## NORTHWEST HERALD

## Letter: Small government and free markets

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As the Trump administration shutdown, which was ruining the lives of millions of our fellow citizens, finished a full month, we know at least one group of narcissistic sociopaths are jumping for joy.

Those being the "free market, small government" tea party libertarians who rose up from the 1950s Federalist and John Birch societies and have been co-opted since the '80s by the Koch brothers and their propaganda "Kochtapus," including think-tanks such as the Heritage Foundation, Cato Institute, Heartland, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, etc., along with their paid media spearheaded by Fox News, One American News Network and Sinclair Broadcasting, along with celebrities such as Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, Michael Savage and Anne Coulter, etc.

The billionaire Koch/Mercer cabal of fascist Americans has been trying to shrink government for decades with the goal of eliminating the one force that can control their insatiable greed for money and power. They have installed their bought-and-paid-for cronies to take over our government from the entire corrupt incompetent Trump administration to nearly every Republican congressman. Their goal is to destroy our Constitution, rule of law and democracy from within in order to maintain their power, tax cuts and deregulation of environmental, consumer, banking and labor protections, which hinder their enormous profits. The 2020 election will determine if the Koch cabal will complete its coup d'etat of our democracy by turning America completely into a lawless oligarchic plutocracy modeled after Russia (why Trump and the Republicans are beholden to Putin) or will we take America back for a government of, by and for "we, the people," which benefits the vast majority of citizens and keeps the corrupt greedy fascists and their shills in the GOP at bay.