



Meet 'Jimi'!



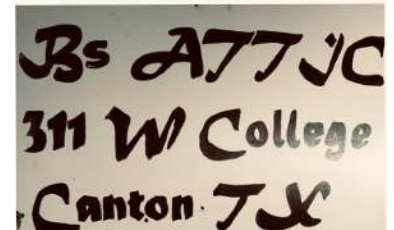
We get to meet a lot of fascinating people doing this job. Over the years, we have helped many talented, smart, and downright cool people. We have come across some famous individuals, some super-secret ones, and a whole lot of incredibly interesting people.

One such example is the mother/daughter duo Barbara Thomas and Rhonda Henry. When you walk into our office and turn the first corner, you will see the green and black painting of one of the greatest and most influential guitarists ever: Mr. Jimi Hendrix. A good 99% of the people that turn the corner and see this painting ask about it. After all, it's probably not what you would expect to see in most law offices.

I love it when people ask because I get to tell them about two amazing women: Ms. Barbara and Ms. Rhonda. These two are the type who you can sit across from for hours just listening to their stories — and trust me, I have had the pleasure of doing so!

Ms. Barbara is the adventurous type. She used to work for the Texas A&M system, opening community centers on the Texas/Mexico border. She was also the first female post office worker to have a walking route back before mailboxes were on the street. Ms. Rhonda served in the Army as an NBC warfare specialist, obtained an art degree, and then served as a police officer, during which she was named Houston's 100 club rookie of the year!

During one of our talks, we got on the subject of guitars. Rhonda loves guitars and collects them, especially the older models. I told her that I loved guitars and was learning to play myself. After we were able to resolve both of their cases, the ladies came up to Frisco so we could sign some final paperwork. It was at this meeting that Rhonda gave me "Jimi," which she had painted, and said, "Every guitar player needs a Jimi Hendrix!" We all love being able to display this art piece in a way that allows us to talk about these two amazing ladies so often.



Rhonda isn't the only artist in the family, as Barbara is a master with glass and several other art forms. These two ladies still send me pics of their artwork, and it is amazing. They are from the Canton area,

and you can find them at B's Attic on 311 W College St., Canton, TX, or you can see more of Rhonda's work on Facebook by simply searching @rahmccarthy. It's definitely worth checking out!

- Scott Snellings

Is the Hot Toddy Indian or Irish?

A Closer Look at Our Favorite Winter Warmer

Jan. 11 is National Hot Toddy Day, but how much do you really know about this popular winter drink? Though the word “toddy” sounds British to American ears, it actually has a contested history split between two entirely different countries: India and Ireland.

The Indian Affair: How the British Stole the ‘Taddy’

Today’s hot toddy is a steaming blend of whiskey, tea, honey, and lemon. But back in the early 1600s, it may have had different ingredients. According to VinePair.com, around that time, a popular drink called the “taddy” existed in British-controlled India. Originally, the Hindi word “taddy” described a beverage made with fermented palm sap, but a written account from 1786 revealed that the ingredients had evolved to include alcohol, hot water, sugar, and spices. The British swiped the idea of a “taddy” and brought it home to England. Legend has it that in northern England’s cozy pubs, the “taddy” became the “toddy.”

The Irish Account: Dr. Todd’s Boozey Cure-All

The Indians and the British aren’t the only ones who’ve claimed the toddy: The Irish have a stake, too. As the story goes, once upon a time in Ireland, there lived a doctor named Robert Bentley Todd. His signature cure-all was a combination of hot brandy, cinnamon, and sugar water, and it was so well-known (and tasty) that eventually, his patients named the drink in his honor.



How to Make a Modern Hot Toddy

We may never know the true origin story of the hot toddy, but VinePair.com speculates that it’s somewhere in the middle of the two accounts. Either

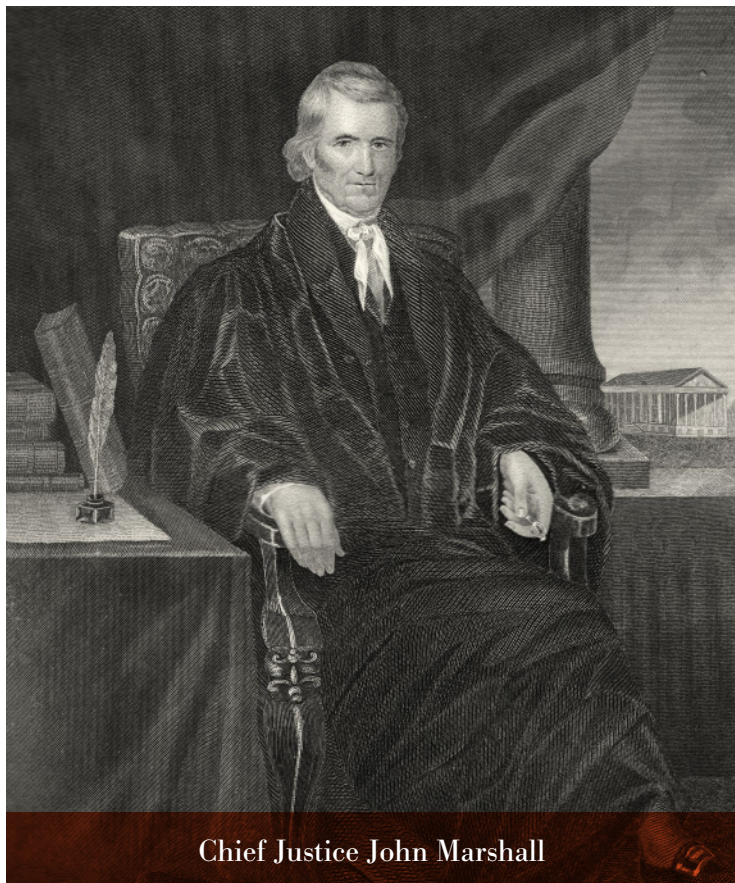
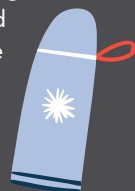
way, the results are delicious and easy to replicate in your own kitchen. If you could use a pick-me-up, try this recipe inspired by CookieAndKate.com.

Ingredients

- 3/4 cup water
- 1 1/2 oz whiskey
- 2 tsp honey (or agave nectar for a vegan version)
- 2 tsp lemon juice
- 1 lemon round
- 1 cinnamon stick

Directions

1. Heat the water in a teapot or the microwave. Pour it into a mug.
2. Add the whiskey, honey, and lemon juice and stir until the honey is dissolved.
3. Garnish with the lemon round and cinnamon stick and enjoy!



Chief Justice John Marshall

... continued from Page 4

This judge-to-be was named William Marbury, and he took his case straight to the U.S. Supreme Court. After hearing the case, Marshall had two options. He could side with Jefferson, even though he believed he was legally wrong, or he could side with Marbury and risk the wrath of the president, who he feared would dissolve the court. In a historic twist, he chose door No. 3.

Digging through the Constitution, Marshall discovered a line that required cases to go through a lower court before coming to the Supreme Court. That made *Marbury v. Madison*, which had come to the Supreme Court directly, out of Marshall’s jurisdiction. It also made the law Marbury had operated under unconstitutional. When Marshall pointed this out, it was the first time the Supreme Court had ever ruled on constitutionality, which set the precedent for its power today. If Marshall hadn’t cared so much about opposing his second cousin in 1803, it’s possible that Judge Barrett’s nomination in 2020 would have been much less contentious.

To learn more about this crazy piece of history, check out “Kitten Kick the Giggly Blue Robot All Summer,” an episode of the podcast “Radiolab.”



TAKE A BREAK



The reality TV show “The Bachelorette” is known for being packed with drama, but last year there was just as much scandal among its contestants off-screen as there was while the cameras were rolling. Late in 2020, not one but two past “Bachelorette” contestants ended up in court.

One of them was Chad Johnson, hailing from the group of hunks who competed for Bachelorette JoJo Fletcher’s attention in season 12. That season aired in 2016, but it wasn’t until two years later that Johnson sued Sunset Studios Entertainment and one of its executives, Cristina Cimino, for sexual harassment, failure to prevent harassment, intentional infliction of emotional distress, fraud by intentional misrepresentation, and wrongful failure to hire in violation of public policy.

According to Deadline, Cimino told Johnson she would help him get movie roles with her studio, but that never happened. Instead, she allegedly lured him into in-person meetings and bombarded him with inappropriate calls and text messages. After years of back-and-forth, the case is finally moving forward. In July 2020, a judge ruled that all of Johnson’s accusations were proven except failure to hire. Upping the drama, Deadline reported that “no attorneys for Cimino or the studio participated in the hearing.”

Meanwhile, another “Bachelorette” contestant, Luke Parker, has been ordered by the court to pay \$100,000 for breach of contract. Parker, who vied for the affection of Hannah Brown in the 2019 season, has allegedly been making media appearances without the consent of the show’s production company, NZK Productions Inc.

Each appearance was a breach of contract, and now he owes the company a pretty penny: \$25,000 per appearance. According to Page Six, Parker might also be on the hook for bad-mouthing the show and/or sharing information about what happened on set — both things his contract forbids.

Hopefully, the 2021 season of “The Bachelorette,” which should air later this year following the postponed 2020 season, will feature less drama than these real-life legal battles.



SLOW COOKER CHICKEN CASSEROLE

Inspired by [GoodHousekeeping.com](https://www.goodhousekeeping.com)

Ingredients

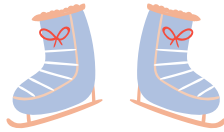
- 8 chicken thighs or drumsticks, lightly salted
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 1 onion, finely sliced
- 2 celery sticks, thickly sliced
- 2 carrots, thickly sliced
- 1 leek, thickly sliced
- 1 lb potatoes, peeled and cut in large chunks
- 2 garlic cloves, sliced
- 14 oz chicken stock
- 1 sprig rosemary
- Finely grated zest and juice of 1/2 lemon
- 1/4 cup fresh parsley, finely chopped



Directions

1. In a large frying pan, heat oil and fry salted chicken on high until brown.
2. Transfer chicken to the slow cooker. Add flour and stir.
3. In the frying pan on high heat, fry the onion, celery, carrots, leeks, and potatoes until lightly browned. Add garlic and fry for 30 seconds.
4. Transfer vegetables to the slow cooker and add the stock, rosemary, and lemon zest.
5. Cook on high for 2.5–3 hours or until chicken is tender.
6. Check seasoning and add lemon juice to taste. Top with parsley before serving.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



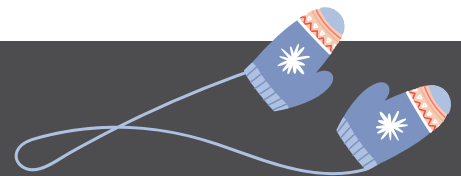
1 Meet Jimi!

2 Is the Hot Toddy Indian or Irish?

3 Slow Cooker Chicken Casserole
'The Bachelorette' Contestants Go to Court

4 The Cousin Rivalry That Gave the Supreme
Court Its Power

A COUSIN RIVALRY GAVE THE SUPREME COURT ITS POWER (YES, REALLY)

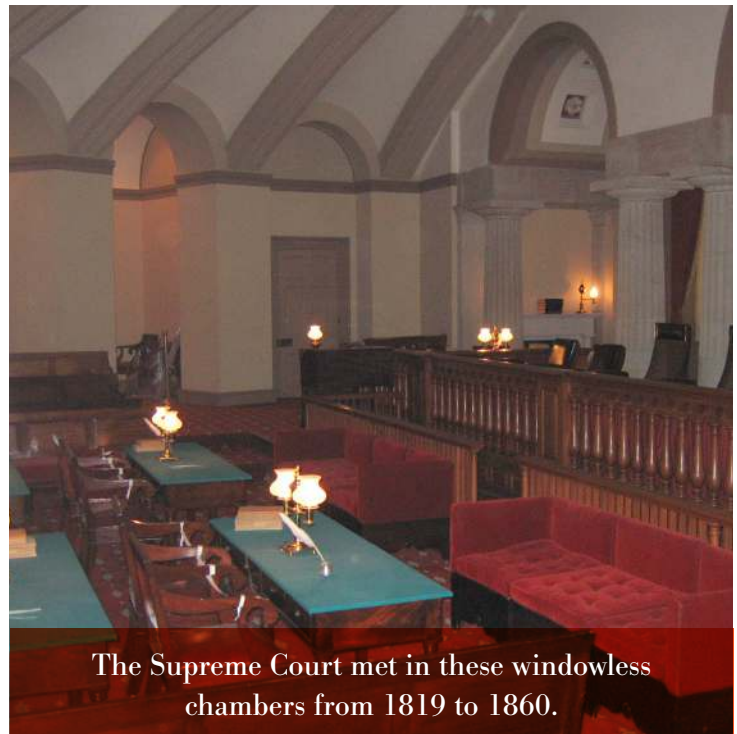


When Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg passed away and Judge Amy Coney Barrett was nominated to take her place, the eyes of the country turned to the U.S. Supreme Court. It's no secret that the court has a lot of power. Its decisions, like *Loving v. Virginia*, *Brown v. Board of Education*, and *Roe v. Wade*, have reshaped America. But how did just nine people come to hold so much sway? Well, the answer lies with two rival second cousins: Thomas Jefferson and John Marshall.

Back in 1803, the Supreme Court was the laughingstock of Washington. It was a collection of misfits (including a man nicknamed "Red Old Bacon Face") and met in Congress' basement. When Marshall was chief justice of the court and Jefferson was president, the cousin controversy reared its head.

Marshall and Jefferson were in rival political parties and, to add insult to injury, Marshall's mother-in-law had once spurned Jefferson's romantic advances, according to Washington legend. In 1803, Jefferson (a Republican) was upset because a judge whom his predecessor, President John Adams (a Federalist), had tried to appoint was suing Jefferson's secretary of state over failing to actually appoint him.

Continued on Page 2 ...



The Supreme Court met in these windowless chambers from 1819 to 1860.