

## Newsletter

## Summer/Fall 2025

### Thomas Page's Relative Visits During Chicken BBQ

**M**abel Correa Reynolds donated a copy of Dr Thomas Page's diary. Her nephew, Fernando Gonzalez Page, who lives in Chile, has the original and made the copy. He sent it with his aunt, who gave it to us at this year's BBQ.

In Mabel's words:

"I would like to explain the relationship of my nephew Fernando to Thomas S Page.

First, I must explain that people in all Spanish speaking countries legally have two last names. That is, the paternal last name followed by the maternal last name. So, my nephew is Fernando González Correa is the son of my sister María Angélica Correa Melossi and Luis Fernando González Page.

Luis Fernando's mother was Lucía ("Lucy") Page Guevara. She is my nephew's (54 yrs old) paternal grandmother. Lucy Page was the daughter of Wilfred Page.

Wilfred was the son of Olof Page who stayed in Chile when his father Dr. Thomas Stokes Page left Chile for Cotati. Olof was also a medical doctor and surgeon in Chile and took on his father Thomas' practice in Valparaíso. Dr Olof became well known having performed the first appendectomy in Chile and South America.

Counting back, my nephew Fernando is then five generations removed from Thomas Page. He is the guardian of Thomas Page's diary written during his voyage to Valparaiso vía England and France."



Mabel Correa Reynolds and her husband on their recent visit.

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## CHS Community Suffers Personal Losses

The greater Cotati community lost two very special people who did so much for the City over the years. We remember Cheryl Nixon and Margie Cassero (next page).

### Cheryl Nixon



Cheryl Nison with her sons Rudy and Randy.

As a longtime Cotati Chamber member and a Board Director for nearly 10 years, Cheryl Nixon brought her prior bar business experience—gained alongside her late husband—to help shape Friar Tuck’s unique personality and style. The business quickly became a popular daytime and evening spot to meet up with friends, take meetings, or enjoy a beer over a game of pool.

Cheryl and her husband Marcus originally opened Friar Tuck’s in 1992 in what is now the Oliver’s shopping center—where a pet store stands today. After Marcus passed away in 2013, Cheryl was committed to continuing the business, becoming the sole proprietor at one point. Friar Tuck’s became the longest woman-owned business in Sonoma County.

Not long after, she relocated the bar to the historic downtown location known as the “Inn of the Beginning,” a legendary hippie-era cabaret of the '60s. Alongside her sons Randy and Rudy, and business partner Sharon Mitchell, Cheryl helped grow Friar Tuck’s into not just a bar and pub, but a friendly local hub—one that served delicious food and a warm sense of home.

During her time with the Chamber, Cheryl was elected President twice and named Businessperson of the Year multiple times.

*Written by: Susan Kashack*

### 2025 Board of Directors

President	Ed Gilardi
Vice President	John Dell’Osso
Secretary	Velma DiMeola
Treasurer	Bobbie Veronda
Conservation/Restoration Consultant	John Allred
Archiving Administrator	Judy Gustafson
Board Member	Vanessa Davenport
Board Member	Val Kingsbury
Board Member	Gary Martin

### The CHS Mission

Our mission is to preserve Cotati history through the acquisition and preservation of artifacts, photos, archives, and other historical materials. We provide resources for visitors and researchers interested in Cotati’s unique past. Our community outreach program enables us to support Cotati-related cultural activities and events and to maintain reciprocal relations.

## Personal Losses (cont'd from page 2)

### Our Magical Margie

Margie Arthur Cassero's intimate knowledge of 1960s -'70s Cotati made her one of our most dynamic docents and walking tour guides. Every CHS activity she volunteered for—initiating a docent social, organizing the barbecue volunteers—had her trademark sparkle.

She loved to talk about her parents' La Plaza Market, where as a teen she organized a labor strike, and the Rexall Drug store, where she kept local secrets.

Fellow tour guide Mike Whitley recalled, "I was blessed to have Margie at my side during our monthly downtown walks, dropping local knowledge like no one's business, of things that only she had experienced. She truly was a local force!"

Founder of the "I Grew Up in Cotati" Facebook page, Margie was also proud of her "Miss Cotati" museum exhibit with the tiara and photos of friend Linda Ingram, the *still reigning* Miss Cotati because there was never another—rather like Margie herself.

She passed away in June at her Coffey Park home, her "dream house" rebuilt after the 2017 fires.

### Margie Arthur Cassero



*Written by: Marie McNaughton*

### Don't Miss Out . . .

On the remaining Historic Walking Tours this season. Upcoming dates are:

September 13 and October 11

Call us at 707-794-0305 to make a reservation for these **free** events. For more information, visit us at [www.CotatiMuseum.org](http://www.CotatiMuseum.org), click on News & Events, then click on CHS Walking Tours Information.



Our wonderful volunteer Marilee Shipman (right) along with a friend and some children who carried our banner, marched in the annual Cotati Kid's Day Parade.



Printed by Minuteman Press



# A Special Thanks

## To Our BBQ Sponsors

Carl's Body Shop, Oliver's Market,  
Ibleto's Bella Sonoma Winery, Recology,  
Full Circle Bakery, Henhouse Brewery,  
Kendall Jackson Winery, Larsen's Feed  
Store, and the City of Cotati



# 2025 BBQ in Pictures

All images on this page © Jim Davis



(from top to bottom) Welcome sign;  
Third Rail Band with Emily Lois; hot  
rods on display; chicken cooked to  
perfection; and crowd enjoying the  
day!







## Calling All Volunteers

We are looking for Museum Docents  
and Research Volunteers

Do you have excellent customer service skills, a passion for your community, and an interest in history? Contact the Cotati Historical Society to learn more and apply to be part of our team!

707-794-0305 or

CotatiMuseum@gmail.com



**What is  
this  
building  
today?**

See the  
answer on  
the back  
page.

Robert and Ethel Clothier purchased this building which had been a garage and Rayburn's Grocery store. They converted it to the Cotati Realty office, the post office, the Greyhound bus ticket station and a branch of the Exchange Bank. It housed many other uses over the years including the Cotati Coop Grocery, Tama Rama's and Super Burger, to name a few.

This picture is circa 1940. Don't you just love those cars?

# Thank You To Our New and Renewing Members and Donors

April 1, 2025 – July 31, 2025

## Individuals and Families

Marie Aggio  
Karen & Theodore Bertolini  
Christopher & Tansy Brooks  
Shathi Chavez  
Todd Coleman  
Martha Cooper  
Velma Di Meola  
Terry Dutra  
Kevin Gruener  
Melissa Hagaman  
Sage Howell  
Stephen Kent Jones  
Barbara & Jake Mackenzie  
Brooke Renna Pang  
Joan Simon  
Janice Wilson  
Carole & Kevin Witt

## Memorial Donations

**Lucy Page (de Gonzalez)**  
by Michael & Mabel Correa Reynolds  
**Edwin James Patterson** by Joan Simon

## Donations

Michele Berman  
Todd Coleman  
Stephen Kent Jones  
Pawel Krzyzanowski  
Anonymous

## 2025 Business Memberships

Church of the Oaks	Cotati Accordion Festival
Evans & De Shazo Inc.	Oliver's Market
Professional Framing Services	Redwood Self Storage
Rancho Adobe Firefighters Assoc.	Sonoma County Library

## Did Ya Hear?

Mark your calendars.  
2026 Chicken BBQ  
will be on Sunday,  
April 19.



## Lost & Found

Remember to check with the museum if you might have lost something at the BBQ or on another visit. We have sunglasses, a sweatshirt and other items found after events. Stop by and see if your lost item was found!

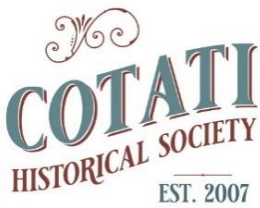




Cotati Historical Society  
PO Box 7013  
Cotati CA 94931



Mombo's Pizza at the  
corner of Charles Street  
and Old Redwood Hwy.



### Membership/Dues/Donations

This form may be used for new & renewal memberships, general or memorial donations.  
Thank you for your support of Cotati Historical Society.

**Dues: Individual \$20, Family (All members of same household) \$25, Business \$40**

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I want to join/renew my/our membership: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ An additional donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Member Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

A memorial donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send an acknowledgment to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to: **Cotati Historical Society, PO Box 7013, Cotati CA 94931**

Online payments: [cotatimuseum.org/support](http://cotatimuseum.org/support)