature, he said.

Although it was part of a development, the property is fairly large, about five acres, and it is bordered by a greenbelt. Most of the property is situated behind the house and oriented to the south.

The original house was a two-story daylight basement home that totaled 3,441 square feet.

The addition of a 615-square-foot sunroom and a 1,393-square-foot connected patio on an existing late 1990s home helps to bathe the home in natural light.

"Although well built and in good condition, the original house didn't have a strong connection to outdoor spaces," said Pelletier. "In addition, there were no outdoor covered spaces around the home where you could enjoy the outdoors year-round."

Now, in sunny weather, the new sunroom is bathed in light through large skylights and 24-foot-wide glass wall doors — floor-to-ceiling glass wall panels manufactured by Nana Wall Systems, Inc. — that can be fully opened to the south.

When opened, the home becomes connected to the extended raised, stained concrete patio space beyond, he said.

"In cooler weather, the Nana wall can be closed, sealing you off from the elements, while still providing views and sunlight," Pelletier said.

Pelletier included components that kept the project green-minded, such as the in-floor heating, which is more efficient to heat with and provides better indoor air quality.

Another green function is creating a stronger connection to views and daylight.

These qualities add to the feeling of health and wellness in the home, said Pelletier.

"Going green (means) keeping things local," said Pelletier.

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PHOTO BY PELLETIER + SCHAAR

The added skylights and glass wall doors create an elegant and inviting sunroom.



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Prior to the remodel, the backyard left little to the imagination.

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