

Found! The ivory-billed woodpecker, long thought to be extinct

The ivory-billed woodpecker was thought to be extinct, with the last confirmed sighting in the United States occurring nearly 60 years ago. But in

February 2004 the bird's story was brought back to life with a sighting in the swamplands of Arkansas. Hear a detailed account of the rediscovery of this

majestic bird from Gene Sparling, the naturalist who first spotted it, and Phillip Hoose, author of The Race to Save the Lord God Bird, at the Oregon

Zoo's Kalahari Banquet Center on Wednesday, October 26, at 7:00 p.m.

"This is a remarkable story and one that we are privileged to have shared at the Oregon Zoo," said Tony Vecchio, zoo director. "When you realize that this bird was thought to be extinct for more than half a century, its rediscovery is a truly incredible event."

Sparling's sighting of the ivory-billed woodpecker in the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge in Arkansas led to an extensive, yearlong scientific search for the bird by the Big Woods Conservation partnership, led by the Nature Conservancy and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Since the search began, seven credible sightings, along with other evidence, have convinced scientists that the ivory-billed wood-

pecker resides in the Big Woods swampland forest of Arkansas.

The lecture is sponsored by the Backyard Bird Shop and is being presented by the Oregon Zoo, Audubon Society of Portland, World Forestry Center and The Nature Conservancy.

Tickets for the lecture are \$11 (\$9 for members of sponsor organizations, students, and seniors). Tickets are available at the Oregon Zoo by calling 503-226-1561, or by visiting <www.oregonzoo.org>.

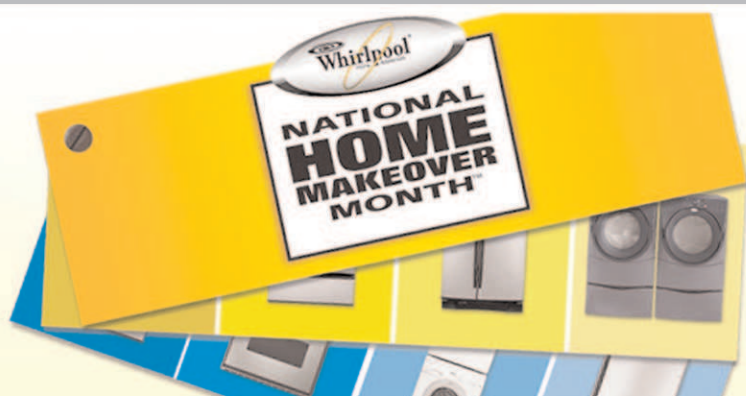
The zoo opens at 9:00 a.m. daily and is located just off Highway 26. The zoo is also accessible by MAX light rail line. General admission is \$9.50 (12-64), seniors \$8 (65+), children \$6.50 (3-11), and infants two and under are free. A parking fee of \$1 per car is also required.



Artist's depiction of an ivory-billed woodpecker.



This year the Homecoming celebration on October 13 included two bonfires, plus a car bashing. More on page 11.



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