

History lesson on automotive inventions

In 1672, Ferdinand Verbiest built the first steam-powered vehicle as a toy for the Chinese Emperor. Other inventors of steam-powered vehicles were Nicolas Joseph Cugnot in 1770, William Murdoch in 1784, and in 1801 Richard Trevithick, was running a full-sized vehicle on the road in Camborne. In 1789, Oliver Evans was granted the first automobile patent in the United States – and you thought that it was Henry Ford. In 1828, Anyos Jedlik, a Hungarian inventor, invented an electric motor that he later installed into a tiny model car. In 1891, Henry Nadig, a German-born mechanic living in Allentown, built one of the first gas-powered carriages. Many years later it was discovered in a collapsed shed in Allentown and restored. Frederick William Lanchester patented the first disc brakes in 1901.

The first car radio was invented in 1929 by American Paul Galvin. Canadian Thomas Ahearn invented the first electric car heater in 1890. The first patent for seat belts in the United States was issued to Edward S. Claghorn of New York, on February 10, 1885. The inventor of vulcanized rubber and later used for the first tires was Charles Goodyear in 1844. Call Dave's Auto Service, Inc. at 610-367-1844, located at 925 W. Phila. Ave., Boyertown, for fast and reliable service.

