*DESTINATION LODI*

*A HISTORICAL JOURNEY*

*The 2 ½ story Vernacular Victorian house at 227 Wooster Street is usually known as “The Krause House”. The Krause family bought the home from the Millers. Today it belongs to Gabe and Heather Weimer. The Weimer’s have almost completed the restoration of this wonderful home.*

*According to research, the house was built in 1887 by a minister, its original purpose was to be a church, but it wasn’t to happen. Since it was located near the Lodi Academy, the upstairs rooms were rented out to young school teachers. Remember, teachers would not usually married, or allowed to marry. The large garage was then the carriage house.*

*I found the land once belonged to Isaac Rogers which makes sense. The Roger home still stands on Wooster Street and may be the oldest in Lodi. The land was then sold to Oliver Gridley in 1887. Was this the minister? I think this was a myth, the directory of Lodi 1896 states he’s a retired farmer. In 1905 the deed has the name Anabella Ritchie, 1915 John Garver, 1919 A.J. Banders then in 1939 Iva Miller. It’s my understanding this was the Grandparents of “Corky” Miller.*

*The house has its original woodwork, skeleton keys for all the doors, pocket doors, Victorian hanging lamps, corner molds, original pattered folding shutters, Doric pilaster pillars and a “widow walk”. They say the widow walk is for wife’s to look over the fields to check on their husbands. If Oliver was a farmer, this makes sense.*

*The exterior of the house is irregular in shape with a low concrete block foundation. The outer walls are clapboard with a wraparound porch. The roof is asymmetrical, with seven gables. It’s noted that two gables do not line up. When I spoke with Holly Krause she thought a dumb waiter was once in the kitchen.*

*Prior owners Mr. and Mrs. Jo Krisko (according to a paper by Sharron McMillen, student) the house might have a ghost. The paper stated both had seen the ghost, describing a distinctive flash of movement that passed before their eyes. It also stated their dog, Charlie, could either sense it or see it because he would perk up.*

*I have not been in the house since the restoration, but I will be knocking on the door soon. The house will receive a plague. The Gridley Home circa 1887.*

*Dates to remember: May 22 is Medina Co. Historical Day with many historical museums opened including ours from 11-5pm. We also will have a concert in the Central Park starting at 12 noon sponsored by Lodi Music. May 29 is our Annual Rhododendron Concert at the First Congregational Church of Lodi at 2pm. On June 12th we will be presenting a “Vintage Bridal Show and Tea” at 2p at the Lodi Methodist Church. This is a fundraiser and tickets can be purchased on Farmers Bank, Village Antiques, Lodi Music or call me at 330-635-7294 or Kathy at 330-948-1506. The cost is $12. Looking for local bridal gowns pre-1960s. Come join the fun!*