

July 16, 2008

The Itlist -- Lanyard Edition

Several weeks ago, I wrote a column about my reluctance to wear my work ID badge around my neck. Readers from far and wide advised me to invest in a lanyard that resembles a beaded necklace rather than the standard athletic shoelace style. Many raved about styles sold by Brighton Accessories and Pandora, but a few artistic types took it one step further by sending in samples of what they design and sell themselves. These were too good to keep to ourselves -- here are a few of our favorites, from left in the photo.

1. Boojee Beads is a Cleveland-based company that says its mission is to "free working women around the world from the fashion disaster that comes from wearing an employee ID." CEO Kimberly Martinez says the 4-year-old company expects to sell its millionth fashion ID necklace by the end of this year. Buy them and other accessories at www.bojeebeads.com; prices start around \$15.

2. Buttons and Beads lanyard by Nadine McFadden (440-478-5562). McFadden's lanyards, which start around \$23, can be found at the



Silverthorne Gallery in Rocky River (19361 Detroit Road, 440-331-7410). She'll also be among the featured artists in the Chagrin Falls Art Walk this Thursday and Friday.

3. Multistone Pearl ID Necklace, BoojeeBeads.com, \$36.

4. This elegant name-badge neck

chain is designed by Mimi Testen of Dichroic Designs of Shaker Heights. Cloisonne beads and sterling silver tubes add up to a durable yet delicate-looking piece. \$19.95 at www.dichroicdesigns-shaker.com.

5. Black onyx lanyard from BoojeeBeads.com, \$36.