

# The Conversation 11/5/2025

**Speaker** Sharing our stories connects us. Listen and be connected. Join us for the conversation. Meeting weekly at the intersection of community and culture hosted by Mario Nunez and Joe King Carter. And here we are. It's Wednesday, it's noon, and it's Wednesday and it's noon. That can mean one thing and one thing only that you are listening to the conversation on. Eighty eight point five if you're still fine tuning your radio, that's on the FM dial. My name is Mario Nunez, and as always, I'm seated alongside my broadcast partner and good buddy. Hey, hey, it's Joe King Carter. Good afternoon. I thought for a second, Joe, you were going to go. Hey, hey, it's Fat Albert. I didn't want you to go there, Joe, because. Well, I don't know. I don't, I don't know. Okay. Hey, but listen, I don't I will say this. I'm energized this morning. I'm energized this morning. I can tell. Yeah. And that's just not the cafe con leche that I had, which was large, by the way, with a lot of sugar. It's not that so much as it is. Man, we had a pretty good night last night, Joe. We had a pretty good night last night. I mean, I was watching intently to see where the country was going to go. I think that we can safely assume. And. Well, you're on that Facebook Live. Look at you, Joe. You're all taking up my whole screen there. I can we can safely assume that, um, somebody's waking up, somebody's waking up, and, you know, the seven million people that participated in the No Kings rally. Uh, they had something to say last night. Absolutely. Well, you know, the the pendulum swings. Number one, we can always hope that that happens somewhat. On the other hand, I think that we are seeing evidence of what happens when you have a government shutdown and you have elements of fascism and you have a leader who happens to be in the Republican Party, who doesn't seem to be too worried about people starving who have been on Snap in the past. And when you put all that together, you're probably not going to elicit a lot of, uh, passionate support from people out in the world. So all of this that's been happening is, is going to come back and it's going to be a very interesting the elections in twenty six are going to be most interesting, because I think you're seeing you're beginning to see the responsive responsiveness of voters. So how disconcerting was it that while you were talking, I wasn't even looking at you or addressing you in any way? I was trying to untangle my phone. I saw that from from the chair, because these rolling chairs, they're they're forever the bane of my existence. Because the cord, my headphone cord, is too long. And invariably, as I sit and adjust my seat and get prepared to do the show, uh, it gets tangled up. Yes. So anyway, I was untangled. That's why you should never wear a scarf. Well, Joe was making his point. Yeah. Or a long tie while Joe was making his point to, um, to say yes. Joey, I was listening to you. And it is. It's very gratifying. And I was emotionally invested in the evening last night because, you know, when you when you're, when your team goes, oh, and twenty six, man. And you get that first win, you know what I mean? It's like, wow, that's what it feels like to win. We had kind of forgotten for a minute. Well, what it felt like and and last night was, was hope was, was a, an exercise in hopefulness, I think was an exercise in democracy. What was most and I want to say it right up at the top. Congratulations to all the candidates who ran successful campaigns all across the country. And Florida was no exception. We can't give up on Florida just yet, because last night they elected the first Democratic mayor in Miami in over twenty eight years. So that says something. And we know the high profile, the high profile elections, uh, that that ultimately led led off the the newscasts. And if you stayed up late enough, you saw where sixty

five percent of the people in California voted for prop fifty. So I just think that, um, momentum, uh, is a fickle thing in sports and in politics. Could she have maybe changed the dresses last night a little bit? Possibly. But, uh, it's it's also incumbent upon us and a special shout out to the young people. And by that, I mean our children's ages. Joey, I know you don't have any youngins, but if you did, they'd be probably around the age of my children, which are forty and thirty nine, forty two and thirty nine, uh, they participated in a big way. Yes. They showed up in big numbers. And and Jacob Soboroff was, was, uh, asking people standing in line in California, you know, why are you here? And to a man, woman, child, young adult, they all said the same thing. Uh, you know, democracy is worth fighting for. And we're here to exercise our rights as citizens, which is so, so refreshing. So without getting too far down the wormhole, I'm just saying congratulations. Especially young people. Absolutely. Especially you millennials and Gen Xers. Political activism strengthens in the face of problems. It doesn't strengthen in the face of life is good. We're sitting on the beach with a mai tai. That's not when political activism comes about. It comes about when there is something for you to change. And that's exactly where we are right now. And my only addition to all this would be to say, folks, let's keep our eye on the ball, let's keep our nose down, our head down, and let's continue to do the work because we're not we're not nearly there yet, but it is a healthy sign that some good start, some people made the decision to oppose. Good start. Thank you. Thank you for indulging us in the first nine eleven minutes of the show. We just felt that we had to get that out. You know, we talk about it each and every week. The importance of fighting for this democracy community, it's about community. That's what we are. Community radio and this is a community show and all shows are here at Wmfn. But today's community show is a little more community, if I may say so. Oh, yeah. You know, it's different because, uh. How so? How so? Joe, what what do we call it when we have someone on our show who is either a staff person or a volunteer here at Wmfn? Don't we have a special category for that? I think we might refer to that as it's a family affair. And that's Jessica's Q and Q, yeah. Q Sly Stone or not or not, because he could be. There he is. It's a family affair. It's a family affair. It's a family affair. It's a family affair. One child grows up to be somebody that just loves to learn, and another child grows up to be somebody you just love to burn. My mom loves the both of them. You see, it's in the blood. Both kids are good around. Blood is thicker than the mud. It's a family affair. Family affair? A family affair. It's a family affair. What? So, Joey, why do we call it? It's a family affair. Because today we're bringing in one of our own family. That's right. And we are terribly excited to have him in studio with us. Absolutely. We listen to him every Friday night. He's. He's one of the personalities that you listen to here on Wmfn. And if you don't know about him, today we're going to introduce you to him. That's right. So welcome. AKA white pepper. White pepper. White pepper. It's David Bryant. Hey, David. Hey. It's great to be here. Um, it's weird to be here during the daytime, honestly, isn't it, though? Yeah. There's, like, light streaming in through the windows. Yeah. Like, what is what is this light? It's like, what are you guys typically in this studio as well? Yeah, we're usually in the studio. Okay. There you go. Oh, cool. So, so so this is a comfort zone. This is a home field home game for you, as it were. Oh, yeah. No. And I'm really pleased to be here. And, um, ever since you started a family affair, I kind of wanted to be on because I was, like, secretly wanted to be secretly wanted to be a part of it. He wanted to be here. By the way, have you got have you have the Facebook push where you can get David? I'm trying to get it done. And if somebody could tell me how to do it. Because

let me just say this. Um, you can reach us at DJ at dot org. Jessica, our producer and engineer, is standing by to get your emails. What I've done somehow with my iPhone as I've, I've activated the like the zoom part of this thing. So now, like, you get my left nostril, all of Joe's big head and none of David Bryant typically. Typically what happens is I've got it set up so that you can get a wide range, right. I don't know what I've done, but anyway, if you know how I can fix it, let me know. Sure, sure I understand. Sorry, Joey. Technology is tough, but it's tough. Today it's the only thing. But yeah, we'll get there. If you move to your left, you'll be in the shot, I promise. Okay, we're just gonna have to tighten it up. Get close. Come in. This way. Yeah. Come in this way. Come a little bit closer. Come a little bit closer. You're my kind of man. So big and so strong. Come a little bit closer I'm all alone. And the night is so. Yeah, it's a great song. Come on Joey. So. Okay, now what we do here on this show, of course, is the belief that everybody's story is a great story. And so and everybody has one and everybody has one. So before we get to what you do here on Friday nights and how you became known as the great white pepper. uh, let's talk a little bit about who you are and where you came from. Where did you grow up, David? Um, I grew up in Fort Myers, and I grew up out, um, and this kind of five acre ranch subdivision, um, called Happy Bull Farms. Happy bull, happy bull. Happy bull. Okay. And we we actually. Because if you mess with the bull, sometimes you get the horns, you won't be happy. There you go. Okay, well, we did it actually had a slogan, and it was, um, happy bulls and contented cows. Really? Yeah. I don't know what that says about that. Did your parents have a five acre parcel? We did. Yeah. So you kind of grew up on a farm. We did? Yeah. We had cattle and, um, we we mostly just focused on cattle because they were kind of easy to deal with. My my parents were both working, and, um, and we tried chickens at one point, and that didn't work out. Yeah. Chickens. Cattle are hard to rank, Easy to wrangle. Try, try. Chickens and people. People aren't attracted to the Happy Chicken Ranch. So, uh. So. Okay, so you grew up on. That's pretty cool. Like a little Florida farm down there? Exactly. Yeah. Did you have anything else other than cattle? Um, no, we just had cattle. No. Uh. Tropical trees? No. Avocado trees? No. None of that stuff. No, we we just had, um. One thing I do remember, we had a blackberry bush, and we had wild blackberries that were okay. Oh. That's cool. Yeah. My dad actually built the house. He's a contractor by trade, so he actually built the house, which is awesome. And he he did an amazing job with it, too. Would this have been in the decade of the sixties and 70s? In the seventies? Seventies? Okay. I was born in seventy three. There you go. Okay. Um, and yeah, Fort Myers was kind of a cow town back then. It was. It wasn't a lot going on out there. Right. But me and my brother growing up there, it was interesting because it was we were kind of like, well, child, you know, kind of thing. Just being growing up in the woods out there and exploring out in the dirt, always under your fingernails. Oh, exactly. Oh, yeah. We loved it playing with the critters. So it was just you and your brother? Um, yeah. Yeah, my parents and your parents? Yeah. Older or younger brother? He's older by three years. There you go. His name's Ed, and he's a shout out to Ed. Ed Bryant? Yeah. He actually used to be involved with the radio station here, Wmnf and was on the board of directors for a little while, too. Well, hopefully he'll get a chance to listen to the show. Oh, yeah. Definitely. Oh, yeah. I'm getting all my friends and family to tune in. There you go. Yeah. So you're growing up on this ranch and you're out there knocking around in the in the dirt in Fort Myers. And then you go to high school where I went to Fort Myers High. My my parents got divorced and we actually moved into town. So I actually lived relatively

close to Fort Myers Country Club, maybe like two miles south of downtown. And how old were you when this move occurred? Um, I was thirteen, so I was. Yeah. Seventh. Eighth grade. Yeah. Wow. This is a very interesting parallel. I grew up on a a farm like area. And when I was thirteen, my mother remarried after the death of my father. And we moved into the urban, into downtown urban core. And he was exactly the same. Bradenton versus Bradenton and Bradenton. Oh, absolutely. So you move it. So that's a big I can really relate to that because what a change right. Oh yeah I kind of liked it actually because as I was getting older I was like I was getting a little bit bored out there on the farm. That's right. Yeah. You were Zsa Zsa Gabor's character in Green Acres, right? So you did the Green Acres in reverse. You went from country living to city life. Got you. Yeah, exactly. Yeah. So? So now you're you're in town and you're thirteen. And what kind of kid was, uh, David when he was thirteen, knocking around downtown. Precocious. I was, yeah, I was kind of class clown, I would say. Yeah, definitely. I really enjoyed high school. I had some really excellent teachers there. Um, made some really good friends. And, um, I worked at the Edison Mall, which is the the. It was the main mall back in the day. Now it's kind of a dying mall, but I actually worked at a bookstore. Ives Book Shop, which was a little independent bookstore. Ives bookshop. Yeah. And I loved it. I loved and I loved books. Um, and a big reader from an early age. Oh, yeah. Definitely. Yeah. Books have been a big part of my life for for a long time, actually. And and not only worked at independent bookstores, but I worked for a couple publishing companies as well, which was awesome. Yeah. So, okay, so now you're in high school and things are going, I assume, okay. And popular. He's got friends. You're popular. You're the kid that used to be on the farm with the cows, and now you're in town, and, uh, now. So what happens when you graduate and moving on into that world? I actually went to a really interesting place that has changed dramatically in the last few years. I went to New College of Florida, and there you go. I thought you were saying the setup there was. Yeah, I figured as much. We talked about that a little bit, by the way. That's interesting. That's a what a great school. It certainly was then. I don't know how it has changed recently. Yeah. But yeah, I'm not very happy with what's going on Of course, at the time it was really interesting place. It was like living in a small town. Everybody was really weird. I was probably avant garde. Would you describe it as avant garde? Oh yeah. Everybody was very weird and very smart. Well, I can relate to this too as well. But growing up in Bradenton, because Sarasota is a kind of special place, it's not a typical place. And new college was very, very progressive. And so you were probably, I'm going to guess, encountering all kinds of new ideas and, and concepts and things like that. Right. Oh yeah. Very much. And were you living on campus or. Yeah, I was living on campus and, um, yeah, I really enjoyed it. It was it was just so much different than where I grew up. Um, and just the people were so different. We were really bringing people from all around the country to that were seeking this kind of unique academic environment. And, um, it was almost had an international feel. It did? Yeah, very much so. Yeah. We got people, a lot of kids from Philadelphia area, a liberal arts college, would you say? At the time? Oh, yeah, very much so. Yeah. It was it was a true liberal arts college because it was very liberal, too. I mean, in terms of politics and, um, I often joke, I joke that the diploma, um, would be wrapped up in a bong because. Because it was just a very weed friendly kind of school, you know? But that's mind expansive, though. That's also, you know, you you give. It sounded to me like back then, in those early days, that new college gave all the room for all the growth, both intellectually,

emotionally. You know what I mean? It accepted the kids as they were, and it made. Wow, what a conversation we're having now and also die before we knew what die was. Also, Mario in that area was also a Ringling School of Art, and Ringling School of Art was very obviously, you would see it as very. Talk about a progressive and liberal, because it's all about art. And so you had all of these students all kind of mixing together there in Sarasota? Yeah. That's true. The Ringling students would come to our parties. Um. Oh, come on now, Cirque du Soleil. The big parties were called Pcp's, which were stood for Palm Court parties because we had Palm Court was right in the middle of the I.M. Pei designed dorms there. Yes. Yeah. But the Ringling kids were great, and they they definitely became kind of part of the family. Yeah. Yeah, I went to I attended the Manatee Community College. Yeah. And Ringling students, to get their accreditation, had to go through that college. Yeah. So you would often be the art department there was really spectacular for a community college art department, as one would expect. Ringling, because of the proximity to Ringling. Did you have was there a mascot? Did you have any intramural sports or any kind of sports in the in the college at the time? Um, you know, we really didn't. You know, the one thing that I remember, um, was that, well, learning how to I mean, you could make Mario. This is a brain school. I know, but but you could make a sport. You could make a sport out of properly loading a bong. I mean, you could do that. That the most popular sport in in quotes was ultimate Frisbee. And you know. And isn't that in keeping with those guys and gals? And then there was a new college bones softball team that was not with other, uh, with other schools, but what it was was with like, the local plumber and the local cable company. And we're our our team really kicked ass. They were really, really good too. And there you go. And it it had faculty and students and alumni. It was kind of what a fun time to be at that university. David, that must have been really an exceptional experience. Did your brother precede you there or were you the trailblazer that went there? You know first. Oh, no. My brother, my brother took a different route. He he became an engineer. And he he's a he was a UCF graduate. Okay. Yeah. So, um. Yeah, he he definitely. I don't think he would have liked New College that much. I liked it because, uh, because you were the little brother, man. Yeah. You know, you were the little brother. The big brother always has to do certain things to match their personality profile. Yeah, they they they connive and they they create the master plan, but they always have to get the little brother to execute it, you know what I mean? Because they're not going to do it. You do it, Mikey, you know. So did you therefore graduate from. I you know, I did not finish my thesis at New College. I actually had, um, had worked on it and put a lot of work into it. And, and what was the degree work in? What were you doing? Um, I was doing social sciences, so I had mostly anthropology and, and, uh, psychology and sociology kind of a mix. And I had done a kind of my own independent research study on, um, working at senior friendship centers and talking to nurses and doctors who had retired. Wow. But they were volunteering their time a few hours a week to. And I, and I thought that was really. That's pretty perceptive of you as a young man to, you know, be thinking about that further down the road and talking to those doctors in that health care profession. It's also a time when people went to college not to get a job, necessarily. You went to college to just improve yourself. And this concept is I don't know if it's lost, but I think that it's very different today. Yeah. New college made me a really good writer. That's when it really the critical thinking skills were always built in. And one of the greatest things about New College, um, is that it's a teaching school. You know, the faculty were very much there wasn't really any Tas

that you were really working directly with faculty, and they mentored you. Um, you know, they worked on the academic contract to make sure that you were on track and everything. And so you had you had access to your professors. You worked closely with them. Oh, and the classes are very small. And that's one regret for not finishing my thesis. My my thesis advisor was just the sweetest person. And, um, she she would weed out our students by having early morning classes and I would I would get up at seven to get to her eight o'clock Am class. And she did. Her name was Penny Roselle. She's deceased now, but she did some really interesting classes on gerontology. And so I became kind of fascinated with gerontology and incorporated that in with my thesis. Can I say, can I say this about that as one, uh, famous Richard Nixon used to say a lot. Let me say this about that. Um, isn't it isn't it marvelous how, uh, a good professor, a good teacher can take a subject that otherwise would not seem very. Whether it's biology at eight o'clock in the morning or whether it's gerontology or something that's inane, but make it so interesting because the way they taught it, that you just were fascinated. Oh, yeah. Her her death and dying class was one of the most fascinating, um, classes I ever took. And at eight o'clock in the morning. Yeah, exactly. But you were right. You're never late for that class. No, it was fascinating. And it made me think about death in a different way. You know, And not to fear it so much. And stuff. So so cool. Pretty cool. So now we graduate. We we leave school. Yeah, yeah. What are we doing next? I should mention I did finish up at USF Sarasota and just I was able to get, um, because we didn't have grades at New College. My GPA was based on my well, they give you gold stars. What did they give you there? No, I had my four classes I had to take at USF to get my degree, but my GPA was based on those four classes, so. Oh, wow. So that that was kind of my. That was pretty. That was your ultimate curve right there. Yeah. Really. It worked out really well. Pretty good for you. Yeah. So you graduate from so that that brought you to Tampa? Um, no, actually I stayed in Sarasota, okay. And my first job out of college was, uh, with a publishing company, Pineapple Press. I know, still in business, still in business. And the David and June cousin, it's kind of a mom and pop shop and. And what did you do for them? Um, I actually did some marketing and sales promotion type work. Okay. And one of the coolest things I got to do there was work with Patrick Smith, the, the who's quite well known now is the author of Land Remembered, you know, the historical fiction novel. And I got to meet him a few times. Just super cool guy. But I'm really pleased that that book has really taken off, like in the last few years. And there's, um, there's a, I think a TV show coming and there's a restaurant named after. Yeah, yeah. I thought we had Carl Hiaasen on not too long ago, and he came in on zoom, and I was one of, uh, the only person, I think, that didn't know exactly who Carl Hiaasen was. And I called all kinds of grief for that. But now I know. Now I'm up to speed. And it sounds like that could be a similar situation with the gentleman you're describing. Yeah, he's he's deceased now, but but his son is still very active in terms of, um, kind of promoting his work and promoting making his work available to us. So you're working for Pineapple Press and then what happens next? Um, then I went to business school. I actually went to University of Florida and, um, moved up to Gainesville and did the traditional in-person program. They actually did have an online version at that time, but I pursued my MBA in marketing, probably the nineties by about now, maybe the middle to late nineties. I graduated in two thousand and one. Okay, there you go. Yeah. And I really enjoyed that too. That was like a whole that was totally different than New College, of course. But, um, and my, my, my classmates were a little bit more conservative. But one of

the coolest things about that experience was I really got to know and was roommates with several native Chinese folks who came to study to study. Absolutely. And they were just the coolest folks. They were just and they they really appreciated me because I took the effort to get to know get to know them and help them. How was their English? Um, not that not great. I mean, it was it was kind of so-so. So what, we we actually had a deal where, um. And this is going to sound a little stereotypical, but they helped me with the math portion of our group projects. Um, and because some of the statistics stuff and accounting stuff was awful, I really didn't like it. But then I helped with the written the narrative portion. Not too stereotypical. They're not too serious. You know, get the Asian guy to help you with the math. Not not too stereotypical. I got a question for David, though. While he's in, you know he's now progressing. I mean, he's a young man now. He's a University of Florida. He's he's found his path and he's kind of negotiating his path. Um, were you a were you still smoking weed? And B, your grades were good. So that's just an endorsement for the fact that, listen, if you're a lazy no good and you're smoking weed, you're just a lazy, no good smoking weed. But if you're a brilliant, smart person and you're smoking weed, weed ain't got nothing to do with it, man. We ain't got nothing to do with it. I'm just going to say it up front. I did, um, share some brownies, I think. Thank you, thank you. Did you share them with your Chinese friends? That's what I want to know. Yeah. How did they do with that? They liked it, actually. And some of my conservative, you know, American friends tried them out, too. And they were cool. And did you and and way to go, pal. Did you learn any Chinese? You know, I did not, and I, I have one word that we can catchphrase. Oh. Oh, gosh. What did they call you? How did they refer to you? I was white devil. White devil? I think they call me like a big nose. Big nose. All right, all right. Let's hear it. Oh, boy. No. We're gonna. We're gonna just stay with white pepper. Oh, we'll get to that in a minute. How you got to be white pepper? Listen, we're at the bottom of the hour. Let's remind everybody who who we are and what they're listening to. We'll come back to talk with David Bryant on the backside. Hi, I'm doctor Bob locked, and you're listening to the conversation with Mario Nunez and Joe King Carter on Wmfn Tampa, eighty eight point five FM. Those are the dulcet tones of. Yeah, there he is, doctor Bob. Doctor Bob, who was with us last week. We encourage you, if you missed last week's show, to not under the not under the guise of a family affair simply as an authority on radio. And it was excellent. It was a great show. I heard that show. It was really good. Well, it was a great show because of Bob. Oh, yeah. That's why it was a great show. We just kind of sat back and listened. Yeah, we didn't have to do too much. Yeah, that was really educational, actually. There's a lot about radio that I didn't know. And, um. And his voice is just. Well, you know, I'm going I'm going to voice is incredible. Yeah. I'm going to tell a tale out of school. I approached, uh, doctor Bob and said, well, this is about this is, uh, we're celebrating this event, and maybe we would maybe we should be talking about, uh, uh, protest music. Yeah. And he said, well, let me think about that. And then he, he, he went away and he came back and he said with a syllabus and he said, probably, he said probably others will be doing protest music, but I would really like to get into the fight between, uh, BMI and ASCAP. And I said, you know what? Why? What was I thinking? Of course, this man already knows where he wants to go with this, but it was a it was a it was a really a fun show. Yeah, it was very educational. I liked it a lot. Y'all did a great job. Thank you. So, so easy peasy for us. Now let me just go ahead and give the phone number at this point in time how people can reach us via text. We got to hurry up and get to the soul kitchen because man, we

got lots to talk about there. And the phone number in case you'd like to call. So if you'd like to call us, if you've got a question for David, aka white Pepp Bryant, it's eight one three two three nine nine six six three. You can always send us a text eight one three four three three zero eight eight five. Emails are welcomed. Jessica standing by. She'll screen your emails and share them with us DJ at all. Yes. Now, before we get to what you do here at Wmnf, I'd like to get to this place where we start talking about your work, how you got from where you were in school, to all of this work with nonprofits that you currently do. There you go. Well, that was kind of interesting when I left with my MBA, um, at and I kind of I kind of stumbled upon nonprofit work in a sense. And it was it was kind of the poor man's route to. But I thought it would be more interesting and more fun than working for an evil corporation. Kind of thing. So, um, so I actually came back to honorable, as it were. Yeah, exactly. Yeah. And, um, it was interesting. I came back to New College and actually worked for the alumni association there, so I was that's how I kind of got my start in nonprofit management and and fundraising and that that was the coolest job ever, man. It was just because new college people were doing such interesting and weird things. Innovative, fun, innovative and fun and, and, um, you know, they they certainly they, they, they grew as people, you know, after they left and broaden their horizons, you know, so, um, I think the, the most weird, the weirdest new college alum story was this dude named Malcolm who, who wrote a book. Uh, supposedly it was fiction, but. But based on little fact. Maybe. Supposedly. Yeah, it was. It was about this love affair with a dolphin, um, that he had met out in Sarasota Bay. And it was the name of it was terrific. It was, um, wet goddess. Wow. And, well, I was working there. Wet goddess got picked up by a British tabloid and so. And that that book just went it. He had trouble getting actually a publisher to, to put it in print. So for a while it was just online only. And so, um, but the British tabloids went, they picked up on that. It just, it went well. It just went everywhere. And let me I, you know, I'm sorry. I know where you're going. I know I have to go. I know you're well enough. Was this book controversial? Because the nature of the relationship was, at some level, erotically physical? Exactly. Yeah. Oh, exactly. He says okay. All right. Listen, we we've read things about dolphins. Uh, well, you know, dolphins are cool. Yes. No. And smooth. And they're beautiful and big I could big Dolphins are big. I mean, you don't think about it, but dolphins range One hundred and twenty pounds. You know, they're big animals. You could interact with a dolphin and have some fun, I think. Probably ride one. Have it ride you. I don't know, I don't know. Where are we going? Well, you know, pap, get us out of here. It's funny because when you mention that goddess. That sounds like an album from the LED Zeppelin era. Get us out of here. Oh, that's true. When you mentioned it, it, uh, it caused me to think of the Netflix movie. Uh, My Octopus Teacher. Oh, what a great. That was a good movie. And we all saw it, right? Yeah, we could do a whole show on that. And it's. I sensed I when I was watching that the sensation I had was that his emotional connection to the octopus was something. Uh, how do I say it? Deeper than friendship? Yeah, I agree, I thought that was simply an every day. Every day for three hundred and sixty five days. He took to the water with nothing more than his fins, his mask. I don't know that he had a snorkel. He might have. He used nothing but breath control to go to the depths, to be able to be there with the octopus that ultimately befriended him. Yeah. And if you haven't seen it, you must see it. It's good stuff. And I will share this with you. Show of hands here, boys. Did you weep? Did you weep? It's a white. There's some white I wept. I did too. Yeah. So? So now you're involved with the Dolphin lover book. And, uh. So

what happened next in your nonprofit, uh, journey? Oh, yeah. So I worked there for four years, and then, um, I actually got married. Uh, we actually got married at the my ex-wife. Now, um, Anastasia. We got married at the historic, uh, house that Charles Ringling house. Oh, wow. It's a great place. How cool is that? Yeah. It's beautiful. It's a beautiful house. And, um. And, um, Anastasia was working. She's an engineer, so she was working up in Tampa. So we we ended up moving up to Tampa. We bought a house in Seminole Heights. Bought the old bungalow. Sure. That's going to be one hundred years old next year. It's kind of crazy. And I love that old house, but it's it's challenging and it's charming and it fits with your personality because it seems like, you know, you're that kind of guy. You know what I mean? You want to. You want to. There's got to be more substance to it. You know what I mean? Tactile. You got to. So. Okay, so the big move. You got married? Yeah. And and now you're, uh, professional life is continuing here in Tampa. Tampa. Oh, yeah. Um, well, I want to give a quick shout out to my daughter to please Jackie. Absolutely. Jackie was born, and we. Jackie was born in a kind of an unusual situation. We had, um, the times Tampa Bay or Saint Pete times at the time was looking for the admitting nurse, mentioned that they were looking for a family to do a story on. And it was this three hundred words, kind of human interest stories that Brady Dennis was doing at the time. He's he's with Washington Post now. Um, so we actually we, uh, when Jackie was being born, we actually had, um, the PR guy from the hospital. We had a reporter and a photographer. Wow. Uh, in the delivery room with you, Pat? Yeah. Pretty much. For what? For half a day. And then Jackie had her credentials when she was born. I mean, she. It was great because we had, um, it because we had, uh, the, um, uh, all the, um. What am I trying to say? Press coverage. Media. Oh, yeah. The the article came out on December twenty fourth, Christmas Eve. Yeah. Christmas Eve. And it was black and white picture because I kept looking in the newspaper like I didn't know when it would be done, but she was in black and white because she was so fresh. She was had the blood and the cheese on her and. Oh my gosh, Jackie, that's your daddy telling tales out of school. So. Yeah, but that's fun. That sounds great. That's amazing. Yeah. So she was born December twenty. Uh. December ninth. Yeah. Okay, so she's gonna be twenty this year. It's crazy. I can't believe she's. They grow. They grow fast. No longer a teenager. They grow up fast. Yeah, I know, so. Yeah. And where is she? Is she here? Um. She is. Oh. Um. She. Yeah. She's, uh, At UCF in Tampa right now in Orlando, and she is studying business there. So she's awesome. She's a second year now. And I think she she did the IB program at Hillsborough High. So she was able to knock out and with AP classes knock out a lot of those smart girl like her early credits. Yeah. And her mama too, I'm sure. Oh, yeah. She got a little bit of both. But shout out to Jackie. Hope she's listening as well. Yeah. Of course. Yeah, definitely. Yeah, she's a great kid and she was home this past weekend. But yeah, she's she's great. Awesome. You better get you better get to the story about community. Yeah, we're trying to get there. Okay, so so this leads you to public, uh, to nonprofit work. And how does that progress? And how does how do we find you today doing that? Oh, yeah. Well, um, in terms of nonprofit work, you know, I continued with that. Um, I ended up working for my first job in Tampa was at Florida Aquarium, which was a lot of fun. Kind of fits with. With what? Duncan. We got dolphins there, don't they? Yeah, it was great. Well, they actually that they never did have dolphins there, but they and we always had people. Everything else though. Sure. Yeah. Because it's not it's not like moat where, you know, they've got access to different, uh, different things, but. Yeah, but it's a nice aquarium

though. Yeah. It is, it's very nice. I've been to that. And it's been a catalyst for the Channelside district. How it's kind of transformed. Yeah, one hundred percent. It was their first kind of. Yeah. Exactly that in the museum. Yeah. Tampa Bay History museum. That's true. Yeah. You know, everything's grown up. You worked for the aquarium, and then, um, then I worked briefly. Unfortunately, I would have liked to work there longer at Tampa museum of Art and actually got to help open. Or I got laid off just before they opened the new building. You know, the building that's downtown now? Sure. In Curtis Hixon Park. But I got to it was great to see the development of Curtis Hixon Park and the Children's Museum and the art Museum was all kind of happening at once. And interesting how it all kind of got transformed. So once again, another parallel is that I worked for the Tampa museum of Art for many years. Oh. Did you? Yeah. In the beginning, when it was first built, I worked in exhibitions and staging shows and that sort of thing. So awesome. Yeah, it was very cool. It was a very cool time. Yeah. Yeah. So, um, and so then we come to, um. And then I worked, uh, for a lifepath hospice for a while, so it kind of got some of that gerontology. Yeah. Some of the training that you had earlier, you got to use some of that. And I really enjoyed that because, uh, the nurses there, just because they're, there are angels on earth. Angels. Amazing. It's amazing stuff. And, um, and it was easy to fundraise for that organization just because people loved it so much. And, and we had such good staff and, um. Yeah, shout out for hospice. It's so amazing. Yeah, yeah. And then, um, my, my longest job came up after that and it's a little bit controversial. So we'll see. Please step right up. More so than erotic dolphins. Step right up. Go ahead. We're listening. You got our attention. It's a little controversial. So, um, and it's changed since I worked there too. But I worked for a step up for students, which is the the main organization that that does the private school voucher program. And I worked on the fundraising team there for almost ten years. And, um, I it was kind of interesting is that it used to be more income based for those scholarships for the kids, and now it's kind of gone to scholarships for all. So you don't really need to be of a certain. Um, so it's not that controversial in the case that we will give you an exemption and an exception, because it sounds to me like when you first started with them, they were honoring their true core mission, which was to give an alternative school, uh, opportunity for kids that needed help. Yeah, and needed maybe a little bit of a boost or special attention in the classroom. We know it's morphed into something other now, so we won't hold that against you. So it's not it wasn't as controversial when you were there. And I still like the concept of it, of giving kids an option. Of course, if the public school isn't meeting their needs. Of course. But I liked it better when it was more income based. And the kids that really needed the help. Yeah, exactly. Yeah. Um, so. And then, um, then now I am working for University of Florida's, um, College of Education. And what's interesting, I was able to kind of transfer my tax credit, fundraising skills, corporate tax credit, fundraising from from step up to new worlds reading. New worlds reading is the name of the program, but we're basically a free book delivery program for kids that aren't reading up to grade level for VPK through fifth grade. Um, public and charter school students. Wow. So important. Such important work. Yes. Particularly with information that our reading levels are dropping. Yeah, it is a critical moment in our time. And did and did did not tell us that one of the first things he remembers about his youth was that he was always a voracious reader. That's So it's gone full circle for you, Dave. Oh, yeah. Full circle. We work with Scholastic and Scholastic. Our program has gotten so big, they've opened their own warehouse in the Sanford area that just handles our our book delivery and

our book warehousing and such. That's amazing and such honorable work, man. I mean, I'm telling you. So now let's say this. If you are a fan on Friday nights of the Soul Kitchen, you now have gotten to know white pepper in a way that you had no idea before. Yeah. And so I think that that is that is ultimately the goal of our show. And so we have fulfilled that portion. But let's talk a little bit about how that show came about and how you got involved. Oh, sure. Um, well, initially I've been a volunteer for for wmnf for about, um, since about two thousand and one. And um, and I helped I was living in Sarasota, so I would come for the pledge drives mostly help with pledge drives and sometimes with events. But now that I live in Tampa for the last twenty years, I'm really not that far away. So it's really convenient for me to come in. And I started working on the air with Harrison Nash, the great Harrison Nash, the great Harrison Nash. Thank you. And he and his wife, Sarah, um, worked on a show called three hundred and sixty degrees of the Blues. And I remember it. You remember that show? Absolutely, yes. And I had told, uh, I believe it was, uh, Joel, and I think she was the volunteer coordinator at that time that I was interested in getting more involved with on the air type stuff. So, um, so I would help Harrison with the phones and, um, help them put in the playlist and help them with some other computer type stuff as well. And, um, so when he left that show, um, uh, there was well, it's a little complicated, but there was, uh, he left for a while, and now he's back again, of course. But, um, it opened up that time slot. So we were actually auditioned several people for helping fill that time slot. And that's where big G came in. Big G? Yeah. Which he has like the best radio voice. That's right. Family. That's right. Family. Yeah. We're cooking tonight. Family. Oh. He's amazing. I love his. And that was a very poor impersonation of Eddie G. Because he's got to get down there. I did, I couldn't. He's got a very unique voice. But what I was going to say, while you're describing your the genesis of your ascension to the microphone, as it were. Yeah. I'm thinking to myself, you know, I'm embarrassed. I'm ashamed because you put in the work, my brother, you came in, you answered phones for fun drives. You did all the tough slog. And then. And then they let you in the room where the microphones were before they let you on the microphone. I mean, you cleaned the bathrooms, my brother. You did everything. And me and Joey just walk in off the street and get a mic. Yeah, I feel bad. I'm going to go clean the bathrooms after we get off the air. Got to start doing a little more volunteering. No, no, listen. And programmers are volunteers. Let's face it, programmers are volunteers. Yeah, but. But, Papa, you. You put in the time. You know what I mean? Yeah. You're coming up on your twenty fifth anniversary. Your silver anniversary? Yeah, in two thousand and one. So we're going to have a party for you, I hope. That's amazing. It's been that long. What's your role with Eddie Gee on Friday nights? Tell tell us how you support the Soul Kitchen. And what is the Soul Kitchen? Yeah, um, I'm the co-host, and, um, I'm the board operator as well, and, uh, um, so. But I help contribute, you know, we have kind of our banter going on with the show. Wonderful. Um, one thing that we're known for is, um, we ask people what they're having for dinner. Absolutely. And so people actually send that in, they'll send in their menu and see, I think this is brilliant. And here's why I think it's brilliant, because what you've done is you've managed to do something that I wish Mario and I could have done. I would love to be sitting here talking about food. Only my most favorite subject. And, uh, and you guys do this thing, and I'm listening to the show. And I'm listening to you. Both of you interact, which is part of the fun of the show. I'm listening to great music, which is part of the fun of the show, but then you have these callers who call in and they'll they'll say, and, and

you're reading off what they're what they're making right now, or they're eating what they're eating. And I think to myself, as a culinary kind of wannabe, uh, person who cooks a lot, you know, somebody will call in and say, well, they have a they're doing a salmon slice with a tarragon cream base. I'm going, oh my God, that's a great idea. I've not I haven't really cooked with tarragon yet paired with a nice chardonnay. Yeah. Right. But I mean it's a great it's just such a, a wonderful little connection that's being made because yeah, everybody's consuming music and you're consuming food. Everybody eats. We have to give a shout out to Hutch who actually started that. That we call him the architect, because he's the one who started sending in his menu picks for the night and. Oh, oh, so that's how that evolved. That's how that. Oh, that. Oh. So you. So the two of you did not sit down one day and say, let's do food. No. Yeah. It evolved organically. Yeah. And then other people started sending in their. Yeah. So now it's a thing. Now you can't get away from it. So now. But it's cool. So how did you come. How did you come to own the moniker of white Pepper? How did that happen? There you go. Oh, that was obviously pepper with food, right? Pepper begets a black person and you're a white person. But normally we don't make an issue of those kinds of differences in appearance. Why was it. Oh well that's yeah, it was Eddie G that came up with the nickname. And um, yeah, I think it was kind of like, yeah, the white guy doing the R&B show. Yeah. You know. Yeah. White guy. And spice it up. I gotta say, David's like me. He's painfully white. Oh, yeah. No. Yeah. No doubt both you and I would glow in the dark. Yeah. So it's important for you cats to wear sunscreen. That's all I'm going to say. Yeah, well, you know, in cooking. Speaking of that, do you know why? White. What? The difference between white pepper and black pepper is no. So the black pepper is made from whole, uh, peppercorns. And the peppercorn has the black husk on it. Correct. White pepper is the husk removed? It's the same pepper, but it's removed. And it therefore makes the flavor, uh, typically what you would call smoother. Oh, yeah, I see. So. So by you being white pepper, you are smooth. Smoother. There you go. There you go. I think that's a good way to describe me. I've been told that I have a calming effect. You do, you do. I mean, that's that's part of your charm. I mean, listen, when we were bowling in that fundraiser that we did, too, last year, year before, and, uh. And all, all hell is breaking loose on our couple of lanes over here. I know that you were over here bowling in the lanes next to us, and I look at you, and you were as cool as could be. Yeah. Hey, Mario. It's just we're just having fun bowling. Meanwhile, I'm saying, well, somebody turn on the lights here. Why are we bowling in the dark? And Pepper's just laughing. I had a couple of highlights, too, I remember. It's a good beer, a good beer. That's right. Cigar city brewing. So let me check real quick with Jessica to see if maybe she's got an email she'd like to read. If there's a question for David from our audience. Well, yes, there is one from Brian Defarge. Defarge. Um, sorry if I'm butchering that pronunciation, but, um, he had a comment on probably what came through, uh, twenty minutes ago before the new he says, um, it's on the NC College, um, new college's mascot. Before the new regime takeover, the mascot was the null set, which was a mathematical term meaning nothing, of course. Pretty typical for beloved old new college. So that was division by zero, right? That's right. Yeah, we were the null set, and we we we were proud of that too. Um, now, of course you would be. Now we're the banyans. And it's like the tree looks kind of constipated is what we say. He looks like he's, like, really angry and he's, like, trying to squeeze one out, you know, frustrated. Frustrated tree. Yeah. Yeah. And if you can stand a compliment. David is one of the kindest and most supportive members of the Wmfn community. He is a major Wmfn

fan and is not only always listening, he emails everyone to say what a great job they are doing. Oh thank you. And she goes on to say, David, I and every other programmer who you email appreciates the love that you send our way every single day. Thank you, thank you. That is from Randy Z. Oh, here. Here, here. Thank you. And by the way, I would have to completely, uh, she has a better we second that she has a better viewpoint of seeing how that works because she's so tied to as the person she is listening constantly. But I listen a lot to and I'm always hearing interactions from David with other shows. And thank you. Your support is very, very obvious. And and we I'm I'm very I think we're all very appreciative of that. David doesn't have any natural enemies. He's one of those guys leads with kindness. And to know him is to love him Man because he's always got that smile on his face. So, you know, listen, and full disclosure, we had to kind of move white pepper a couple of weeks ago because yours truly double booked. And I backed ourselves into a corner. And I called pep and I told him and it was his birthday, the day that he was supposed to be on, he did call in the show. We were able to wish him a happy birthday, but in true white pep fashion he said, man, no problem Mario. Look, I live around the corner. It's no problem. I can be there. Let me check. Oh yeah, I'll be there next week. No worries. So thank you again for being so flexible. I was going to burn down Mario's car. No. Just kidding. No, it was wild. You know, let me just say, David, uh, to have a personality that's as such that you do is whether you intended for it to happen, whether it happened by accident or not is really kind of a gift because you, uh, you are that kind of person that I believe kind of calms other people when you're around that. And, uh, it's it's something you probably would have made a great psychotherapist because yeah, I can see how someone would feel very comfortable with you immediately. I had considered that when I was younger. Yeah, I thought I would be pretty good at that. And yeah, I like to be. Before you shower, David, with too much love and affection, we should talk to Jackie, because, you know, Jackie is probably on the inside. And either she's going to validate it and say, no, he was a great dad. Very cool. Calm. Never was, never lost his control with me. Or just the opposite. No, no, you don't know my father. He's nuts. Really? He's nuts. But I tend to think. I doubt that I do too, I do too. I'm only saying that I'm only raising that issue because, you know, we shouldn't. Because we don't know David in the off hours. But this is you, buddy. This is you. Thank you. Who you are, twenty four seven. You wouldn't like me when I'm angry. Oh, wow. Oh, David. Oh, David, wait a minute. Can we go there? Let's go there. Let's go there. Yeah. So, David. David, please. Because we talked about this. Yeah. Share with our audience what you mean by. You wouldn't like me when I'm angry. Yeah. We had a concept where I was talking to Mario about it a couple of weeks ago about David Jolly and and having him, um, in a, in an ad, you know, thirty second AD maybe. And the idea is that, um, he would turn into the Hulk and, um, and it would turn into a blue Hulk because he's a Democrat now, right? And he's trying to fight the the fight, the powers that are up in Tallahassee. But, um, the fact the idea is that, uh, you know, instead of you wouldn't like me when I'm angry, it would be like, you wouldn't like me when I'm jolly. And that's when he. He transforms. Transforms into jolly. Uh, like, not to be confused with Jolly Green Giant, but he would be the Jolly Blue Giant, right? We see that the white pepper is also creative. No, no. Come on, man, he's the full package. He's the full package. I got a strange sense of humor too, but. But it works. So listen, John David Jolly's campaign, if you're out there listening. We just gave you one for free. Yeah. So your show. So for those who are fans of, uh, of the Soul Kitchen, uh, you now know you know him a little bit

better. And, uh, what a great show, by the way. What time is that show on Joey? Yes, that show is on as, uh, on Fridays at eight, uh, eight to ten. And it's also, uh, Friday from two to four on, uh, HD four, HD four. So you have opportunities to listen a couple places. So if you're into if you're into R&B music, if you're into soul music, if you're into that fabulous Motown extraction and everything that came all the wellspring, everything that came from that start listening about six o'clock in the evening. Yeah. And you just take it all the way through till about midnight. It's a great lineup and you get nourished. You get your soul nourished. We're the meat in your soul sandwich because. Because of the fact that you've got you got the hit man. You got the hit man doing, um, the soul party. And he's. And he's been here forever. He's just a great guy. Well, he's like, he's like a master of Buddha Chamberlain. He's the he's the I believe it's Chamberlain High School, class of seventy seven, seventy eight. So you know, he's got that whole 70s vibe thing going on. He used to have a rap band too. The rap van had like, his whole DJ, uh, you know, uh, his portfolio, all his information. Yeah, yeah. The hit man. So, Steve. Go ahead. And then after that, we have the legendary Chuck Corey Jr. Come on daddy. Wang Dang with the good thing. Come on. I love his show. And I love his sense of humor. And yeah, he's. If I can't put it on you, I'll put it on you. So there we are. Yeah. I mean, you heard it here first. Not first, but you heard it here again. Yeah. So Friday nights on Wmfn is really, really a fun night. If you're if you're feeling a little bit down or you you need a pickup. If you want to feel like dancing, there's no better place to be. And also a little support for Big Eddie G. The two of you. The interaction between the two of you is just like, you can't make that stuff up. It's just perfect the way the two of you interact. That's what I've heard. Yeah, and he's definitely a good friend. And, um. Yeah, I'm really glad to get to work with him. And if he's the master chef. Are you the sous chef? I'm the sous chef. Yeah, And he. He's an encyclopedia of music, too. He really knows his music. And there's so many. Just his. His memory is good too, with music. So I. You know, he's a West Coast guy, right? Yeah. He is. He's from Los Angeles. Yeah, yeah. And, um, his wife had had attracted him to come and move here to Tampa. So shout out to to Katnip. Um, she's really awesome to Katnip. Yeah. Katnip. Isn't that great? Isn't that great? Wow. And what happens when when Big Eddie G. Katnip and white Pepper all hanging out? A good time ensues. I guess a good time ensues. That's all I'm going to say, by the way. Of course, obviously at some point we're going to have to have Big Eddie on, on on our show. Will you help us with that, pep? Will you help us get him? Yeah, definitely. I think he'd be great for the show. Yeah, absolutely. So is there anything that you would like to share with us before we just just before we get out? Oh, yeah. No, I just wanted to thank you for bringing me on. I did have a bad joke about if you brought Trump on this show, it would be the conversation. Oh, should I ring the bell? Oh, I'll miss us. Yeah. No, it's dad joke time. Yeah. No, listen, we had a good night last night. We had a good night last night. David. It's wonderful. Thank you. Thank you for coming on. Thank you so much. Thank you. And now you know who David Bryant, aka white Pepper is. Hey, what's coming up next, Joey? Well, next coming up next is, uh, first of all, thanks to Jessica G. Yeah. Thank you. Jessica running the board. She is, as she always does, can't do this without her. And, um, and also coming up next. There you go. Is it's the music Wednesday with Sam and Sam. Wow. She's over there rocking and rolling already, and she's not even, uh, throwing a disc out yet. So thank you, everybody, for listening in today. We are so pleased that you were there. We'll be here again next week. Please tune in again next Wednesday. This is Tampa.