



DID YOU KNOW?

- The price Richard Allen paid for his own emancipation was \$2,000 in Continental money.
- St. George's Methodist Church, where Richard Allen worshipped before leaving to found the AME movement, is the oldest Methodist church in continuous use in the United States.
- Richard Allen was one of the main founders of the Free African Society, a charitable organization that came to the aid of freed slaves as well as others including those falling ill in the great yellow fever epidemic of Philadelphia in 1793.
- The tomb of Richard Allen and his wife, Sarah, along with the original anvil pulpit and other historical artifacts are displayed at the Richard Allen Museum at the Mother Bethel AME Church in Philadelphia.
- Elizabeth Blackwell was born in England and came to America aboard the *Cosmo* in 1832 to flee an outbreak of cholera. Unfortunately, the disease followed the ship's passengers, as many grew sick with the disease. Thankfully, Blackwell and her family arrived in America in good health.
- Geneva, New York, the home of Elizabeth Blackwell, is the self-proclaimed "Lake Trout Capital of the World."
- One of Elizabeth Blackwell's good friends was Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.
- Elizabeth Blackwell's father, who owned a sugar refinery, opposed slavery. As a child, Elizabeth remembered hiding a young slave in her home until the girl could find safe passage to England.
- Elizabeth Blackwell was rejected by twenty-eight colleges before finally being accepted as a medical student at the Geneva School of Medicine.

- The spirit of justice ran through the Blackwell family. Elizabeth's brother Henry married famed women's rights pioneer Lucy Stone and her brother Sam married Antoinette Brown, the first woman in America to become an ordained minister.
- The John Parker Museum is located in Ripley, Ohio. Within view of the historic site is Old Man Shrofe's homestead just across the river. The exterior of the actual Shrofe homestead, with its red tiled roof, can be seen in the film. Ironically, the interior of the Shrofe house in the film is actually the inside of the John Parker House.
- An opera titled "Rise for Freedom" based on the life of John Parker debuted in Cincinnati in October, 2007.
- Panoramic views of the Ohio River featured in the segment on John Parker were filmed at the John Rankin House, also located in Ripley, Ohio.
- Sheyann Webb's mother, who sewed shirts for the Selma Apparel Company, warned Sheyann that missing school, even as a third grader, could affect her ability to get a good job someday.
- The story of Sheyann Webb and Rachel West was featured in the 1999 movie *Selma, Lord Selma*, based on the memoir of the same name.
- Before the civil rights movement in Selma, African Americans were only allowed to register to vote two days out of each month, and before the right was granted, they would have to pass a very difficult literacy test.
- Dr. King commemorated the completion of the Selma to Montgomery march by giving a speech on March 25, 1965 near the steps of the Alabama capitol. Dr. King stated, "Selma, Alabama, became a shining moment in the conscience of man. If the worst in American life lurked in its dark streets, the best of American instincts rose passionately from across the nation to overcome it."
- At the time of Judge Frank Johnson's birth, a doctor normally charged ten dollars to deliver a baby. However since Frank Sr. was in the arm, the doctor gave him a fifty percent discount, to which Frank Sr. later told his son that it was "the best five-dollar investment I ever made."
- Frank Johnson, Jr. met his wife, Ruth, at the University of Alabama where he studied law. The couple was married for sixty-one years.
- Along with Frank Johnson, Jr., other famous recipients of the Presidential Medal of Freedom include Pope John Paul II, John Wayne, Rosa Parks Walt Disney, and Roberto Clemente.