

Vintage Center for Active Adults turns 50



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The Vintage Center for Active Adults is the ripe old age of 50. Celebrating the anniversary Thursday night were more than 100 guests and board members.

"We are one of the premier community centers for adults ages 60 and older and they come here to get healthy in body and mind, " said a smiling Heather Sedlacko, executive director.

"We have a very vibrant line dancing community here, painting classes, a choir, a writing class, bridge and mahjong groups, tai chi, pilates and more," she said.

The East Liberty center was founded by the late Mimi

Bitzer, Donna
Holland
and Melinda Beard.
Beard's husband,
Philip, and son,
Beau, came to honor
their memories and
celebrate the
longevity of the
center.

Vintage is part of the FamilyLinks brand and is one of only 250 senior centers in the country accredited by the National Institute of Senior Centers after only 20 years. It costs seniors just \$25 a year to join and there is a free lunch every day thanks to Allegheny County.

"This is the best senior center in Allegheny County, with over 1,000 people served last year," noted Stacey Vaccaro, FamilyLinks CEO.

The wine and tapas evening included live music by the Jimmy Z Trio. Guests unfamiliar with the space were encouraged to explore two state-ofthe-art exercise rooms, a pool room, several card rooms, a very homey television room and the new Ann Truxell Technology Center, where seniors can get one-on-one instructions on navigating the internet. It was named in honor of the longtime executive director.

"We are very proud to be here 50 years

and it is a testament to our board, our staff and the people



who come here and make it a special place every day," Sedlacko said.

Among the
celebrants were
Dottie and John
Bechtol, John
Lovelace, Gloria
Hardy, Ann Truxell
with Bob Nelkin,
Bobbi Watt Geer,
Angela Broussard
and Shannah Tharp
Gilliam.

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