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## Newest Vision Partners work to preserve wetlands and native vegetation



*Bryan Lendry, President of Brylen Homes and Mike Antonopoulos, President of MCS Development stand in front of a home under construction in Istoria. The property is designed to preserve much of the undisturbed vegetation cover and be harmonious with the natural beauty surrounding it.*

It is exciting when you happen on a development that strives to make a community more than just another subdivision.

Istoria is located just north of St. Augustine, Florida, off U.S. 1, on the shores of Casa Cola Creek. Mike Antonopoulos, developer of the community, specializes in preserving the environment and utilizing the attributes of nature in planning communities. This design ethics founded an instant partnership with Bryan Lendry of Brylen Homes, who is building the homes.

What makes the project so special is the commitment to preserve the vegetative cover consisting of indigenous species and desire to maintain the expansive view of the Tolomato River.

Istoria considers the sensitive conservation lands adjacent to the development and incorporates the principles of

Xeriscape landscaping, using plants that thrive with little or no irrigation. The theme is designed to reinforce, enhance and celebrate the natural systems by establishing a harmonious and consistent flow of natural landscaping throughout the community.

When determining the best site development plan, consideration is given to access, solar orientation, shade patterns, existing vegetation, soils, topography, drainage, utilities, building restriction lines and relationships of indoor and outdoor use.

Bryan and Mike are excited at becoming partners with St. Johns Vision, noting that they are meeting strategy III. Infrastructure, B. Environment, 6, 7 and 10 by using "Florida Friendly Landscaping, renewable energy resources, and preserving wildlife habitats.