

## In Chicago, Village Life in a Big City

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By ARI BENDERSKY

Over the years, Andersonville, a neighborhood that sits far north on the Chicago city map, has retained its mom-and-pop charms. Once a village made up primarily of Swedish immigrants, Andersonville now boasts eclectic, independently owned boutiques, cafes, bars, restaurants, bakeries and galleries. The area, adjacent to the Lakewood-Balmoral historic district with hundreds of pre-served historic buildings, caters to families, a substantial gay population and lovers of vintage housewares and diverse and exciting cuisine. The heart of the neighborhood is North Clark Street, a business corridor by day that often bustles at night.

At left: LAS MANOS GALLERY  
5220 North Clark Street  
773-728-8910

Michelle Peterson-Albandoz works on sculptures that use reclaimed wood from Chicago porches in the basement studio below her gallery.

Credit: Sally Ryan for The New York Times

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