

## **LETTER: Loonies in charge**

2011-01-17 10:05:13

Out of 2011 resolutions? How about revelations? Where else but America can a man of dubious wealth buy himself a large state? Or his corporate contemporaries a whole country?

How does that saying go? "The operation was a success, but the patient (democracy) died." Here's financial guru Berko (column, Dec. 30): "The market's a cesspool of greed, corruption and wild excesses aided and abetted by Merrill Lynch, Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan, Bank of America, Wells Fargo, your friendly neighborhood brokesters and banksters."

The sound of functioning (?) government is frequently drowned out by the KA-CHING of "medical" and "security" coffers. Government's real job of enhancing individual existence and human potential diminishes daily. Notice we've pretty well blown it in vital areas like health care, the environment and educational opportunities. Words like "frugal" aren't even in our kids' textbooks. They're hardly prepared for what's coming. Are you? Church steps hold only so many on our way to a Dickensian London, banana plantation scenario! Even the tea partiers and folks down at Fox News, the Heritage Foundation and the Cato Institute may miss their demolished government.

Society's lifeblood is communication, and the Internet seems like freedom's last gasp. Business wants to buy it, government manage it. So even "irresponsible" journalism beats wall-to-wall commercials, cookie-cutter "talking points" and our diet of permitted AP snippets, don't you think?

With the loonies back in charge of the asylum, we're the frog in slowly heating water — except we can reach the burner switch. If we, the people, wake up. Don't hold your breath.

Buckle your seat belts. It's 2011!

— WILLIAM WHITE

Fort Walton Beach