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ON THE TOWN

Stories by Kathi Aitken, *The Hamilton Spectator*

A celebration of courage

The organ and tissue donation awareness committee of The Kidney Foundation of Canada, Hamilton chapter held the 5th annual Celebration of Courage April 24 at the Royal Botanical Gardens. "This is a special time to honour the courage of donor families, recipients, medical professionals and those still on the waiting list," said Brenda Palmer, chair, organ donor awareness committee, Hamilton and district chapter. There are 211 people waiting for kidney transplants at St. Joseph's Hospital. In 1999, 51 transplants were performed down from 73 in 1998. Kidney disease ranks sixth among diseases causing death in Canada.



Sharing a laugh at the Celebration of Courage held at the Royal Botanical Gardens are from left to right: donor mother Brenda Palmer of Burlington, double lung transplant recipient Scott Young of Sudbury, kidney recipient Elaine Hayter of Sarnia and liver transplant recipient Brenda Szabo of Hamilton.