

First rule of 2021: nobody talks about 2020. Pandemic, quarantines, curfews, an economic crash, unemployment, riots, questionable election results, and apocalyptic fires all dominated the news.

The U.K. withdrew from the European Union. The boss of Amazon, Jeff Bezos, worth \$250 billion became the richest person in history. We didn't see the sun for a month on the West Coast as forest fires turned day into night. Antifa, the foot soldiers of the democrat party, took over entire sections of iconic American cities with the compliance and support of governors and mayors. Black Lives Matter looted and burned down businesses, large and small, with no consequences whatsoever.



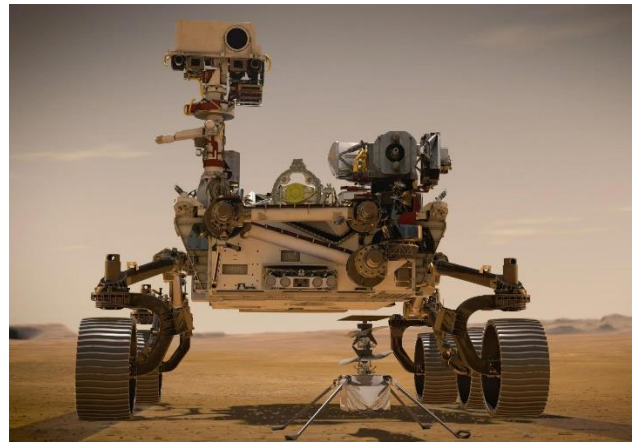
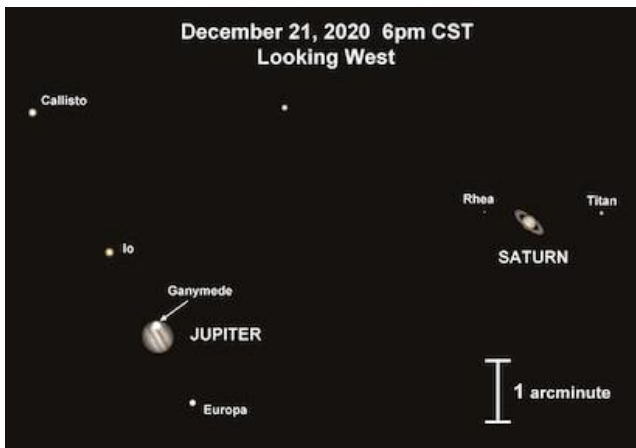
A U.S. drone strike in Iraq took out Iranian General Qassem Soleimani. The general directed terrorism and bloody conflict in the region, fueling wars the U.S. was mired in for two decades. In California Tesla, Oracle, and Hewlett-Packard (the company that seeded the Silicon Valley and where Monica made her career) all moved to Texas. The three corporations cited excessive taxes, unrelenting regulations, and a hostile business environment as the reasons for relocating to the Lone Star State.

Precisely because of the city council's permissive attitude toward homelessness, with no end in sight, and the situation only getting worse, Seattle is now in year 16 of its 10-year plan to end homelessness. The automotive industry is developing an electric car battery that will last for a million miles before replacement; this advance will make electric vehicles ultra-reliable and end the era of the internal combustion engine.

Lack of demand due to COVID and a Saudi-Russian price war drove down crude oil to a negative rate; that meant that if you had a place to store it, you could've had a supertankers' worth of oil for free. The Trump administration brokered a peace treaty between Israel and the United Arab Emirates, Sudan, Bahrain, and Morocco. By excluding the Palestinians (who have sabotaged every peace deal in the past 50 years) from negotiations the blueprint for a more civilized Middle East is now apparent.

House democrats set a terrible precedent when they impeached President Trump because they disagreed with his policies and simply could not stand him. Not one partisan government official that the House "intelligence" committee paraded out as a bombshell witness claimed that the President did anything illegal or that rose to the standard of 'high crimes and misdemeanors' necessary for impeachment. The entrenched, do nothing, lifelong bureaucrat "witnesses" all just disagreed with Trump's foreign policy.

A Mars rover, Perseverance, was launched this year; it'll take core samples on the planet that will be returned to Earth in 2028. The rover carries a small helicopter that will be the first machine to fly on another planet. A different American spacecraft, OSIRIS-REx, touched down on an asteroid and scooped up a sample of it. And, Jupiter and Saturn are in conjunction now; this is the closest the two planets have appeared in the night sky since the year 1623.



Scientists have built machines that can extract oxygen and hydrogen from the regolith that covers the surface of the moon to make drinking water, breathable air, and rocket fuel. A new race to the moon is heating up with BlueOrigin (Jeff Bezos' company) and SpaceX leading the way. The plan is for the first woman, an American woman, to walk on the lunar surface in 2024.

I was fortunate enough to witness a number of SpaceX launches this year. For the first time since the shuttle program was retired back in 2011, astronauts were sent into orbit (twice) from Cape Canaveral. Elon Musk launched his massive [Starship](#); its designed to carry dozens of people at a time and will eventually ferry the first colonist to Mars. SpaceX also launched a number of rockets each carrying 60 small Starlink satellites that'll provide worldwide internet service. [This video shows a train of Starlink satellites](#) transiting the night sky.



All routine ended with COVID starting in March. Trump suspended travel from Asia & Europe and closed the borders with Canada & Mexico. Other nations followed suit. Airlines cancelled flights worldwide, with a 13% drop, the Dow Jones had its biggest one-day loss in history, and Japan postponed the 2020 Olympics. Schools were closed, businesses were shuttered, and government buildings locked their doors. Tyrannical ruler's shut down California and New York for most of the year. People were arrested for simply walking on a deserted trail or surfing alone in the ocean. After months of lockdowns, small business owners, on the verge of insolvency and with no other choice, opened their doors only to be fined into bankruptcy or jailed by a totalitarian government. More pragmatic leaders in Texas and Florida kept their states largely open and saw no significant differences in the number of [COVID cases](#).

The benevolent governor of California gave me a letter that said I was an essential worker at an essential business (along with the liquor stores and tax preparers). The letter said that my company was allowed to remain open and that I was permitted to go to work. As near as I can tell, not one government employee lost a paycheck, lost

their health insurance, or lost a dime of their guaranteed, lifetime pensions even though they essentially did not work for most of the year. When asked what it would take for instructors to safely return to the classroom, the Los Angeles [teachers union demanded](#) defunding the police, Medicare-for-all, a ban on charter schools, and higher taxes for working class Californian's. In contrast, [all Chinese schools are open](#) as are most European schools. In the House of Representatives, every single democrat voted for a [coronavirus stimulus bill](#) loaded with pork and a socialist agenda that included forcing airlines to be carbon neutral by 2025, forgiving \$11 billion of USPS debt, funding for private pensions at democratic mouthpiece newspapers, prohibitions on voter ID laws, and funding for Planned Parenthood.

Trump initiated Operation Warp Speed which produced vaccines in partnership with pharmaceutical companies. Just ten months after COVID hit the U.S., millions are now being inoculated with estimates that ~100 million Americans will be immunized by April. Meanwhile, aristocratic rulers held themselves above the diktats they levied on us. California state lawmakers flew to a lavish 5-star hotel in Maui for a [boondoggle](#) with lobbyists. Austin Mayor, Steve Adler, took a private jet to his vacation home in Cabo San Lucas where he addressed his subjects on a Zoom call; he told them to stay at home and not travel. House speaker Nancy Pelosi had a salon open for her in San Francisco (my wife had to sneak her lawless hair stylist in to our home under cover of darkness). California Governor Gavin Newsom, had a [\\$15,000 dinner](#) at a Michelin Star restaurant in the Napa Valley. While Newsom's personal winery is open for business, others are shuttered, while his kids are learning in-person, at a private school, yours are not. The examples of tyrannical rulers and their opulent lifestyles were [plenty](#): San Francisco Mayor London Breed, Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Denver Mayor Michael Hancock, Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo, and more.



Every one of these iron-fisted rulers demanding subservience and ordering us to self-imprison is a Democrat. It is their unyielding philosophy that individuals are the problem with society, human beings need to be controlled, and that only Democrat leaders are capable and altruistic enough to lord over the masses.

The year began with odds favoring President Trump for re-election given household income at a 50-year high, lower taxes for working families, the strongest economy since 1969 (including record employment for women, Hispanics, and blacks), 401k accounts (which the majority of Americans have) up 50%, historic peace agreements signed in Asia and the Middle East, and our southern border secured for the first time in 60 years.

The reaction to the pandemic was predominantly political. After all, almost nothing was shut down in 2009, when, under Obama, [60 million](#) American's contracted H1N1 Swine Flu compared to the [17 million](#) American's who caught COVID this year. Worldwide **700 million contracted H1N1**, which is *ten times more than COVID* at 67 million.

With a backdrop of COVID, economic chaos, and Black Lives Matter & Antifa burning down American cities, we saw the most bizarre campaign in American history. Joe Biden sequestered in his basement and held only a <http://www.cottrel.com/xmas/xmas20.pdf>

handful of sparsely attended rallies. During press conferences he often stumbled while reading from a teleprompter that included spoon fed answers to a handful of prearranged questions. It's clear to anyone who paid attention that his cognitive ability has declined significantly; it doesn't take much imagination to see that Kamala will be running the Whitehouse, formally or otherwise, very soon.

With a coordinated effort of disinformation, slanted reporting, and propaganda Trump's opposition came not so much from Biden as from the mainstream media (CNN, New York Times, Washington Post, network news) and big tech companies (Google, Twitter, Facebook). One poll showed that [36% of Biden voters](#) had never heard of the [Biden family corrupt deals](#) with China & Ukraine and that 4.6% would not have voted for Joe Biden had they known. This 4.6% totaled [3.8M votes](#) and likely tilted the election for Joe. The mainstream media also buried stories about [Kamala Harris's radical socialist track record](#) and her [raising bail for rioters including rapists and murderers](#). Indeed, [www.antifa.com](#) will take you directly to Joe Biden's official website.



The election was seized from the American voter by lawyers, courts, and highly partisan, clearly corrupt, big city bureaucrats which, regardless of the outcome, is tragic. With COVID as a pretext, administrators in blue swing states [loosened voting laws](#) to the point of making the outcome of the election questionable. The consequence is that Joe Biden's victory will always be [clouded](#).

The democrat party is now funded exclusively by Silicon Valley aristocrats, Wall Street robber barons, public sector unions, and foreign nations bent on the destruction of America. Biden's transition team clearly represents billionaires with Amazon's International Tax Director (Tom Sullivan), Uber's Chief Trust Officer (Matt Olsen), Lyft Director (Brandon Belford), and members from the Chan-Zuckerberg Initiative as well as the Bill Gates Foundation. And his cabinet consists of politically inbred radical socialists who are a Chinese dictators wet dream:

- Zeke Emanuel will be on Biden's COVID advisory board. He believes that the [vaccine that we developed should go to other countries](#) ahead of the U.S. and that people should not live past age 75.
- Patrick Gasparini was picked for Labor Secretary. Gasparini is the former [president of the George Soros Open Society Organization](#); he praised laws in South Africa to take land away from farmers based strictly on the color of their skin.
- Alejandro Mayorkas was tapped for Homeland Security. He was Obama's [DACA architect](#); he'll open the southern border and flood our nation with millions of illegal aliens that will exhaust state, local, and federal tax coffers.
- Antony Blinken was picked for Secretary of State. He's compromised with deep [ties to Chinese donors](#).

The new Democrat party and Joe Biden's totalitarian agenda is made clear in a [110-page manifesto](#) that I downloaded from his [website](#). It advocates for open borders, citizenship for at least 11 million illegal aliens, free healthcare for all including illegal aliens (which would require rationing so that older, retired American citizens receive nothing), absolute control over the lives of individuals in the name of climate change, and seizing virtually all assets and property upon one's death. The premise that the government should tax and spend only what's needed to operate the nation (for essentials such as defense, justice, and transportation) has been replaced by [redistribution of wealth](#) from working class citizens to favored races, donors, and voters.

<http://www.cottrel.com/xmas/xmas20.pdf>



Throughout the history of our constitutional republic, Democrats and Republicans have often disagreed about agenda's. But they've always believed in our system of government. The democrat party now openly acknowledges its plan to impose a new system of government on our country. Control over the Senate will be decided on January 5<sup>th</sup> during a Georgia runoff election. If the Peach State elects two democrats to the Senate then the new radical democratic party will control all three branches of government. With that control they intend to remove the balance of power in our government, [rewrite the Constitution](#), and [eliminate the Bill of Rights](#) that restrains their tyrannical ambitions. They've made clear their plans to:

- [Pack the Supreme Court](#) with 5 additional justices (so as to rubber stamp or effectively draft radical legislation)
- [Pack the Senate](#) with four additional democratic seats by making Washington D.C. & Puerto Rico states
- Pack the House of Representatives by opening the border and granting citizenship & voting rights to tens of millions of illegal aliens
- [Pack the electoral college](#) by flooding the country with illegal aliens and diluting the electoral college vote (so as to guarantee Democrats are elected to the presidency indefinitely)

We lost some significant people in 2020: Sean Connery, Ruth Bader Ginsberg, and Roy Burks. Roy was a colleague of my fathers who worked at the Central Intelligence Agency. He received the agencies Medal of Merit twice and was honored as one of the 50 most distinguished officers in CIA history. Roy dedicated his life to making the world a better, safer place for millions of Americans along with his family, my family, and yours.

As for us, we continue to live and work in the San Francisco Bay Area. Andrew is in Sacramento where he's developing microprocessors for Intel, working virtually these days. Liam is at home while "attending" California State University at Sonoma; he's pursuing a degree in Computer Science. Both Monica & I stayed primarily on the West Coast throughout the year, canceling planned business trips to Asia, Europe, and domestically. We watched a Falcon9 rocket launch and then re-land on the California coast; it was an incredible sight.



**Falcon9: Launching**



**Falcon9: Landing**

We always appreciate hearing from our family and friends; please keep in touch.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,  
from the Cottrell Family*

*The diabolical genius of Marxism-Socialism is that it provides the emotional and intellectual roadmap for autocrats to persuade millions of people to support their own enslavement to government.*

*Mark Levin – Constitutional Lawyer*