



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

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SUMMER VISITING ANIMAL EXHIBIT AT ZOO WILL FEATURE MALE WHITE TIGER

County Executive **Maggie Brooks** today announced that Monroe County's Seneca Park Zoo will be the temporary home for one male white tiger, throughout the summer. In announcing the Zoo's 2009 visiting summer animal, earlier this year, two white tigers had been identified for the exhibit.

*"We have been notified that the female white tiger, which we had expected to accompany the male white tiger, is pregnant and unable to travel," said **Brooks**. "We know that the white tiger visiting exhibit has been eagerly anticipated by area residents of all ages, ever since it was announced. The exhibit will still open as scheduled, with one tiger instead of two."*

Given the community excitement associated with the white tiger exhibit, cancellation was ruled out. Additionally, there would not be enough time to locate another compatible pair of white tigers, without jeopardizing the exhibit's planned opening, in time for Memorial Day Weekend.

Brooks also noted, *"As a precaution, the male white tiger would be separated from the female, due to her pregnancy. Rather than spending the summer in isolation, he will be able to enjoy the company of thousands of Seneca Park Zoo visitors, week after week. I know that our community will provide this majestic animal with an enthusiastic reception, throughout his stay with us."*

The highly successful visiting summer animal program, provides the public an opportunity to view an animal not normally on display at Seneca Park Zoo. White tigers last visited in 2000, garnering record attendance for the Zoo. This summer will be the eleventh year of the program, which has also previously brought in lions, bears, baboons, giraffes, warthogs, rhinoceroses and frogs.

Plans remain for the white tiger exhibit to run from Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day.

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