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It is good to have perceptive writers like Mr. Leonard Pitts writing columns.

His column on Sen. Harry Reid's gaffe (Jan. 14) is right on the mark.

President Obama is a breath of fresh air along with our current Congress to attempt to clean up and fix health care and other messy issues left behind by President George Bush.

The articulate Obama needs the support of all citizens to address his presidency.

Reid ought to move on despite his apologetic remarks.

All voters ought to do the same.

John W. Dalton Jr.

Westfall Township, Pa.

## Towns should add CERT

Your article on the newly formed CERT team should inspire other towns to do the same. I am an emergency management coordinator in a New Jersey town (and the father of one of the graduates) and could not be more proud of my son doing something for his community.

Bill OKeefe Andover, N.J.

## Grateful for pet column

I was so grateful to see the article written by Mary Esparra Jan. 15 called "Have a heart: Don't leave you pet out in the cold."

It is unbelievable to me that anyone could leave an animal out in the cold winter weather. Animals have emotions and feelings, and no living being should have to endure cruelty in this manner. I suggest that people who do such a cruel inhuman thing go outside and spend an evening in a doghouse and see how i feels.

If people cannot have a companion in the home where companion animals are supposed to be, they should not have an animal at all. Wake up, people, and kudos to you, Mary Esparra!

## **Molly Hamilton**

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