

# COMMUNITY JOURNAL

## IMMIGRANT LIVING: 101 AND BEYOND



MONETTE ADEVA MAGLAYA

## Fighting for dear life

*"If the end brings me out wrong, ten angels swearing I was right would make no difference."*

— Abraham Lincoln

In an earlier article about this extremely contentious US election that will mercifully come to a screeching halt in a few days, I have suggested in no uncertain terms that if you feel you have better things to do than go through the pros and cons and nuances of every issue on which the candidates stand, there was a foolproof, nearly failsafe way, of deciding whom to elect for Job One. And that is to go with CHARACTER. It would be foolhardy to go the way of a lemming, blindly following partisan lines and falling off a cliff in the process, sacrificing principles, particularly on vital issues. That is perhaps why I choose to be independent and look at both sides without the filter of partisanship.

You have to cast your lot with the candidates who have walked the talk in their past, particularly during those times when no one was looking. Dig deep and get the answers from those who have no vested interest in the outcome and have made it their business to do the fact-finding of those truths the media do not want you to know, basically ordinary citizens who have become journalists on the internet.

There are two prominent casualties in this election: mainstream media and polling companies. Shed not a tear. Their demise was self-inflicted. Mainstream media lies with words and images. Polling results are skewed to influence results. Both have outgrown their usefulness and neither can be trusted. This national

election is a far cry from previous ones and there might be sinister, unseen forces at work to overturn the will of the American majority.

To look into the heart of the candidates, scrutinize their personal record of giving as evidenced by their income tax returns, not only of giving money to charity but in giving of themselves to causes far bigger than themselves. The past is indeed prologue. In the absence of truth tellers, go to the source—the record of accomplishments. If there is no track record that can be studied and verified, that alone should raise red flags. Nothing can be a clearer indicator of future performance. Disregard the spin-doctors, those paid hacks who lie and spin and distort the facts.

But if there is one issue aside from the fearsome economic downturns that loom ahead that must be given due attention, it is the issue of ABORTION that takes center stage. As a dyed-in-the-wool Catholic conservative in agreement with millions of Christian evangelicals in many parts of the county, I staunchly believe that the gift of life is from God and that life begins at the moment of conception. There can be no equivocation on this issue. Abortion is nothing less than the murder of innocents—a most grievous offense against the Holy Spirit from whom all life emanates. It is the duty of all who hold life sacred to fight for it and uphold moral laws that guarantee the life of future generations. This moral issue far transcends any earthly concerns. The economy, the war on terror, national security, taxes, energy independence—all these are important issues at this time but as history will attest, all these will be overcome in due time and will eventually come to pass, but

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## Taking care of senior relatives

### THE FILIPINO SURVIVAL KIT



LIZA LEGASPI

THIS weeks' column is about taking care of your senior relatives. It could be challenging if they do not have health insurance or dental insurance coverages. In fact, I found out that a cap for a tooth costs about \$800. That's a lot of money to spend at one time, not to mention the medication they will also need. Anyway, I hope the following items will be able to help you or at least give you some ideas:

- Go to the local government office in your area and find out the requirements to apply for a Medicare/Medical card.
- Apply for pharmaceutical support. There are lots of choices. I know a few, but can't name them on this column (I can't endorse). So I suggest you visit Google or Yahoo and type in <http://california.statedrugcard.com/> or <http://www.ehealthinsurance.com/>.
- Another alternative is to ask your employer if you can add a person/relative on to your health plan and just pay for the additional premium.
- There are also a lot of dental plans for seniors. I'm still trying to look for one for my mom. However, please check with your

dentist first which dental provider they are willing to accept.

- Just like health and dental insurance, transportation is also important. If your relative could not take the bus anymore, find the local government transportation office and apply for a curbside pick up service. In LA, there's Access Paratransit. They give transportation assistance for seniors and the disabled.
- If you are having financial difficulties, you may also wish to look up CARE, Lifeline, DAP and Medical Baseline programs. These are government programs that qualify seniors and/or low income households.
- Find out if you qualify for In Home Support services. That is if you are personally taking care of your senior relative, and they no longer could live by themselves. There are government social workers that you could call for details. Look them up in the local government offices in your area.

I hope the above list helps. Please always remember to keep smiling. Life is good. You'll find something that could help you out in your situation. It just takes a little digging and time.

My next column will be published next month. Hence, this will allow me more time to go through your email requests and be able to write about them. For those interested on a topic, please e-mail me at [lizlegaspi@yahoo.com](mailto:lizlegaspi@yahoo.com). I'll be waiting.

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Liza Legaspi is an experienced marketer both in the Philippines and the US. She has been focusing on diversity groups for over 20 years. Liza is currently employed by a well-known Asian advertising agency. She has a wide range of experience in marketing consumer products and services.

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The items listed are mere suggestions and no guarantees that it will work for you. The tips provided worked for me and I am not making any promises nor will I be liable for any outcome.

## Thanksgiving weekend concert in Atlantic City

### Jay-R and Geneva Cruz join an all-star 'Back2back'

by BOBBY T. YALONG

YOU could name a lot of singer-performers lord-ing it over the music scene but nobody matches or gets at par or even at least closer with the touted sexy Prince of R'n'

B, Jay-R—the current toast of the R'n'B genre and tin pan alley's biggest record sales holder in the said category.

Jay-R was eagerly met with such great measure of curiosity

(must be due to his unusually dynamic personality) the first time he stepped into the limelight... hotter than a red-hot lightning rod...as he indelibly stamped his enticing charisma through a sound powerfully rendered in his own manner of musicality. Jay-R's style is peculiar and personal with a formula that is as simple as having an impeccable wardrobe sense (usually in pristine white ensemble), a wholly appropriate strutting riff coupled with tame sensuous body locomotion and most of all, a singing style distinctly his own—effective criteria for a quick shot to prominence.

Uproarious in his swaggering rhythm n' blues performances whereby creating a wild sensation

and exhorting his female audience in a hysterical pandemonium, Jay-R, in just a short span of time, was able to establish his name in the field and eventually carved the proverbial niche in this genre.

Branching out to modeling and product endorsing, theater, the boobtube and the big screen, songwriting, print & TV ads and roadshow engagements, this multi-faceted pop icon has formidably explored all available avenues with limitless possibilities.

After the release of his *Gameface* album that turned Platinum Jay-R is driven to expand his propensity into mastering the every facet of the business where he has seriously sunk his teeth: "Doing

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