



what's in your BEACH BAG?



Photos by Tania Sarayan/The Journal News

Pack it up: Getting all the essentials to the beach doesn't have to be a challenge. A selection of 100 percent washable cotton totes from France are offered by Quel Objet, an online company based in Blandford Manor. Choose from more than a dozen patterns that combine practicality with European flair. We opted for the cheery Soleil, a style "nice and bright and a very pretty pattern," says company founder Susan Sears. \$58. www.quelobjet.com

FLIP-FLOPS



Fancy feet: Flip-flops don't have to be flimsy. Choose from the sturdy, stylish models from Walking on Roses, a Mahopac-based company run by Gail Fiero and her daughter Marlyse Minnich, to take you from the beach to boardwalk, and beyond. Dozens of colorful styles; you can even customize your own, \$32. Order online (www.walkingonroses.com) or visit the site for a list of local boutiques.

Here are 10 must-haves, all found locally

Mary Shustack
The Journal News

Summer's officially here this weekend, which means beach season is, too. Is your beach bag ready? If you're like us, you still have a few things you need to pick up before you hit the sand and surf.

We've done some scouting for you, checking out what local shops and companies are offering when it comes to beach essentials.

We started with a tote bag, and 10 items to throw in it. Some are steal; some are bargains.

We like them all and think you will, too.

Please see BEACH BAG, 3D

BOOKS



Beach reads, and beyond: Lean back in your chair and savor just one more chapter. The folks at Anderson's Book Shop in Larchmont suggest a trio of titles. First up, the "you-might-have-missed-it" selection: "The Queen's Gambit" by Walter Tevis (\$12.95, Vintage Contemporaries), a 1983 novel about an orphan transformed by the discovery of chess. A classic "beach read." James Collins' "Beginner's Greek" (\$23.99, Little, Brown and Company); and finally, a book with local ties: "The Divorce Party," (\$24.95, Viking), the latest from Scarsdale-raised author Laura Davis. One woman is at the start of a marriage; another at the end. Read it before the movie — not to be confused with the 2005 film — is it's been optioned by Javelin Ariston's production company, Anderson's Book Shop, 96 Chatsworth Ave., Larchmont, 914-634-6900.