

# Jewelry NEWS & VIEWS

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**FOCUS ON FASHION**

## Airy, Lightweight, Comfortable

### Did You Know?

Summer's hottest jewelry trend has been appropriately named "The Bikini Necklace." This popular, all-season lariat or lavalier-style necklace with delicate, long, plunging chain is worn fashionably draped within one's bikini top. Look for chains with bar accents, geometric shapes or colored gems to match your beach attire.

**AUGUST BIRTHSTONES**

**Peridot & Sardonyx**

These two ancient gems are believed to symbolize courage and strength. **Peridot**, a bright light to olive-green gem, has been desired by women since Cleopatra's day.

**Sardonyx** is a form of onyx with layers of reddish brown and white bands. Prevalent since the middle-ages, it has been used to fashion cameos and for men's signet rings.

This season, leading designers are placing great emphasis on lightweight, openwork designs using smaller amounts of precious metals. These airy webs of elegant and feminine designs have become as prominent in jewelry as in high-fashion clothing. Cut-outs, hollow tubing, and electroformed techniques are being used to create light and airy designs that not only keep costs down, but are strong, have a dramatic look, and are comfortable and easy-wearing during the warm weather months.

Elegant designs for this season include combinations of white and pink gold as well as all-yellow or white gold.

In addition to the classic bright mirror finish, many of the newest and most attractive styles feature textures such as hand-hammered, faceted, brushed, or sandblasted surface treatments.

Many pieces are also being set with bright colored gems, adding extra sparkle while using less metal.



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**BIRTHSTONES OF THE MONTH:**

Peridot



Sardonyx



9521 Westheimer ■ (713) 784-1000  
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