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RED WHITE & BEAUTIFUL!

By Mary Jo Matsumoto

Barbeques, picnics, and pool parties are in full swing, and I have some red hot products to recommend that will keep you looking spectacular during Fourth of July celebrations and beyond!



Nothing could be more perfect for summer than this bright red lobster tote by Maine-based artist Ann Veronica. Having lived near the ocean all her life, Ann finds inspiration for her patterns from not only the visual spectrum of color, but fog horns, buoy bells and cresting waves – even the smell and taste of salt and brine. Ann's original designs are hand silk-screened by artists (no stencils or screen presses are used) and

this gives her patterns their beautiful colors and bold lines. The result is a collection of sturdy natural fiber handbags and timeless textile designs available in many shapes and sizes. *To find a store near you or order online, please visit www.annveronica.com.*

Hoping to look patriotic but keep it glam? I have the perfect solution! Opi's new Russian Navy polish adds a fun twist to the now classic Vamp look by giving your nails a hint of navy. For those of you looking to sport rouge nails this summer, check out Keys to My Karma, a wonderful fire engine red. Last but not least, if you're looking to turn yourself into a summer siren, you must try St. Petersburgundy, a smoking hot scarlet available in lipstick and a matching nail polish. Opi products are available at professional salons nationwide. *For more information, please visit www.opi.com.*



Ready for slip-ons, stilettos and sling backs? Celebrity pedicurist Jin Soon, who treats the tootsies of clients like Scarlet Johansson, Beyonce and Jennifer Lopez, has revealed her secret weapon – an egg-shaped buffer known as the PedEgg. Instead of soaking and scraping with unsafe razors, this user-friendly buffing tool uses precision micro-files that gently remove calluses and dead skin to give your feet an incredible baby soft look and feel. The

unique "egg" shape of the PedEgg fits perfectly into the palm of your hand and collects skin shaving so you can use it anywhere with no mess. *Available at www.pedegg.com and nationwide retailers.*

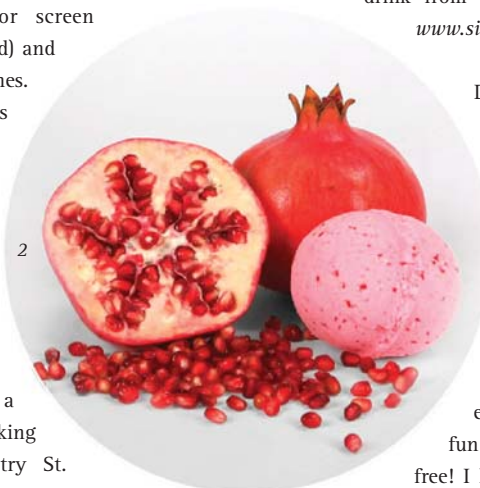
Now that your tootsies look like a million bucks, you'll want to slip them into a pair of Lily Holt Santa Cruz sandals with red coral encrusted gold straps. Chic and stunning, you'll be tempted to buy a pair in every stone (they come in almost every color imaginable).

Lily Holt sandals are sold at over 50 boutiques nationwide, including the Lily Holt boutiques in Palm Beach, Florida. *For more information, please visit www.lilyholt.com.*



In search of a salon-quality blow-out that won't damage your hair? Barbar's Italy 3800 Ionic Charger Blow Dryer is of the most powerful hair dryers on the market, cutting drying time in half. Not only is it Ferrari red, but it has ionic charging properties that protect your hair from burning, adds moisture to the hair, and results in high shine. Barbar's Italy 3800 Ionic Charger Blow Dryer is available at professional beauty supply stores nationwide. *For more information, please visit www.barbarartist.com.*

Quench your skin this summer with Molecular Mist, a "Heavy Water" that is 10% heavier than regular water and evaporates more slowly to provide necessary hydration to the skin. Many researchers believe it's the healthiest form of water on this planet. Misting on this "Heavy Water" blend is like giving your skin a long, cool drink from the Fountain of Youth. *Molecular Mist is available at www.circuitskin.com.*



Did you know that you can now protect your skin in the shower? Simply washing with Bethesda Sunscreen Soap provides an invisible layer of sun protection of SPF 10. It's the first all-natural paraben-free sunscreen soap to hit the market and contains 50+ vitamins and minerals, making it therapeutic as well. *Bethesda Sunscreen Soap is available online at www.bethesdaskincare.com and in stores nationwide.*

While you're primping in the bathroom, you might as well enjoy the Havana Nights Bath Ice Cream collection. These fun bath fizzies look like scoops of ice cream but are calorie free! I love that they're also preservative-free, paraben-free, and 100% biodegradable. Indulge in Mint Mojito, Cafe con Leche, or Havana Banana without guilt! *For more information, please visit www.mebath.com.*

If all else fails, protect your skin with a fabulous straw hat by David Steele NYC. One of the oldest and most prestigious manufacturers of designer headwear, this line has graced fashion runways as well as the heads of many A-list celebs, including LL Cool J and Madonna. The Lucia Hat comes with a red-white-and-blue ribbon that's pretty enough to wear to any event. David Steele Hats NYC are available nationally. *For more information, please visit www.davidsteelenyc.com.*

Here's wishing you a sizzling hot summer season!

Style expert and fashion/beauty journalist Mary Jo Matsumoto writes a style blog at www.trustyourstyle.com. She is debuting a new line of women's couture evening dresses and separates as well as expanding her successful handbag line to include a luxury selection. To view her beautiful designs please visit www.maryjomatsumoto.com.

1. Lobster tote by Ann Veronica
2. Havana Nights Bath Ice Cream in Pomegranate
3. PedEgg egg-shaped buffer
4. Lily Holt Santa Cruz sandals