

A NEWSLETTER FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES SEPTEMBER 2021

Returning to Class

We know that you're going to be very busy in the

weeks ahead as many of you prepare for going back to school for the first time in a long time. For those of you in fourth grade, you will probably not be visiting the Vineland Historical Society museum as so many classes did in the past due to continuing concerns about Covid-19. But we're not going to forget about you! Over the next few months, we are planning to create special videos for our new Youtube.com channel, where you will be able to learn more about local history and special events that sometimes changed the course of American history. We will share stories about some amazing people and will be happy to respond to your questions if you e-mail us at vinelandhistory@gmail.com. So, good luck in the coming school year!

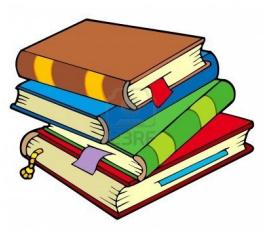
Captain Sealby and the Disaster at Sea

Captain Inman Sealby (pictured below) came from England as a boy and grew up in Vineland, where he attended Cooper Mill School. He later became a captain for the White Star Lines, where he was in charge of the RMS Republic. Sealby became famous as the first captain to ever use the newly-installed Marconi telegraph system after his ship was struck by an Italian liner on January 24, 1909. Since he acted quickly, Sealby saved all but four of his passengers and crew. However, the captain was blamed for the accident so he

decided to leave the company and study maritime law that he later practiced in California. Although he was later found to be not at fault, he never returned to the sea. Eventually, he retired and moved back to Vineland and became president of the Historical Society's board of trustees, which is why we have many of his records and personal papers in our collections. Sealby was a world traveler, whose private documents, photographs and other records have helped us understand the important role that sailing ships played in history. Not only did they allow wealthier passengers to travel to different countries but they brought immigrants to America where they were able to start new lives in a new land.

Captain Inman Sealby





<u>Thank you, Mary</u>

About 100 years ago, most women and girls would never have left the house in anything but a dress that usually had a high collar and long sleeves. The idea of women wearing pants in public was considered absolutely shocking! Fortunately, one brave Vineland

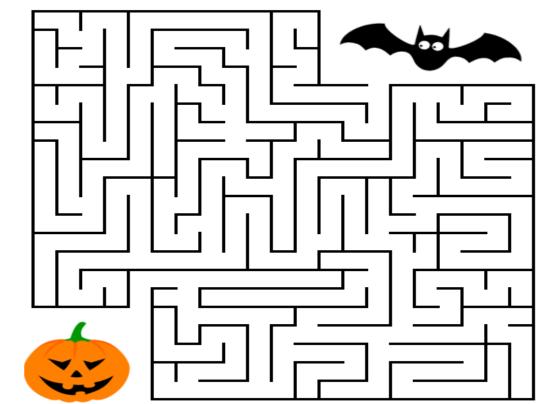


woman felt that wearing pants was so important, she put them on every day and was once even arrested for it. Her name was Mary Tillotson and she was known as a "dress reformer." She believed that women and girls should wear pants everywhere. Her reason? If you wore pants, you could get more exercise, which would help stimulate your brain. With better stimulation, your brain would work harder to help you learn. In 1874, Tillotson held America's first "Anti-Fashion" convention in Vineland to try and persuade women to wear pants. Unfortunately, very few women agreed with her so women continued to primarily wear dresses in public until the 1940s. It wasn't until the 1960s that pants (and shorts) became part of the average woman and girl's wardrobe. So, thank you, Mary!

Mary Tillotson

It's Amazing!





Create Your Family Tree

Start at the top with your name (and any brothers or sisters you have), then add in your parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. See how many "leaves" you can add to your family tree!

