



# AIM HIGHLIGHTS

## Villa Saturday Session at Great Rivers Museum and World Bird Sanctuary

*By Jim Jordan, Director of Programs*

On Saturday, January 9, twenty-five Achievers from Villa demonstrated they were true explorers by coming out in the rain and snow to visit the flooded Mississippi River in Alton, Illinois. We visited the National Great Rivers Museum, operated by the Army Corp of Engineers. The entire group went to the top of the lock and dam, which was the first day it reopened because of the flooding in early January. It was spectacular to see the surrounding landscape covered in water and to see a barge slowly approach the lock on its journey upriver. Later on, some of the



students confided that it was scary to walk out to the center of the lock. But everyone helped and encouraged each other in true Aim High spirit.

The museum was fun as we explored interactive exhibits, including a simulation where you piloted a barge down the river.

We ended our morning by visiting Liberty, a mature bald eagle from the World Bird Sanctuary (WBS). It was cool to be five feet from our nation's symbol of freedom and to learn from the handler from WBS. Well Done Achievers, we are proud of your adventurous spirit and willingness to explore.

## Save the Date

Aim High is celebrating 25 years! Our annual Luminosity celebration will be Thursday, April 28th at Barnett on Washington. The festivities will take place from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and there will be a VIP reception from 6:00-6:30 p.m. In honor of our 25th anniversary, we will be recognizing our founders, Ellen Mocerri, Richard Sandler and Keith Shahan as well as our generous founding donors.

Luminosity is a unique event that brings business and community leaders together for a special evening. We are heavy on fun and light on formalities. Guests will enjoy a lavish cocktail party with fantastic food stations and have the opportunity to mingle without the stiffness of a formal, seated dinner.

We are thrilled to welcome Brian Owens and the Deacons of Soul who will be performing at the event.

[CLICK HERE](#) to get your tickets today.

For more information or sponsorship opportunities, contact Natalie Hartwig at (314) 432-9500 ext. 1002.



## Y.O.P. TAX CREDITS STILL AVAILABLE

If you are looking for an added tax incentive, Aim High still has Y.O.P. tax credits which enable you to receive a 50% tax credit on top of your normal deduction. Click [HERE](#) to make a gift to Aim High.

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