

## **PRESS RELEASE**

St. Joseph County Public Library  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **SJCPL Announces Change to Movie Rental Program**

South Bend—Beginning Monday, July 9, 2007, patrons checking out movies—in either DVD or VHS format—at all St. Joseph County Public Library (SJCPL) locations will have a new way to pay for their rentals under a new program announced by SJCPL.

Currently, patrons throughout the system check out movies for a period of three days and pay \$0.75 (75 cents) per title. If the movie isn't returned to an SJCPL location within the three days, a fee of \$1.00 per day per title is assessed. Patrons are required to pay the rental fees when they check out the movies, and if their library card accounts exceed \$10.00 in accrued fines, they cannot rent movies until the accrued balance is brought under that amount.

Under the new program, which has been tested at the Roger B. Francis Branch for the past two months, SJCPL patrons may check out movies without having to pay anything up front. Rather, their library card accounts will be assessed a fee of \$0.25 per title per day for up to four days, beginning (and including) the day they check out the movies; the sooner they return the movies, the less they will owe. The maximum amount chargeable on all SJCPL card accounts has been raised to \$10.00, which means an individual patron could rent as many as 40 movies before having to pay anything (assuming one night per movie and no late fees). All current late fees continue to apply, and patrons whose card accounts exceed the \$10.00 maximum will not be permitted to borrow any library materials until their account is brought under that amount.

Fliers explaining the program in detail are available at all SJCPL locations, and SJCPL staff will be glad to explain the new rental fee structure to any patrons who have questions.

SJCPL will continue its policy of not charging rental fees for children's and nonfiction movies.

The St. Joseph County Public Library, founded in 1888, is located at 304 South Main Street, South Bend, and has eight branches and a Readmobile serving the residents of St. Joseph County. For more information, visit our website at [www.libraryforlife.org](http://www.libraryforlife.org).

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