

The Devlivore Post

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BANANA SLUG COLLECTIVE CONTINUES CAMPAIGN OF DESTRUCTION

Residents remain divided as recovery efforts clash with questions of compassion, security, and the future of Hemingway Heights

BY Matilda Horowitz

STAINED-GLASS AVENUE — The ongoing conflict between residents of Stained-Glass Avenue and the Banana Slug Collective shows no signs of slowing as reports of property damage, garden disruption, and late-night activity continue throughout the neighborhood.

Once considered a quiet residential stretch of Hemingway Heights, Stained-Glass Avenue has become the center of repeated incidents involving the notorious slug group, whose presence has left residents facing extensive damage to their homes and gardens.

The Collective’s most recognizable offense remains their repeated attacks on neighborhood structures, with residents reporting numerous cases of homes being left with unexpected openings after determined



The Slug Collective pictured on Hobbit Hill during their annual retreat. Photographed in Fall 2025 by Winston Smith. Top row (left to right): Danny Sluko and Bandana Nana. Bottom row (left to right): Sluglas Nugzales, Ooze Cruz, Bobby Slimes, and Flan L. Stan.

slug activity. “They started with petty theft,” one resident stated. “Now they are apparently interested in architectural design.” The Wild Ginger Scouts, a local group dedicated to spreading kindness and good cheer throughout the Fire Rocket district, have also reported repeated encounters with the group. Members claim their community efforts have been interrupted by unexpected slug appearances and damaged pathways. “They do not seem interested in our message of friendship,” said one Scout member. “They mostly seem interested in what we are standing on.”

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WEATHER OR NOT

August Forecasts



METEOROLOGY

The next several weeks are expected to bring the kind of weather that encourages residents to make ambitious outdoor plans and then immediately regret agreeing to them. Afternoons will remain warm and pleasant, with temperatures generally reaching the mid to upper 70s and occasional days pushing into the low 80s. These brief heat events have been classified by local residents as “severe weather,” prompting emergency fan deployment, dramatic discussions about shade availability, and several individuals reminding others that they “did not move here for this.” Mornings will continue arriving with cooler air, quiet gardens, and a thin layer of gray. Rainfall is expected to remain limited throughout the remainder of August. Lawns and gardens that have

enjoyed months of steady growth may begin showing signs of summer fatigue, with some plants demanding additional attention and others simply accepting their seasonal decline with dignity. September will begin with lingering summer conditions, though subtle changes will become more noticeable. Evenings will arrive earlier, shadows will stretch longer, and residents may begin discovering bits of spookiness creeping into their daily routines as the first hints of autumn may appear later in the month. However, summer is not expected to leave quietly. Residents are advised to continue enjoying outdoor gatherings, blooming gardens, and warm afternoons while they last. Those who have ignored their gardens all summer are advised that plants do remember.

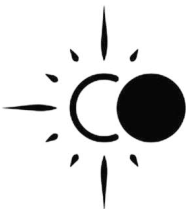
HOROSCOPE

Aries, the Ram ~March 21 – April 19~ You will take charge of a situation that was already handled. Everyone will appreciate the confidence.
Taurus, the Bull ~April 20 – May 20~ A disagreement over food becomes a matter of personal integrity. You refuse to surrender.
Gemini, the Twins ~May 21 – June 20~ You receive conflicting advice. Both sources are you.
Cancer, the Crab ~June 21 – July 22~ You will notice a small change in your home. You will spend the week determining if it noticed you first.
Leo, the Lion ~July 23 – August 22~ You will make a grand entrance. Unfortunately, everyone was already looking at something else.
Virgo, the Virgin ~August 23 – September 22~ Your attention to detail reveals a problem nobody else noticed. Unfortunately, now everyone knows about it.
Libra, the Scales ~September 23 – October 22~ As you carefully consider every option. The decision will be made by someone less qualified.
Scorpio, the Scorpion ~October 23 – November 21~ A mystery finds you. You immediately make it a bigger mystery.
Sagittarius, the Archer ~November 22 – December 21~ A spontaneous adventure begins after you confidently take the wrong path.
Capricorn, the Goat ~December 22 – January 19~ A long-term plan succeeds. You immediately begin planning how to improve it.
Aquarius, the Water Carrier ~January 20 – February 18~ Your unusual solution works perfectly. This creates several new concerns.
Pisces, the Fishes ~February 19 – March 20~ You sense a deeper meaning behind a strange coincidence. The universe responds with a polite “no.”

NIGHT WATCH



NEW MOON — Wednesday, August 12, 2026
FIRST QUARTER MOON — Wednesday, August 19, 2026
FULL MOON — Thursday, August 27, 2026 *Sturgeon Moon*
LAST QUARTER MOON — Friday, September 4, 2026



PARTIAL LUNAR ECLIPSE
Thursday, August 27, 2026 through
Friday, August 28, 2026

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Meanwhile, new accusations have emerged regarding Bandana Nana himself. Residents near Dickson's Gold Estates, located just beyond Hobbit Hill — a location historically associated with Bandana Nana's frequent retreats — claim the former neighborhood figure may have been involved in recent disturbances.

Officials have not confirmed these reports. However, community members remain cautious given Bandana Nana's previous connection to the Banana Slug Collective's rise in activity throughout Hemingway Heights.

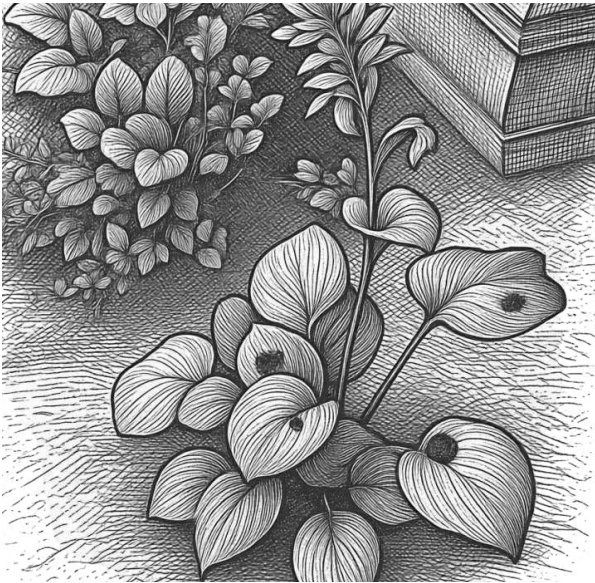
SALTED GROUNDS ORDER REMAINS A SOURCE OF COMMUNITY DIVISION

As Stained-Glass Avenue continues its recovery, the controversial "Salty Grounds" response remains one of the most debated decisions in Hemingway Heights history. Supporters argue the measure is necessary to protect residents and restore order. "People forget these are not isolated incidents," said one homeowner. "We have lost entire sections of gardens. At some point, something has to be done."

Others believe the response has been excessive, questioning whether the community's approach reflects the values Hemingway Heights hopes to represent.

"Protection matters," said another resident. "But so does understanding. We cannot build a better neighborhood by treating every problem like a battle."

Town officials have acknowledged the disagreement and stated that future decisions will require balancing safety, environmental responsibility, and the unique character of the community.



(Left) Homes along Stained-Glass Avenue after sustaining extensive property damage. (Right) Wild Ginger Scouts gathered on the ridge beyond the Fire Rocket district to observe the scene. Captured July 2026 by Winston Smith.



ECLIPSE HYDRANGEAS BRING NEW LIFE TO THE OVER LOOK NOOK

While some neighborhoods remain focused on conflict, another corner of Hemingway Heights is experiencing a period of remarkable transformation.

The Eclipse Hydrangeas are currently in full bloom, showcasing their impressive displays throughout the residential area known locally as the Over Look Nook.

Located behind Maple Leaf Lane, the neighborhood has quickly developed a reputation as one of the most refined areas within the gated community. What was once considered a modest corner of Hemingway Heights has grown into an upscale destination known for its carefully maintained landscapes and distinctive home renovations.

Residents credit the Eclipse Hydrangeas with helping define the neighborhood's changing identity.

"It feels like a completely different place," one homeowner said. "Years ago, nobody expected this area to become what it is today."

A COMMUNITY STILL GROWING

Despite ongoing challenges, Hemingway Heights continues to change at an unprecedented pace.

From the security concerns of Black Mondo Lane, to the rebuilding efforts of Stained-Glass Avenue, to the flourishing neighborhoods surrounding Maple Leaf Lane, the garden community has become a place defined by contrasts.

Officials say the diversity of residents, landscapes, and perspectives is what continues to shape Hemingway Heights.

What began as a quiet garden neighborhood is becoming something much larger — a community of unexpected characters, competing interests, and constant growth.

As summer approaches, residents are left wondering whether Hemingway Heights will remain a peaceful gated community or become something entirely new: a vibrant city growing from the roots of its unusual beginnings.

DEAD MEN TALES TAVERN INTRODUCES BRUNCH SPECIAL

Residents Debate Whether Change is Necessary

BY Matilda Horowitz

New menu offering brings renewed activity to Devlivore's favorite gathering place.

DEVLIVORE — In a town where change often goes unnoticed, the introduction of something new has caused a surprising amount of discussion.

The Dead Men Tales Tavern announced this week the addition of a weekend brunch special, featuring a rotating selection of morning favorites for residents looking to enjoy a slower start to the day.

The announcement marks one of the few recent adjustments made to the beloved Tavern, which has long served as one of Devlivore's most reliable gathering places.

While many residents have welcomed the addition, others have questioned whether the change was needed at all.

"I don't see the problem with it," said one resident. "I also don't see the need for it."

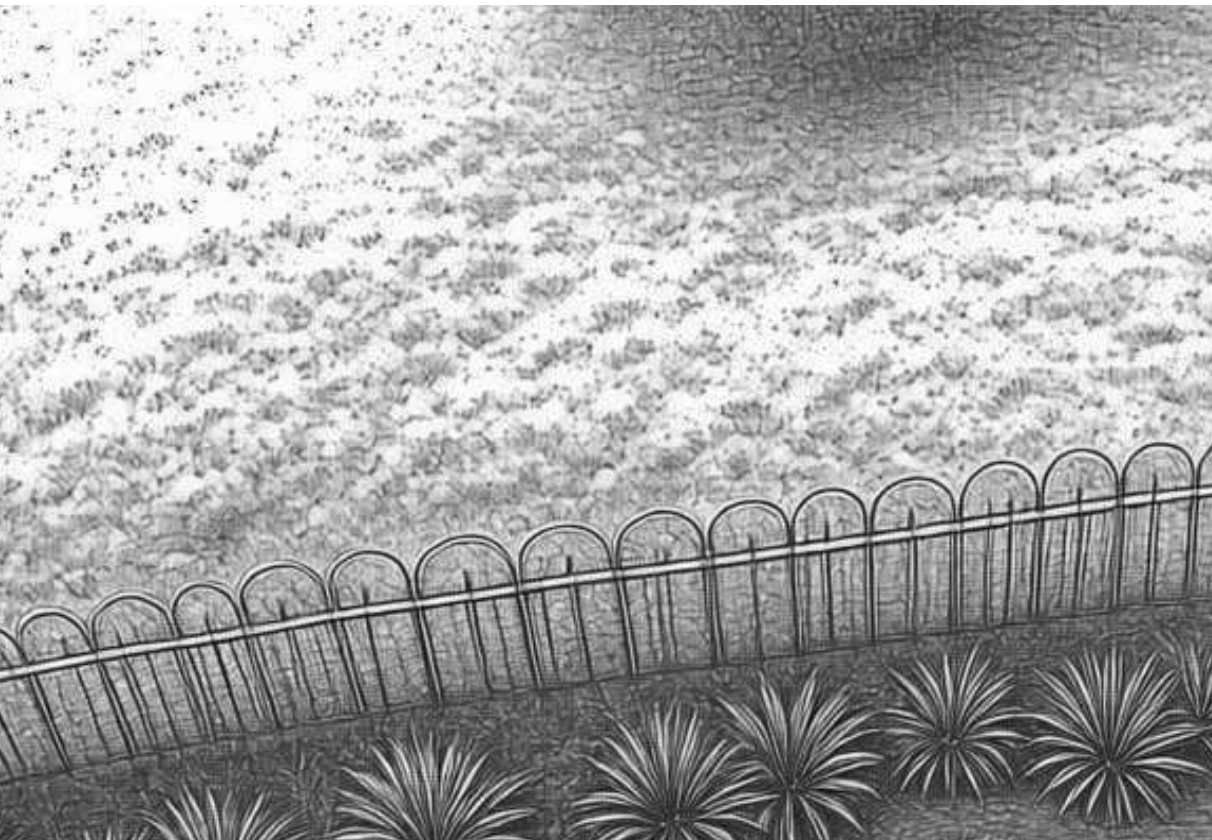
The resident, who spends much of his time seated at his preferred wooden chair inside the Tavern, stated that Devlivore has always been a place where residents can enjoy the simple things without constantly searching for something new.

"This chair has been my home for quite some time," he explained.

Continued on Page 3.

GREEN BLADE BRIGADE MOURNS LOSS OF HEALTHY GROWTH FOLLOWING WDC REDISTRIBUTION EFFORTS

Officials defend Mawn Lower Compliance Act response as residents question whether Hemingway County went too far



Residents of Black Mondo Lane overlook the grieving Green Blade Brigade while the summer sun shines undisturbed. Pictured in late July 2026 by Winston Smith.

personal views of the WDC. This is about the means by which the Act was enacted."

RUMORS OF WHACKING SPREAD AMONG RESIDENTS

As Green Blade Brigade members continue to recover, rumors have circulated throughout Hemingway Heights regarding possible "weed

whacking" activity during the redistribution process.

Officials have denied any confirmed reports of improper maintenance practices.

County representatives stated that while it remains unverified whether any unauthorized whacking occurred, the recent heat wave is considered a significant contributing factor to

BY Matilda Horowitz

HEMINGWAY HEIGHTS — What began as an effort to restore order along Black Mondo Lane has become one of the most debated landscaping decisions in recent Hemingway County history.

Following concerns surrounding the rapid expansion of the White Dutch Clovers (WDC), county officials authorized the redistribution of WDC populations under the recently enacted Mawn Lower Compliance Act.

The Act, designed to address unauthorized plant placement throughout Hemingway County, allows officials to remove non-registered agents through approved procedures including "plucking and chucking" and "chopping and cropping."

Officials stated the initiative was intended to preserve proper vegetative organization and ensure that all plant communities maintain their rightful positions as established by county regulations and ancestral growing

the lawn's decline.

"We cannot ignore environmental conditions," said one official. "The summer heat has affected several communities throughout Hemingway County."

Continued on Page 3.

patterns.

However, the aftermath of the redistribution has left another group struggling.

The Green Blade Brigade, Hemingway Heights' longtime front lawn grass population, has experienced significant decline in recent weeks. Residents report widespread browning, weakened growth, and what many describe as a period of collective mourning following the removal of their neighboring clover communities.

While some residents supported the WDC redistribution, others believe the response created unnecessary damage to a previously balanced ecosystem.

"There's a right way and a wrong way of redistribution," said a town official. "The Mawn Lower Compliance Act allows us to enforce county laws relating to rightful plant position acquisition as outlined by our vegetative ancestors. This incident is not about a plant's

Continued from Page 2: Green Blade Brigade

WDC STATUS REMAINS UNCERTAIN

The White Dutch Clovers have historically been considered a familiar and respected presence alongside Hemingway Heights.

Despite recent disagreements surrounding their expansion, many longtime residents acknowledge the WDC’s longstanding role within the community.

“They have always been here,” said one resident. “They weren’t strangers. They were neighbors.”

Officials have emphasized that the redistribution effort was never intended as a rejection of the WDC, but rather an attempt to manage growth and maintain order within the county.

EMERGENCY SHOWERS DEPLOYED TO ASSIST RECOVERY

In response to the Green Blade Brigade’s declining condition, city officials have approved additional localized showers above vulnerable populations throughout Hemingway Heights.

The emergency watering measures, authorized under the Mawn Lower Compliance Act, have previously been credited with preventing widespread devastation during periods of environmental stress.

Officials remain hopeful that increased hydration will restore strength and stability to affected areas.

“Recovery will take time,” stated a county representative. “But Hemingway Heights has faced difficult growing seasons before, and we have always recovered together.”

As summer continues, residents are watching closely to see whether the Green Blade Brigade returns to full strength — and whether the

lessons learned from the WDC redistribution will influence future decisions regarding the delicate balance between growth, regulation, and coexistence.

Continue from Page 2: Dead Men Tales Tavern

When asked if he was speaking figuratively, he admitted that he did technically own a house elsewhere in town.

“I visit it occasionally,” he said. “You know, when the mood is right.”

Despite his hesitation toward the new menu option, he acknowledged that the brunch special appears to have brought increased activity to the tavern.

“More people have been coming in,” he said. “Mostly the younger crowd.”

When asked who he meant, he clarified that he was referring to residents who still seem interested in filling their days with plans, projects, and possibilities.

“They’re always excited about something,” he said. “A new job. A new hobby. A new answer. Nothing wrong with that, I suppose.”

A QUIET DIFFERENCE AMONG DEVLIVORE RESIDENTS

While not an official distinction, longtime residents have consistently recognized a subtle difference between those who approach Devlivore as a place to continue searching and those who have decided they have already found what they needed.

The difference is rarely discussed directly.

Some residents spend their days working toward the next opportunity, maintaining routines, and pursuing answers to questions that remain important to them.

Others have embraced a slower pace, finding comfort in familiar places, familiar faces, and the absence of urgency.

Residents who continue looking ahead are often referred to casually as the “dying,” while those who have settled into the rhythm of Devlivore are sometimes called the “dead.”

Neither term is considered official, and residents use them with little concern.

The difference appears less about condition and more about perspective.

Those considered “dying” often continue searching for cures, hoping to discover something that may allow them to move forward from the lives they left behind.

Residents occasionally mention places they once called home, though such conversations rarely lead to plans for departure. No formal moving announcements have been recorded, and most residents appear content to remain part of the community.

Those considered “dead” often describe Devlivore as the perfect retirement community — a place where there is no need to rush, no need to prove anything, and no reason not to spend an afternoon at the Tavern.

NEW RESIDENTS EMBRACE COMMUNITY LIFE

Among those welcoming the new brunch option is a recent resident who believes the change represents exactly what makes Devlivore special.

“It gives people another reason to come together,” he said.

The resident recently relocated his small family to town and says the transition has been easier than expected.

His wife has begun part-time work at the local bookstore, Books, allowing her to contribute to the community while bringing their young son

along during her shifts.

“He has no complaints,” he said. “Mostly spends his time in the coloring book section.”

The family has quickly adapted to the pace of Devlivore, with the resident explaining that the town has given them something they had been missing.

“Things feel lighter here,” he said. “You still have your responsibilities. You still have things you care about. But everything feels a little more manageable.”

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CRISS CROSS

DOWN

- 1. Warm, sticky air that makes you sweat.
- 2. A bright yellow flower that turns to face the sun.
- 3. The stage before a butterfly spreads its wings.
- 4. You wear these to protect your eyes from the bright sun.
- 5. A sweet liquid inside flowers that butterflies and bees drink.
- 10. The part of a plant that grows underground.
- 11. A soft part of a flower that attracts insects.

ACROSS

- 1. You feel this on a very hot day.
- 6. A colorful insect that starts as a caterpillar.
- 7. The season that comes after summer.
- 8. Tiny grains on flowers that help plants make seeds.
- 9. The waves of warm air rising from hot pavement can look like this.
- 12. The cream you put on to protect your skin from the sun.

ANSWERS WILL BE REVEALED IN THE NEXT PRUBLICATION.

1 p

3 s w i m

5 f u n

7 b

9 i c e

10 v a c a t i o n

11 s

12 w a v e

13 s

2 s

4 j u l y

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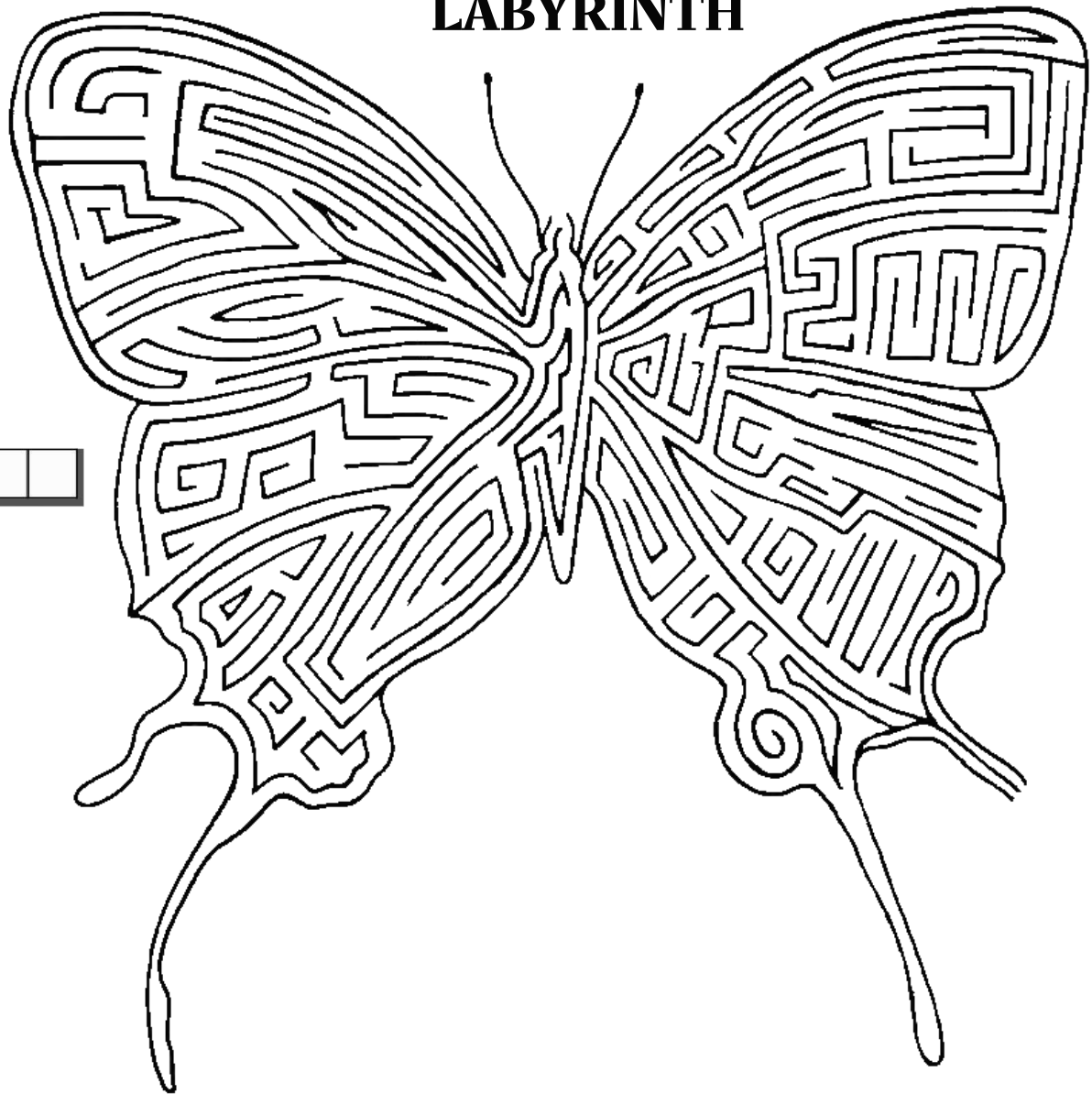
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ANSWERS FROM THE PREVIOUS PRUBLICATION.

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Take "Gaslight" to make everything all right!

RECIPE

Grilled Corn & Zucchini Pasta

with Lemon Basil Butter

OUR SEASONAL PICK BY
Chef Ja Ja

INGREDIENTS

- 12 oz cavatappi, orecchiette, or other short pasta
- 2 ears fresh sweet corn, husks removed
- 2 medium zucchini, sliced into ¼-inch rounds
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- Salt and freshly cracked black pepper
- 4 tbsp unsalted butter
- 1 small shallot, finely minced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- Zest of 1 lemon
- Juice of 1 lemon
- ½ cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese, plus more for serving
- ¼ cup fresh basil leaves, thinly sliced
- 2 tbsp fresh parsley, chopped (optional)
- Crushed red pepper flakes (optional)

METHOD

Bring a large pot of generously salted water to a boil. Cook the pasta until al dente according to the package directions. Reserve ¾ cup of the pasta water before draining.

Meanwhile, brush the corn, zucchini, and cherry tomatoes lightly with olive oil. Season with salt and freshly cracked black pepper.

Grill the corn, zucchini, and tomatoes over medium-high heat until lightly charred and tender. The corn should have visible grill marks, the zucchini should be browned but still firm, and the tomatoes should begin to soften and blister, about 5–10 minutes depending on size. Remove from the grill and allow to cool slightly.

Slice the kernels from the corn cob and roughly chop the grilled zucchini and tomatoes into bite-sized pieces.

In a large skillet, melt the butter over medium heat. Add the minced shallot and cook for 2–3 minutes until softened. Add the garlic and cook for another 30 seconds until fragrant.

Stir in the lemon zest and lemon juice. Add the cooked pasta, grilled vegetables, and a splash of reserved pasta water, tossing until every-

thing is evenly coated. Continue adding adding pasta water as needed until the sauce becomes glossy and lightly coats the noodles.

Remove from heat and stir in the Parmesan, basil, and parsley. Season with additional salt, pepper, and crushed red pepper flakes if desired.

Serve warm with extra Parmesan and fresh basil scattered on top.

WHY IT WORKS

Late summer gardens have a habit of producing abundance all at once, and this pasta embraces that seasonal generosity. Sweet corn brings natural sweetness, grilled zucchini adds a smoky depth, and blistered tomatoes provide a bright burst of acidity that balances the richness of the lemon basil butter.

The Parmesan and pasta water create a silky sauce that brings everything together without weighing the dish down. It is the kind of meal that celebrates the final stretch of summer—fresh, comforting, and best enjoyed outdoors while the garden continues offering “just one more” harvest.



DEAR DEVLIVORE

Dear Devlivore,

Has anyone else noticed that every lost cat eventually comes home with better manners? Ours now waits to be invited onto the furniture and has developed an appreciation for chamber music.

Should I be concerned?

— Proud, Yet Suspicious

Dear Proud, Yet Suspicious,

Improvement is a slippery thing.

Today your cat waits to be invited onto the sofa. Tomorrow it begins waiting for you to ask permission before sitting in your favorite chair.

Changes of temperament should be welcomed, but never left entirely unsupervised.

Start with small tests. Leave a spoon on the edge of the counter. Wear slippers to dinner. Deliberately mispronounce “chrysanthemum.” A healthy cat will ignore these lapses. A cat that’s become overly civilized may begin correcting them.

Should it present you with a folded napkin, address you as “my good fellow,” or express disappointment in your posture, I recommend spending a few afternoons apart. Or consider getting lost yourself. If the cat came back better, I see no reason you shouldn’t.

— Devlivore

Dear Devlivore,

My mailbox occasionally contains letters addressed to me in handwriting I recognize as my own. The advice is generally sound. Is it tacky not to write back?

—Corresponding With Myself

Dear Corresponding With Myself,

Write back.

Frankly, it is wonderful that you have finally found someone who shares your interests, understands your concerns, and is willing to hear your side of every story.

A rare thing.

Especially since you have been waiting years for someone to interrupt you less.

Residents who begin writing to themselves occasionally report small memory troubles. Names vanish. Dates become unreliable. They forget why they walked into a room, though to be fair, most of us were doing that before the letters started.

The good news is that many report gaining a remarkable amount of wisdom in exchange. Problems that once seemed impossible become embarrassingly obvious. Long-standing arguments resolve themselves. Questions that kept them awake for years suddenly receive answers they apparently had all along.

The downside is that you may forget what the original question was.

A few residents have even reported forgetting their favorite jokes. A shame, until they read them again and laugh like they’ve never heard them before.

There are worse things than enjoying your own jokes twice.

I see no reason to stop.

After all, good conversation is hard to find these days. If you have finally met someone patient enough to listen to all your stories, remember all your complaints, and still reply the next day, you should make an effort to keep them around.

Just don’t become too fond of them.

You already know exactly how difficult they can be.

— Devlivore

Here at The Devlivore Post, we welcome the thoughts, stories, artwork, and notices of our fellow residents. If you have something to share with the community, submit it to our office for consideration in an upcoming issue.

