



## Garden tour spotlights Upper Keys properties



### Key Largo club hosts 24th annual event

*"The kiss of the sun for pardon,  
the song of the bird for mirth,  
one is nearer God's heart in a garden  
than anywhere else on earth."*

— Dorothy Frances Gurney

By KEVIN WADLOW  
Keynotes Staff Writer

Garden gates open on an array of greenery choices and designs during Garden Walk 2000, staged Friday by the Upper Keys Garden Club.

The 24th annual Upper Keys tour spotlights six unique gardens nominated to the club's selection committee.

"These are homes that peo-

ets that list the featured gardens and provides a map to the six stops on a 16-mile area between mile markers 104 and 89. "The walk allows both residents and visitors to see behind the walls of six beautiful gardens in the Upper Keys," the club said in a prepared statement.

Those on the tour must provide their own transportation, although they can visit the gardens in any order they choose between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Friday. The owners or a garden-club member will be on hand to point out the garden's special features.

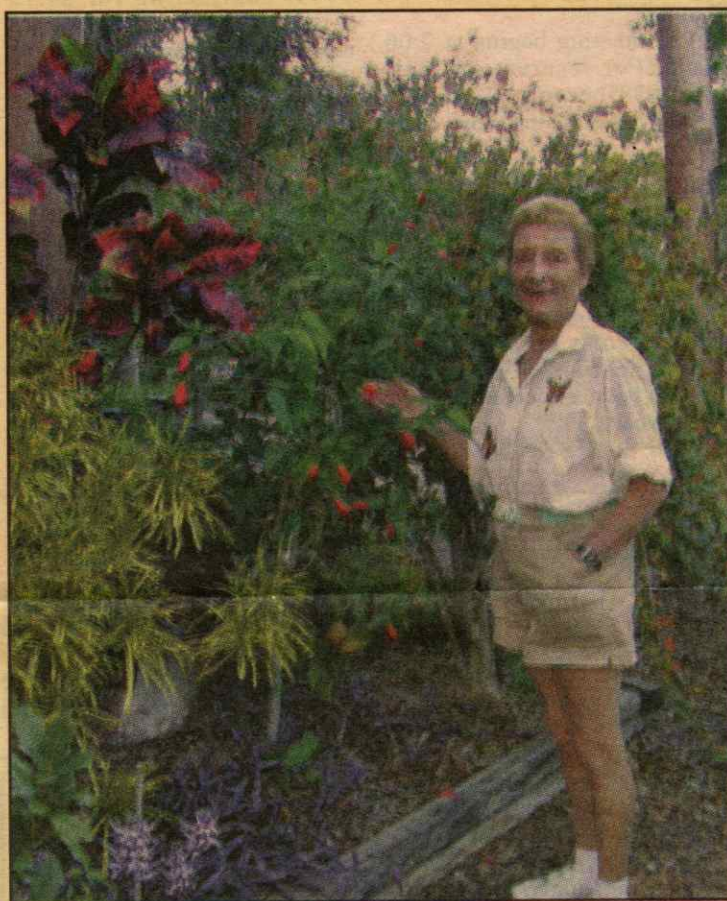
Advance tickets are \$8; tickets sold on Friday will be \$10. A light tea luncheon will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Frances Tracy Garden Club Center at mile marker 94. Proceeds will be used for beautification efforts and to send a student to Junior Gardener camp.

Garden owners selected for the tour this year:

✿ Diane Loveland, who designed and planted her own garden at her oceanside home off mile marker 104. A large bougainvillea dominates the carefully chosen plantings.

✿ Fran Twitchell, noted for her attention for documenting and marking the many plants found at her oceanside home off mile marker 102. A vanilla-bean orchid is among the orchids in a special enclosure. "It's a very interesting mix of plants, including some rare rarities from the Caribbean," said Cullin.

✿ Jeff and Brenda Braun, for the attention they lavished on landscaping their Plantation Key front yard, off



Keynotes photo by KEVIN WADLOW

Fran Twitchell inspects her Key Largo garden in preparation for visitors during Friday's annual Garden Walk 2000, hosted by the Upper Keys Garden Club. Twitchell's home is one of six stops on the year 2000 tour.

✿ Linda Barrett shows what can be done when starting largely from scratch at a newly purchased home, on the bayside on Plantation Key. A garden gate invites strollers into the Keys-sized landscaped lot that overlooks a canal.

✿ Nancy and Chuck Ellsworth, for planting a variety of palms in the front yard of their Plantation Key home

new plantings with mature growths on a large lot on Plantation Key. Roses, difficult to grow in the Keys, are among surprises found along a walking path.

Advance tickets are available at the Book Nook in Key Largo, at Four Winds in Islamorada, or from Garden Club members. On the day of the tour, purchase tickets



The brilliant flower of a tropical plant provides a flash of color in a featured garden on Friday's Garden Walk 2000 in the Upper Keys.

ple have told us would be good for the tour," said event co-chairwoman Patricia Cullin. "There's a real range of ideas."