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weekly nightlife section in

**WINDY
CITY
TIMES**



Chicago Sky's Delle Donne opens up about lesbian relationship

BY ROSS FORMAN

Elena Delle Donne grabbed the national spotlight on Wednesday, Aug. 3 focused on her off-the-court life: in a two-page feature story that appeared in the August issue of *Vogue*, Delle Donne confirmed for the first time that she is in a same-sex relationship with Amanda Clifton



Elena Delle Donne.

Photo by Ross Forman

and the two will be married.

Delle Donne was the Chicago Sky's first-round draft pick (second overall behind out lesbian Brittney Griner of the Phoenix Mercury) and was the 2015 WNBA MVP. Delle Donne is a three-time WNBA All-Star.

The *Vogue* story states, "Elena divides her time between traveling with her team, the Chicago Sky, and her family's home in the rolling green landscape of Wilmington, Delaware. She and her fiancée, Amanda Clifton, keep apartments in both Chicago and Wilmington."

Delle Donne, 26, has long been outspoken about the inclusion of lesbian and bisexual players in the WNBA.

She is in Rio, eyeing gold with Team USA at the 2016 Summer Olympics. Delle Donne told media at the Olympics, "Vogue just did a very in-depth article and for those that are very close to me, they know Amanda very well. [It was] one of those articles where they came into my home and spent a couple days with me and Amanda is a huge part of my life. To leave her out wouldn't have made any sense. It's not a coming-out article or anything. I've been with her for a very long time now and people who are close to me know that."

Clifton played basketball at Illinois State University and is now a director at of De11e Donne Academy, the basketball camps by the WNBA superstar. Clifton is in Rio, too.

Delle Donne apparently proposed to Clifton as Clifton last month posted photos on Facebook of the proposal with Clifton answering, "I obviously said yes!" to Delle Donne's "Marry

Me?" sign.

"Elena Delle Donne is a great representative for her country, her sport, and female athletes in general. I'm happy for her and fiancée, Amanda Clifton ... now go get that gold in Rio," said Linda Bache, the owner/GM for the Chicago Force women's football team.

Julie Colwell of Chicago tagged the news as "Fantastic."

"The Olympics and a wedding ... a great year for Elena. Let's hope there is gold at both events. Love always wins," Colwell said.

Robin Lee, who runs a sports memorabilia website geared for female athletes (www.girl-jocks.com), said it was "wonderful to hear" about Delle Donne.

"Good for [Elena] for being true to herself," Lee said. "The reigning WNBA League MVP, on the eve of the world's largest and most prestigious sporting event, quietly declares who she is. This simple grace is another reason to watch and admire Elena Delle Donne."

Alex Chambers, who lives in Arizona, has attended hundreds of WNBA games and even wrote a book about the league, said Delle Donne's news hopefully will inspire more athletes in the WNBA to already be out before they even come into the league, thus leaving the only thing to focus on is their game."

Michael Erwin, the president of the predominantly gay Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association (CMSA), said Delle Donne is now, without question, "a role model for many young and old LGBTQA athletes."

Sue Laschinski, who lives in suburban Chicago, added the Delle Donne "will have a huge impact on young girls as she is embracing who she really is [as] an individual. She is a great role model."

Second City Tennis Classic Aug. 12-14

Second City Tennis is holding its annual Classic Tennis Tournament Aug. 12-14 at the Midtown Athletic Club as well as Lakeshore Sport and Fitness.

Registration continues through Friday, July 29.

This will be a tournament with five divisions of abilities from beginner level (D) to advanced level (open). Players can register for singles and/or doubles. Although there isn't a separate women's division, women are encouraged to participate.

Also, the tournament banquet will be Saturday, July 30, 7-9 p.m., at the Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St.

For more information about the tournament, go to the tournament website at SCTClassic.com.

'Olympic Gear Party' fundraiser Aug. 20

The AFC Sirens will host a special fundraiser to benefit its sponsor, the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC), on Saturday, Aug. 20, 2-5 p.m., at The North End, 3733 N. Halsted St.

Admission is free.

A percentage of the sales of MillerCoors products will benefit the AIDS Foundation of Chicago.

See "Olympic Gear Party: Diving & Wrestling Gold Edition - An AFC Sirens fundraiser" on Facebook.



DANCING ABOUT ARCHITECTURE

BY MARC 'MOOSE' MODER



Mapping out your Market Days with Moose

Northalsted Market Days—second only to Taste of Chicago for city fests in scope and scale—is our city's *real* Pride Fest, if not in name, then in every other way. While "Pride" is celebrated in many other towns (and some would say in many better ways), Market Days has no equal. Like music festivals, Market Days can be daunting, and if you're not careful, one can miss a great act if you don't map out your trajectory.

First, if you're here from out of town, go explore on Friday night. It's a great big town outside Boystown. Hit up Downtown, West Loop, River North, Andersonville or Bucktown. Save Lakeview/Boystown/Halsted for Saturday and Sunday, starting on Saturday (post-brunch) with possibly Jake Miller.

1:20 p.m./Nissan Stage*: There's always one teen sensation at Market Days. We all walk past the line of 200 tween girls and scattered twinks and wonder aloud, "Who are they waiting for?". The answer this year will be **Jake Miller**. With looks that exceed Bieber's and skirt Jonas' (pick one), plus some talent to skim both, he's a dreamy all-in-one rap/pop/folk nugget. His new single, "Overnight," gets him more into Zayn territory and that sounds promising. (*Nissan stage is Roscoe and Halsted)

4:30 p.m./North Stage at Addison: You may know **Diana King** from her hits, "Shy Guy" and her classic cover of "I Say A Little Prayer," fea-

tured in My Best Friend's Wedding, but Ms. King has a sweet catalog of pop, reggae and soul to get to know. Let's just pray she leans toward the remix of "Little Prayer" to please the queens who still know that mix better.

6 p.m./Belmont Stage: Just hunker down here for a bit. We start with hip-hop/soul star **Lizzo**, who is hitting that Nicki Minaj sweet spot in the 'hood right now and will not disappoint. Soon, you will be saying you "saw her when." '90s stars **La Bouche** and **Deborah Cox** follow right after, bookending the decade with early euroclub vs. pre-millennium soul and house. It does have to be said La Bouche singer Melanie Thornton died in 2001, with singer Sophie Cairo now filling in, so if you need to break for a brat, don't miss the powerhouse, Cox.

What can I say about Sunday? You might come see yours truly spin our **Tea Dance (Tea in A'ville)** party at the Nissan Stage, 3-6 p.m. It will be the biggest party that day, but I might be biased.

5 p.m./Belmont Stage: I will say I won't throw you a look if you have to sneak away for the amazing DJ/producer **RJD2**, as he is far cooler than me, but unless you're hooked, start making your way to the **North Stage at Addison** for the 5:45 p.m. set by Glee breakout star, **Alex Newell**, who's put out one brilliant song and EP at a time over these past few years. Think a more club-oriented Shamir or a new, shiny Sylvester: All gender-fucking and falsetto realness.

6:15 p.m./Belmont Stage: If Glee's not your glee, stay south for the stunning party that is always Catfight. Rival only to 16 Candles (and Rod Tuffcurls, same time, Roscoe Stage) in fan enthusiasm and cover band perfection, imagine all your favorite female rockers rolled into one, times ten.

8 p.m./Belmont Stage: Now the eight o'clock slot creates issues. You could go see our friends **16 Candles** at 8:30 p.m. at Addison. They are always a massive lovefest of '80s rock that brings all the boys to their yard, but at Belmont you have the magnetic **Erika Jayne**. Not only is she the biggest breakout star of any Bravo show in years (Real Housewives of Beverly Hills), but unlike her show contemporaries, she can sing and perform for real. She's filthy, she's gorgeous and there's not one sleeper song in the bunch.

Check out Moose at "Moose the DJ" on FB for more info on Sunday's Tea Dance set.

Tomlin to get lifetime award

Lily Tomlin will be the 53rd recipient of the SAG Life Achievement Award for career achievement and humanitarian accomplishment.

The honor will be bestowed Jan. 29, 2017, at SAG-AFTRA's 23rd annual SAG Awards.

Out actress Tomlin was nominated for an Emmy last month for a second consecutive year for her role on Netflix's comedy *Grace And Frankie*. She also earned an Oscar nom for her first feature film, Robert Altman's *Nashville*.

'Sexy Liberal Comedy Tour' in Chicago Sept. 10

The 2016 Sexy Liberal Comedy Tour—with Stephanie Miller, John Fugelsang, and Fran Callier and Angela V. Shelton (aka Frangella)—comes to the Chicago Theater, 175 N. State St., on Saturday, Sept. 10, at 8 p.m.

Miller's comedy album, *The Best of Stephanie Miller's Happy House, Volume #1*, debuted as the number-one Comedy Album on Amazon, iTunes and Google Play. It blasted on to the Billboard charts Feb. 18, 2015, at number two, dubbed by the influential industry magazine as its "Hot Shot Debut."

See Ticketmaster.com.

the DISH

Weekly Dining Guide in
WINDY CITY TIMES

SAVOR

Fig & Olive; Taste of A'ville coming up

BY ANDREW DAVIS

Elegant Gold Coast restaurant **Fig & Olive** (104 E. Oak St.; FigAndOlive.com) is still bringing the goods, this time with its summer menu.

Watermelon and asparagus are among the items emphasized on Fig & Olive's current menu, available through late September.

Things started off well with a raspberry mojito that was just on the right side of tartness—and I thank the server for steering me away from another drink (First Light) that sounded promising but turned out to be bland (thanks to a small sample he brought me).

Even the bread stood out, as the rosemary focaccia was served with olive oils from Portugal, Spain and Greece, and the tomato-watermelon gazpacho (with squash seed and basil olive oil) was an incredibly refreshing appetizer.

Rosemary was a key part of the savory lamb chops as well; I also enjoyed the ricotta gnocchi served with it, although I could've done without the braised honey eggplant. (Strangely, it didn't seem to add anything.) The conclusion of the meal



Lamb chops at Fig & Olive.

Photo by Andrew Davis

was, for me, the best part, as the chocolate fondant was a bowl of fudgy goodness accompanied by candied orange and vanilla ice cream.

Add some cool chillout music courtesy of a DJ, and it was a very tasteful (and tasty) experience.

Taste of Andersonville Aug. 10

The annual Taste of Andersonville Dinner Crawl will take place Wed., Aug. 10, 6-9 p.m.

The crawl allows guest to enjoy returning restaurant favorites, find new spots to dine, and meet neighbors and friends along Andersonville's business district. Taste of Andersonville participants can choose from one of two dining routes: the vegetarian-friendly SALT Route or the PEPPER Route, both filled with bites from a variety of host destinations, including newcomers Goddess and Grocer, TrueNorth, Rare Bird Preserves at the Andersonville Farmers Market, Appellation and Elixir Andersonville.

Tickets for the evening are \$30 for each route in advance and \$35 on the week of the event (if available). Alternately, guests can dine on both routes with the THE WHOLE ENCHILADA ticket package, which is \$55 in advance and \$65 the week of the event (if available).

For more details, see Andersonville.org/events/taste-of-andersonville-dinner-crawl/.



From top: Appellation's summer squash gnudi, Goddess and Grocer's chili maple bacon and True North's kale banana smoothie.

Photos courtesy of Andersonville Chamber of Commerce

nightspots the big TO-DO

OUR WEEKLY PICKS TO PLAN
YOUR NIGHTLIFE CALENDAR

Bear Den's Market Days Kick-off with DJ Tracy McKenzie



Thu., Aug. 11, 9 pm
Big Chicks,

5024 N. Sheridan Rd.

Bring your dancing shoes to kick off this fun weekend in Chicago! Drink Specials: \$3 Miller Lite pints, \$4 Blue Moon, Summer Shandy, Vallejo & Rosa pints, \$4 Absolut cocktails and \$5 Jack Daniel's cocktails. Kitchen open until 10 pm.

Off Center: New Live Music Series at Center on Halsted



Fri., Aug. 12, 7-9 pm
Center on Halsted,
3656 N. Halsted St.

New monthly performance showcase, featuring live sets from LGBTQ community musicians in a laid-back setting. Scott Free (Homolatte), Joe Stevens, and R.D.A. as Osiris. Cash bar available. \$10 suggested donation benefitting COH's Homeless Youth Initiative.

Distrkt C
(Powered by Scruff)



Sat., Aug. 13, 11 pm
Manhole

3210 N. Halsted St.

Distrkt C's Red Light Tour makes its way to Chicago! Featuring DJ Manny Lehman and porn stars Rikk York and Oscar Mejia. Suggested dress: leather, uniforms, jocks, singlets, jeans.

TatTuesday's 2nd Anniversary



Tue., Aug. 16, 9 pm
Replay Beer & Bourbon,
3439 N. Halsted St.

Celebrate two years of Chicago's inkiest, kinkiest night with your friends at Organized Grime, startenders Ryan Willing and Keith Stryker, door whore Richard Streetman and foul-mouthed host Debbie Fox.



Edie.

PR photo

Zumanity's Edie at Davenport's Aug. 18

Drag sensation Edie—who just marked her 4,000th show as the Mistress of Sensuality in Cirque du Soleil's show Zumanity—will perform at Davenport's Piano Bar & Cabaret, 1383 N. Milwaukee Ave., on Thursday, Aug. 18, at 8 p.m.

The showgirl will sing and dance her way through an hour of original songs and standards all with her signature '60s go-go style.

Tickets may be purchased at reservations.DavenportPianoBar.com.



SIDETRACK

Six stories from the second anniversary of OUTspoken!, Tuesday, August 2.

Photos by Jed Dulanias