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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1996

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GETTING GREENER THUMBS: Christine Cole of Tuitman's Garden Centre, left, gives a few tips on indoor plant care to Rockwood Garden Club members Jean Martin and Eunice Harding at last Wednesday's meeting at the Town Hall. (Eve Martin photo)

McIntyre may re-open Bowstring Bridge debate

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK

The Rockwood Miller

If the Friends of Eden Mills will pay the total cost of a condition survey on the Bowstring Bridge in Eden Mills, then Rockwood Councillor Cathy McIntyre will vote to re-open debate on the future of the heritage bridge that is slated for replacement.

At a recent Eramosa Township Council meeting Councillor Mark Thomsen withdrew a notice of motion asking for reconsideration of the condition survey issue because McIntyre was absent. Her vote is necessary to bring the issue back to the table.

In an interview Thursday,

McIntyre said Reeve Rick Hughes approached her and asked if she would reconsider her vote against the condition study if the village residents would pay to the total cost. The Friends of Eden Mills have offered to pay half of the study costs.

"I'll vote to re-consider the question but I don't know how I would vote on the issue itself," McIntyre explained.

"I have to go back and read through all of my literature and information again, but I'm open-minded and I'm open to re-consideration."

Thomsen is not sure if he will re-table the motion, but continues to argue that the

condition survey would go a long way to resolving one of the toughest issues council has faced.

"The majority of Eden Mills residents want to save a heritage bridge on a heritage river and they'll do whatever it takes to rehabilitate that structure," Thomsen said in a recent interview.

"That's their promise - I don't think it's a threat - it's what they feel at heart, that they will try everything and anything, legally, to rehabilitate that bridge."

Township Council has been debating the future of the aging bridge for several

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