

For Immediate Release
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Melrose YMCA Has Two New Board Members

Local residents Elisabeth Heimlich and Reverend Donald Tye have recently been elected to the Board of the Melrose YMCA.

A resident of Hyde Park, Elisabeth can be found three mornings every week in Melrose's swimming pool. Since an automobile accident, water exercise has been an important part of her therapy, helping her maintain muscle tone and good circulation. She credits Robbie Garvin, a branch life guard for showing her how to do strokes correctly.

"This is such a friendly place to come to," she said of Melrose. "I like the respectful way members are treated. It's wonderful to have someone greet you by your name."

In a few months, the YMCA had grown so important to her that she asked if she could become a Board member. Elisabeth didn't waste any time putting her journalism, fund raising and political experience to use as a member of the Major Donor Committee.

"I want to do whatever I can to ensure the branch remains an integral part of the community," she said.

Reverend Tye has been a branch member since the 1980s, and shares a commitment with Elisabeth in wanting to do whatever he can to help an organization that gives back in so many ways.

"Our community needs a place like the YMCA where people of different social, ethnic and religious backgrounds can meet and form relationships beyond differences. At Melrose, everyone is either interested in working out or fellowship or both," he said.

His background as a political volunteer, a minister, and a 32nd degree Mason who is head of three lodges is helping the Melrose YMCA in many capacities.

"Melrose has such a rich history," he added. "I enjoy doing whatever I can."

The Melrose YMCA is located at 2840 Melrose Avenue in Walnut Hills. For information on programs and membership, the public can call 513-961-3510.

With more than 83,000 members across the Tri-State, the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati has grown to operate 111 program child care, CincyAfterSchool, and 21st Century Community Learning sites in addition to its 17 branches and summer camp locations. The Association is the largest non-governmental, non-profit community services organization in this area that is committed to helping everyone reach their God-given potential in spirit, mind, and body –

regardless of their ability to pay. Each year tens of thousands of people from children to seniors are able to participate in YMCA programs and services because of financial assistance, including health and wellness, active older adult programs, youth and teen camp, swimming and water safety lessons , teen achievers, college readiness, and job preparedness. In 2007, nearly 10,000 kids participated with YMCA scholarships.

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