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Spring 2006

RBC LIBRARY TO UNDERGO EXTENSIVE RENOVATION

On May 22, 2006, the Library staff will relocate to the Library Annex located on the second floor of Statesman Hall. The renovation is expected to be completed within 18 months. The Library Annex is not accessible by elevator; therefore, physically impaired patrons unable to use the stairs may call 862-6226/6227/6228 to request assistance. We will be glad to assist all students, faculty, staff and community patrons.

The library staff will continue to provide resources and services for the campus. Many library resources are available online from the library web page (<http://www.rbc.edu/library>). The collection includes over 47,000 electronic books accessible through LION, the online catalog. We will have a core collection of 1,000 books as well as DVDs, videos, newspapers and magazines/periodicals. Any curriculum materials needed will be obtained through interlibrary loan. We will also provide 2 computers for student research as well as a photocopier.

First-floor computer labs in Ernst Hall and the Humanities and Social Sciences Building can also be used to access resources and request library services.

Renovation Beginning...Caution!!!
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FRIENDS OF RICHARD BLAND COLLEGE WIN FOLUSA/BAKER & TAYLOR AWARD

The @ your library® award in the amount of \$2,000 was awarded to the Friends of Richard Bland College Library in San Antonio, Texas at the American Library Association Mid-Winter Meeting on January 23, 2006. In addition to the check, a certificate and an engraved clock were presented to the Friends. Connie McCarthy, Dean of University Libraries at The College of William and Mary accepted the award for the Friends.

The award was presented by FOLUSA (FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES U.S.A.) and Baker & Taylor in conjunction with ALA to recognize creative use of the @ your library® brand. Since 2001, the Richard Bland College Library has been incorporating the American Library Association's @ your library® slogan in its marketing plan. The Friends also incorporated the use of the campaign slogan in marketing their activities. By using ALA's @ your library® slogan, the Friends have found an easy and effective way to market their activities to the campus as well as the local community. The group uses the campaign materials for promoting their book sales, guest speakers, auctions, and by displaying it on their membership brochure, promotional posters, flyers, bookmarks, and library web pages. The Friends' continuous use of the slogan has increased awareness and support of the library. The many Friends fund-raising activities have made it possible for the library to purchase library materials, furniture, and equipment as well as bring guest authors to the campus. Use of @ your library® has helped make the library the most visible and exciting location on campus!



Dr. LeAnn Binger, President, Friends of RBC Library

DEDICATION OF GRAVESITE OF RICHARD BLAND



On October 23, 2005, a crisp and sunny autumn afternoon, descendants, county and Richard Bland College officials and friends gathered to honor the accomplishments of Richard Bland, a Revolutionary Patriot.

Richard Bland (1710-1776) of Berkley and Jordan's Point, Virginia attended the College of William and Mary and served as justice of the peace in Prince George County, was a colonel in the militia, studied law, was admitted to the Virginia bar in 1746, and served as a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses from 1742-1775.

Dr. James B. McNeer, President, Richard Bland College, read portions of a biography of Richard Bland. "He believed God endowed man with basic civil rights," McNeer said and "when government continually violates those natural rights it is remedied only by revolution." Richard Bland was one of the authors of the first constitution of Virginia. His inquiry into the rights of the British colonies is the earliest published defense of the colonial attitude in regard to taxation.

In a cooperative rededication of the cemetery attended by over 100 people, The Friends of Richard Bland College Library, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Commonwealth of Virginia joined together to honor and remember Richard Bland, a forgotten patriot.

Dr. LeAnn Binger, president of The Friends of Richard Bland College Library talked about his literary accomplishments and presented the FOLUSA Literary Landmark. Carole Summerville, past president of the Friends of Richard Bland College Library laid a wreath at the literary landmark that was made of native Dogwood blossoms and ivy.

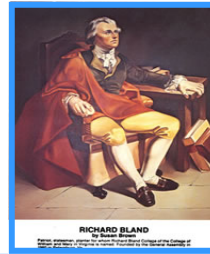
The Frances Bland Randolph Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution rededicated their refurbished marker originally placed in the Bland Cemetery in 1972. Remarks of the rededicated marker were given by Pat Mayer, State Regent of the Virginia DAR.

A Virginia Historical Highway Marker by the Department of Historic Resources of the Commonwealth of Virginia was presented by Scott Arnold, Director. The highway marker was unveiled by Robert Bland, a seventh-generation descendant of Richard Bland and other Bland descendants.

The ceremony began with the Presentation of the Colors by the JROTC of Prince George High School. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by The Honorable Riley E. Ingram of the Virginia General Assembly. The Petersburg Festival Chorus, the resident chorus of Richard Bland College, led in the National Anthem. The solemn and stirring ceremony ended with the Retiring of the Colors and Taps.



Food for Thought
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Richard Bland
Political pamphleteer
Constitutional historian
Scholar
Attorney and
Public servant
Championed public rights
Represented Virginia in the First and Second Continental Congresses
and in all five of Virginia's Revolutionary Conventions

