



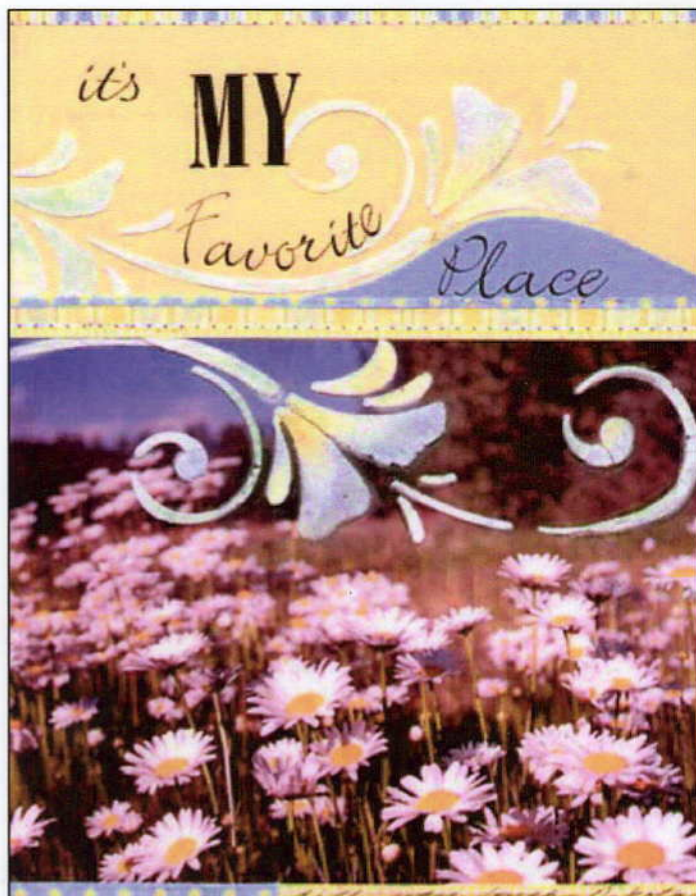
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We had to make another last minute change this month, which means that the papers are nothing like the peek in last month's newsletter. I am sorry about that. I have to say that it is one of the most challenging parts of this business to pick papers after the embellishments and ribbons are already chosen, yet I find myself doing just that more and more often.

Anyway, the replacement papers are absolutely gorgeous and fit the embellies very well in my eyes. I love the whole "country garden" look and feel of this kit. I am also very excited to showcase the stencils and dimensional paste as our technique this month. The design team has fallen in love with the pastes and have put me in awe (once again) of the projects they have come up with!



Jen & Alexis ~ Sandi Dean



My Favorite Place ~ Vicki Chrisman

### Creative Finishing Techniques

by Gretchen Carmack

**Ink** - Gently apply ink to the dry paste using a rag (or even simply a finger). Pay extra attention to edges. With the crackle paste, using a stiff brush with the ink will push it into cracks and crevices, after which you can use a damp rag to wipe off excess ink.

**Paint** - A foam paintbrush is particularly effective for applying paint to your stenciled design, as it more easily pushes paint into the cracks and crevices. If you leave your stencil in place while the paste dries, you can paint the design without worrying about getting paint on your page. However, remember that the stencil will require some extra soaking to get the dry paste off. You can also add paint to the stencil paste prior to application, but it may reduce the raised effect.

**Crackle** - The stencil paste comes in a crackle paste, but you can add yet more to this effect

