

The dangers illegals pose

By Joe Mann

JAMES CITY

Lew Leadbeater may have reached a new low in his Aug. 14 column, "Immigration paranoia."

I'll defend his right to criticize Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli and Del. Bob Marshall, even when he's wrong. However, his disparaging characterizations of both and his assertion that some "psychotic animus" drives them lacks all class.

Leadbeater trivializes illegal immigration, which has become

Illegal immigration, statutorily a misdemeanor, has become a major criminal issue because of drug and human trafficking. The terrorist component elevates it to a national security problem. To use Leadbeater's term, it is "embarrassingly shameful," yet he trivializes gangs. Has he no knowledge of the El Salvadoran Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) or the Mexican Mafia ("M")?

Terrorism? Middle Easterners pay huge money to Mexican groups to make them over into

person can downplay this? Who can doubt their intent?

In 2008 I published a treatise on "Immigration and Terrorism Beyond Walls." It included a 24-point proposal for reform and was presented to President Bush. It included proposals to deal with the 12 million to 20 million illegals already here.

Six million are reported to be here on expired visas. Their names are on record, but who, in fact, are they? Where are they,

what are their intentions? How many came here disguised as Hispanics, how many have found their way from the South American Triple Frontier to cross the borders of Arizona and other states? What happens next?

We are at war with terrorists. It's not too much of a stretch to think we will be at war, on the borders at least, with drug cartels that are rapidly taking over Mexico.

For anyone to brand those who recognize the seriousness of immigration and terrorism as racist is

wrong. Those who deal with the problems forthrightly are hardly "racial profiling." Moreover, it is equally wrong to compare the current situation to immigrants of the past. Some of them are similar, especially the Hispanics coming for a job, but many are not. Many, undoubtedly, are here to do harm.

The fact is that we are in a fight for the soul of America. Will she maintain her greatness? Not without major changes in policy and a purge of irresponsible policymakers.

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Illegals crossing the border.

one of the most critical issues for America and can no longer be divorced from terrorism. To be concerned such for the huge, growing problem is certainly not paranoid.

No longer is the issue just about the innocent Hispanic coming here for a better life and a job. Our dysfunctional government abdicated its responsibility to legislate when this was a relatively simple issue. Now the problems are more complex and more threatening to America.

The federal government is still dysfunctional. The political left courts certain voter blocs and wants amnesty for all comers, while the far right foolishly thinks only of walls and deportation. Both are wrong.

"Mexicans," teach them Spanish and acquire U.S. visas so they can pass through the border gates unmolested. I learned this while stranded in Mexico during the Sept. 11 tragedy and reported it to government agencies in 2001.

I also learned that Hezbollah had a base in the South American "Triple Frontier," the tri-border intersection of Paraguay, Brazil and Argentina. This was finally reported by Telemundo and its parent, NBC News, in May 2007. Hezbollah states openly that their strategy is to attack the United States from this base if "anything happens to Iran."

But they are not waiting. They are proactive. It's reported that radicals from this base flow through Brazil into Mexico and illegally cross the border into the United States. What responsible

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