



THE DAILY CHRONICLE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2020

On This Date

1866 – Pierre Lallement received a patent for the first true bicycle with a transmission consisting of a rotary crank mechanism and pedals.



This replaced the pushbike that was propelled when the rider pushed it along with their feet while steering the front wheel.

1962 – The United States lifted its blockade of Cuba and began moving warships away from the island, marking the close of the Cuban Missile Crisis. The Soviet Union had removed its missiles from Cuba earlier that month.

1992 – In England, a fire broke out in Windsor Castle, causing serious damage. Four days later, Queen Elizabeth II would describe 1992 as *annus horribilis*—“horrible year.”

Did You Know?

The housefly “hums” in the key of F major.

Quote of the Day

“For me, writing is a concentrated form of thinking.”

~ *Don DeLillo*

Happy Birthday!

Don DeLillo, born in 1936, is an author who grew up in an Italian Catholic family in the Bronx, New York. His voracious reading, which began out of boredom as a teen, inspired him and led to his storied writing career as one of America’s most eminent novelists. Some of DeLillo’s most prominent works include *White Noise* (1985), *Libra* (1988), *Mao II* (1991), *Underworld* (1997), and *The Angel Esmeralda* (2011). The two-time Pulitzer Prize for Fiction nominee and National Book Award winner says his fiction aims to explore systems of power and “living in dangerous times.”

