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White Tiger gets new pool, fun exhibit space

ABILENE, TEXAS –This Friday, Aug. 29, the Abilene Zoo’s white tiger – Havar -- will get to explore a newly remodeled exhibit space – designed just for his enrichment.

Zoo Director Bill Gersonde says improvements include a new larger pool for the large cat to play, a cave to provide additional shade, and new landscaping both in and around the exhibit.

Guests are encouraged to come see how Havar takes to his new surroundings, which have been in the works for most of the summer.

“We hoped to be able to put Havar into his new home in early August. He’s a popular animal,” Gersonde said. “Construction delays set us back a couple of weeks, but we’re pleased with the results.”

During renovations Havar has been housed in a large area at the zoo’s quarantine facility.

Gersonde said he is proud of the work completed by zoo staff, who handled all of the construction and landscaping – including pouring the cement for the new, big pool.

Another of the zoo’s popular summer animals, the Ghost of the Bayou albino alligator, will still be on exhibit, so now is a great time to catch Havar exploring his new space, as well as catch a glimpse of the albino alligator before she heads back home to Florida.

About the Abilene Zoo: The Abilene Zoo is home to more than 900 animals from 250 species. The Zoo offers many educational programs and kid’s activities, including camps, birthday parties and Behind the Scenes Tours.

The Abilene Zoo is open 7 days a week (closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day) from 9 am to 5 pm. Last admittance is 4:30 pm. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$3.50 for children ages 3-12, \$5 for seniors aged 60+. Members are admitted free. Memberships start at \$30. www.abilenezoo.org. 325-676-6085.

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