

Portraits of Giving showcases King residents

By Mark Pavilons

Showcasing people who give back is the theme behind the 'Portraits of Giving' exhibition.

The 6th annual Portraits of Giving were unveiled in May, revealing outstanding York residents who give back to their community and show good character while doing it.

The exhibition will be at the King Township Museum now through July 24.

Karen Merk, of Merk Photography, has once again captured each participant in a unique way, showcasing each person's individual way of giving back. You know someone has talent when they can take a photo which include tin cans, and make it into a piece of art, and Karen did just that.

Each portrait tells a story and is the inspiration to the written stories by Melony Teague which are in the accompanying 2015 Portraits of Giving Book. A limited edition of the book is now available.

This year, there are two honourees from King Township, who are two men, both well known in the community for their philanthropy. They include Dalt Hicks of the Cardinal Golf Club, in recognition of his many contributions to the community, particularly to the local hospitals.

The other recipient is Hugh Heron for his work with the Mikey Network.

When commenting on the benefits of giving Dalt said: 'You get a gut feeling about helping. Giving and receiving is the most important thing.'

Heron added: 'You cannot measure the benefits of giving back. Someone who gives back can be trusted.'

Merk said the collection is a combination of environmental portraits with short biographies for the actual exhibit that will be on display at the museum. Longer bios are included in the book. The bios include how and why they have given back and the locations of the portraits relate to and inspire the stories of giving back

When the exhibit wraps up at the Museum, it will then travel throughout York until November.