

VIEWES

# What's In A Name – Pionier Versus Pioneer

KAREN ROUSE

The mention of the *Dodge County Pioneer* caught the attention of the executive director of the Kentucky Press Association (KPA) who challenged members of the association to find last week's National Newspaper Association statement on Pres. Trump's Task Force Report on the U.S. Postal Service.

David T. Thompson contended that the mistake was unintentionally made; however, Thompson was good enough to rescind his comment after reaching out to Pi-

onier publisher Andrew Johnson (also president of the National Newspaper Association) who was quoted, identifying Johnson as the publisher of the *Pionier*.

According to Thompson, he thought someone misspelled *Pionier*, when referring to Johnson's Mayville publication. He notified an unnamed source with NNA that its release contained an error.

"I got a quick education that indeed 'Pionier' is the correct spelling and seems people are constantly trying to correct the spelling," stated Thompson in his KPA

December 7 column titled, "Don't send a correction notice – it really is 'The Pionier.'"

Additionally, Thompson offered KYA members an opportunity to win an all-expense paid trip to its winter convention if they could find the misspelled word. He said he would have a little fun with his members who love to read his column, but only for the purpose of correcting him and pointing out he made a mistake.

"Of course, every one of them will think they won the trip because *Pionier* should be spelled *Pioneer*," Thompson

predicted.

A follow-up with Thompson on Monday found that he had not received a single response to his challenge; however he did have one "old-timer" know the background to the word, so he overlooked that as a misspelling. "At least that's his story," Thompson quipped.

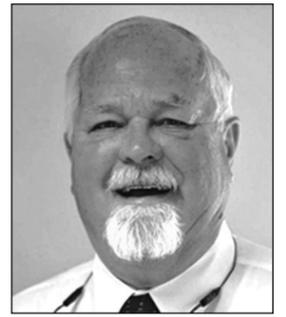
Thompson included Johnson's explanation about using the alternate spelling of *pioneer* in his column.

According to Johnson, the *Dodge County Pionier* was started in 1876 by Henry Spiering as a German newspaper since most of the people living in the area spoke German. The word *pionier*, in addition to meaning "pioneer," is a military term which means sapper, or the engineers who go before the troops. So the newspaper goes before the people of Mayville.

The English paper in town was *The Mayville News* which was started in 1892, also by Spiering, who had sold the German paper to Jacob Mueller in 1884.

The original *Pionier* ceased in 1945 and *The Mayville News* remained. Johnson purchased *The Mayville News* and the neighboring weekly, the *Horicon*

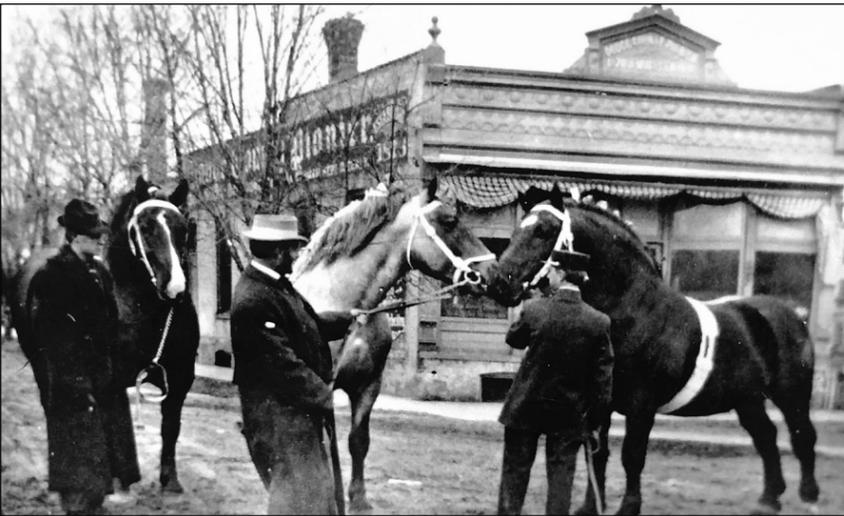
*Reporter* in 1988 and 1989 respectively. After going through a difficult economic downturn in 2008, it was no longer practical to operate the weeklies separately, so the newspapers were combined, with Johnson restoring the *Pionier* title. The original *Pionier* covered the entire area and the office building housing the publication's offices was built 1891 as the *Pionier*.



David T. Thompson Executive Director, Kentucky Press Assoc.



Further proof that this publication spelling of *Pionier* is related to its roots as seen on a front page of a 1934 *Dodge County Pionier*.



An undated photo clearly shows the spelling of the *Dodge County Pionier* on the side of its building, located at School and Bridge streets in Mayville, where the newspaper offices have been located for more than 100 years. (File photo)

## ASK THE RELATIONSHIP THERAPIST

### Suggestions On Dealing With Holiday Stress

Relationships during the holiday can be both very special and close as well as very stressful and disconnecting. There are so many traditions and memories that at times, you can feel overwhelmed. How can you develop the ability to deal with the stress and busyness as well as enjoy the special traditions and time spent with loved ones? Here are some ideas:

#1 – Practice self-care. I know I talk about self-care a lot, but this is a time when people can get so stressed and even burned out. Self-care looks different for each person. For one person, it might be taking a hot bath and for another it might be exercising for 30 minutes.

Self-care should feel like it releases some tension and is rejuvenating. You might feel like you have nurtured yourself. It can be something that you do for 10 minutes (breathing or meditating) or just a day of not doing extra stuff for people (saying "no".)

Depending on your personality, you might want to try to avoid things that take a lot of time or money because

then you are less likely to do it and if you do it, you might have guilt for being too indulgent.

No matter how you do self-care, it is a benefit to your relationship with yourself and therefore a benefit to your relationship to others. You have more to give when you take care of yourself first.

#2 – Pay attention to your stress levels. There are so many things about the holidays that can create extra stress. If you are an introvert or an anxious person, then having all the gatherings can really elevate your stress. Being around family members that you have unresolved issues with can be stressful. Navigating the expectations of the holidays including feeling like you have a responsibility to make it special for other people or that other people expect certain things of you can also add pounds of stress.

If you notice you are tight in your jaw, shoulders, forehead, and so on, it might be time to do some reflection and deep breathing. Reflect on what is the source of your stress. Maybe say-

ing no to some of the lower priority events is a good idea.

Maybe you need to examine what you are expecting of yourself or what you think others are expecting. Is there a way to let go of those expectations or shift them into something more realistic? Ask close friends or loved ones what they think and maybe they can offer some insights. Refer to suggestion #1 (self-care) to deal with the stress. If you have a loved one who is stressed and overwhelmed see if you can offer some support.

#3 – In with the new and out with the old. Traditions are a wonderful part of the holidays and every family does it a little different. Make sure the traditions are serving the purpose of bringing the family together rather than causing undue stress and irritation.

Maybe when you were a kid, those big family dinners where Grandma or Mom cooked some amazing food was the tradition. Now, it falls on you and it is a huge stress. It is okay to change the tra-



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dition to one where everyone brings something, or everyone participates in some way.

Talk to your family and see if there are ways to tweak the traditions so they fit your lives better. Sometimes the weight of the holidays falls too much on one person. Make sure that everyone gets to participate in making the holidays special.

#4 – Appreciation. With all the things to do, it can be very easy to miss the opportunity of appreciating the people and enjoying the wonder of the holidays. Try to be more aware of things you are grateful for. Appreciate the people

around you and the little things they do, especially the commonplace things they do. The true wonder of the holidays is the love and kindness that flows from those around you. There is a beauty that goes beyond decorations. Watch for it and enjoy it.

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season in whatever way you celebrate. Take care of yourselves and each other. Slow down, smell the evergreen, and taste a snowflake. Hug each other, be generous and kind.

## EARLY HOLIDAY DEADLINES FOR THE DODGE COUNTY PIONIER:

THURSDAY, DEC. 20 @ 2PM FOR THE DECEMBER 27 NEWSPAPER

THURSDAY, DEC. 27 @ 2PM FOR THE JANUARY 3 NEWSPAPER