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(Opening monologue for the *South Valley Variety Show*. Read via teleprompter by show host Nathan Benich. Episode originally aired Monday, November 1, 2010 in the south Santa Clara region and was broadcasted on Morgan Hill's community access television station.)

HELLO EVERYONE!

WELL, IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK FOR ANOTHER RIVETING EPISODE OF THE SOUTH VALLEY SHOW.

IF YOU ARE A REGULAR VIEWER OF MORGAN HILL ACCESS TELEVISION, OR AS WE LOCALS LIKE TO CALL IT – MHAT – I'M SURE YOU ARE THRILLED TO SEE ME IN A DIFFERENT COLORED TIE TONIGHT. BECAUSE NOW YOU KNOW THIS ISN'T ANOTHER RERUN OF THE LAST SHOW!

YOU SEE FOLKS, AT MHAT THERE'S NOT EXACTLY A TON OF PROGRAMMING TO FILL THE AIRWAVES, SO MANY OF THE SHOWS ON OUR STATION HAVE TO REPEAT THEMSELVES. WITH THAT SAID, YOU MUST HAVE FELT LIKE YOU HAD A BAD CASE OF DÉJÀ VU EVERY TIME YOU CLICKED ONTO THIS CHANNEL – WONDERING WHO THE HECK IS THIS GUY AND WHY DOES HE KEEP TELLING THE SAME JOKES OVER AND OVER AGAIN?

HECK, BY NOW YOU'VE PROBABLY SEEN MY FACE SO MANY TIMES THAT YOU'RE PROBABLY WONDERING IF YOU'RE IN A JOHN BOY WALTON NIGHTMARE.

SPEAKING OF NIGHTMARES, ANOTHER HALLOWEEN HAS COME AND GONE. CAN I ASK A SIMPLE QUESTION: WHO DECIDED TO HAVE HALLOWEEN ON SUNDAY NIGHT THIS YEAR? WAS IT STEVE TATE (Morgan Hill Mayor)? I DON'T KNOW BUT I'VE GOT TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS.

YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN ME ON SUNDAY NIGHT... I AM TRYING TO WATCH THE FOOTBALL GAME WITH A REMOTE IN ONE HAND AND A COOL ADULT BEVERAGE IN THE OTHER. IT WAS GREAT; EVERY MAN'S DREAM – UNTIL THE DOORBELL STARTED RINGING EVERY MINUTE-AND-A-HALF!

HELL, I GOT UP AND DOWN FROM MY COUCH SO MANY TIMES THAT I STARTED TO GET A SIX-PACK ON MY STOMACH – NOT WHERE I WANTED IT – IN MY STOMACH!

AND MAN WAS IT SCARY. I SAW KIDS DRESSED UP AS SARAH PALIN, BARACK OBAMA, NANCY PELOSI, HARRY REID – YOU NAME IT! BY THE END OF THE NIGHT I THOUGHT I WAS AT A CONVENTION FOR OUT-OF-WORK POLITICIANS.

THERE'S ONE THING I COULD NEVER FIGURE OUT ABOUT HALLOWEEN: WHY DO KIDS YELL "TRICK OR TREAT!" WHEN THEY COME TO YOUR DOOR?

FIRST OF ALL, TRICK OR TREAT IS A QUESTION, SO WHY DO I HAVE TO PROVIDE THE CANDY? I THINK THAT IF THE KIDS ARE YELLING OUT THE QUESTION THAT I SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO GIVE THEM AN ANSWER, NOT VICE VERSA. DON'T YOU AGREE? AND BELIEVE ME, AFTER ALL THE CALORIES THAT I BURNED UP HOPPING UP AND DOWN FROM THE DAMN COUCH I COULD HAVE USED A SNICKERS BAR.

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ANYWAY, ENOUGH ABOUT HALLOWEEN. SO, ARE YOU READY FOR THE ELECTIONS? ARE YOU ALL SET TO VOTE?

THIS ELECTION IS GOING TO BE CRAZY. BY TOMORROW NIGHT, THE LEADERSHIP ACROSS AMERICA IS SURE TO HAVE A WHOLE NEW LOOK... LET'S JUST HOPE THAT IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THOSE HALLOWEEN COSTUMES I MENTIONED.

SPEAKING OF HOPE, THE REPUBLICANS HOPE TO CHANGE THE LANDSCAPE OF AMERICA BY REGAINING CONTROL OF BOTH THE HOUSE AND THE SENATE THIS WEEK.

LET'S SEE FOLKS, THE WAR IN AFGANHISTAN IS STILL GOING ON; BIN LADEN IS STILL ON THE LOOSE; OUR TROOPS ARE STILL IN IRAQ; UNEMPLOYMENT IS HOLDING STEADY AT ABOUT 10%; FORECLOSURED HOMES ARE EVERYWHERE YOU TURN; EVERYONE IS MAKING LESS AND HAS LESS DESPOSABLE INCOME; SAVINGS ACCOUNTS ARE CUT IN HALF; THE COUNTRY IS BANKRUPT; TAXES ARE GOING TO GO UP NEXT YEAR; AND A HEALTHCARE BILL THAT NO ONE WANTED WAS STEAMROLLED OVER US.

PUT IT THIS WAY, IF THE REPUBLICANS CAN'T WIN THIS YEAR, THEY ARE THE JACKASSES – NOT THE DEMOCRATS! I'M JUST WONDERING WHAT'S GOING ON WITH ALL OF THE HOPE & CHANGE I WAS PROMISED TWO YEARS AGO? AT THIS POINT, MY ONLY HOPE IS TO HAVE SOME SPARE CHANGE IN MY POCKET AT THE END OF THE WEEK.

LET'S SEE, WHAT ELSE IS GOING ON? OH, I RECENTLY READ A LITTLE TIDBIT ON PROPOSITION 23. IF PASSED, THIS PROPOSITION WOULD SUSPEND AIR POLLUTION CONTROL LAWS THAT REQUIRE MAJOR POLLUTERS TO REPORT AND REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS THAT CAUSE GLOBAL WARMING UNTIL UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBERS DROP TO 5.5 PERCENT OR LESS FOR A FULL YEAR.

I'M ALL FOR THE ENVIRONMENT BUT DO YOU REALIZE WHAT I JUST SAID? THEY ARE FIRING UP THE DRUMBEAT FOR LEGISLATION THAT WILL COST CALIFORNIA SO MANY JOBS THAT THEY HAD TO "SWEETEN" THE DEAL BY PROMISING NOT TO IMPLEMENT IT UNTIL UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBERS STAY AT 5.5 PERCENT OR LESS FOR A YEAR BECAUSE THEY KNOW THAT ONCE IT'S PASSED BUSINESSES WILL RUN AWAY FROM THE GOLDEN STATE FASTER THAN AN OLD CORVETTE ON VIAGRA. THAT'S JUST WHAT WE NEED, HUH? MORE JOBS LEAVING THE STATE – AWESOME!

IN OTHER NEWS, HAS THIS COUNTRY GONE SOFT? I RECENTLY READ A STORY IN THE OCTOBER 5TH EDITION OF THE MORGAN HILL TIMES ABOUT THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' RECENT DECISION TO OPT OUT OF A FEDERAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM THAT REQUIRES PARTICIPATING COUNTIES TO SHARE FINGERPRINTS AND OTHER INMATE DATA WITH THE FEDERAL OFFICE. THE BOARD CITED THAT DOING SO MIGHT JEOPARDIZE THE SAFETY OF COUNTY RESIDENTS BECAUSE IT MIGHT DISCOURAGE PEOPLE FROM CALLING POLICE SERVICES FOR FEAR THAT THEIR IMMIGRATION STATUS WILL BE QUESTIONED.

EXCUSE ME, BUT WOULDN'T SHARING INFORMATION ON CONVICTED FELONS MAKE COUNTY RESIDENTS SAFER? WHAT AM I MISSING HERE? AND THE LAST TIME I CALLED THE POLICE NO ONE ASKED ME ANYTHING ABOUT MY IMMIGRATION STATUS, SO WHOSE IMMIGRATION STATUS ARE WE

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CHECKING, EXACTLY? OH, ILLEGAL ALIENS AS OPPOSED TO LEGAL, LAW-ABIDING CITIZENS. COME ON, I LOVE EVERYONE BUT THE LAW IS THE LAW – ENFORCE IT!

BY THE WAY, DON'T YOU JUST LOVE THIS TIME OF YEAR IN MORGAN HILL WHEN THE 78-DEGREE FALL WEATHER GIVES WAY TO THAT BLUSTERY 65-DEGREE ARCTIC AIR? A FRIEND OF MINE FROM PHILADELPHIA ONCE ASKED ME IF I MISSED THE CHANGE OF SEASONS NOW THAT I LIVE IN CALIFORNIA. I SAID, WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WE HAVE A CHANGE OF SEASONS, TOO – WE GO FROM BASEBALL SEASON TO FOOTBALL SEASON TO BASKETBALL SEASON!

I REMEMBER WHEN I FIRST MOVED OUT HERE... I USED TO GET SUCH A KICK WHEN THE LOCAL WEATHERMAN WOULD TALK ABOUT THESE QUOTE "MAJOR STORMS" THAT WERE LINED UP AND BREWING IN THE PACIFIC, AND POISED TO WREAK HAVOC ON THE GOLDEN STATE. THEY'D HYPE IT UP SO MUCH THAT I WOULD ACTUALLY CATCH MYSELF THINKING ABOUT BUYING A GENERATOR, CANNED GOODS AND EXTRA FLASH LIGHTS. TWO DAYS LATER, IT WOULD BE RAINING, 58 DEGREES AND WITH A BIT OF WIND. HECK, THAT'S A SPRING AFTERNOON IN PHILLY!

ANYWAY FOLKS, WE HAVE A GREAT SHOW IN STORE FOR YOU, SO SIT BACK, RELAX, AND ENJOY.....