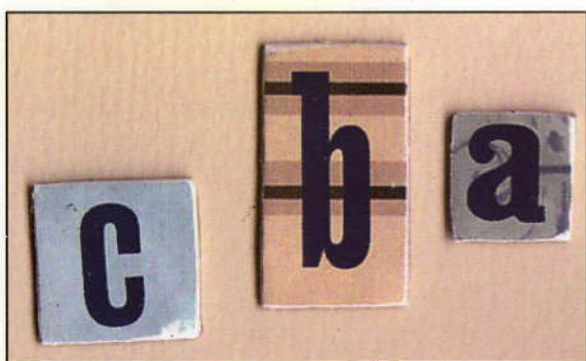




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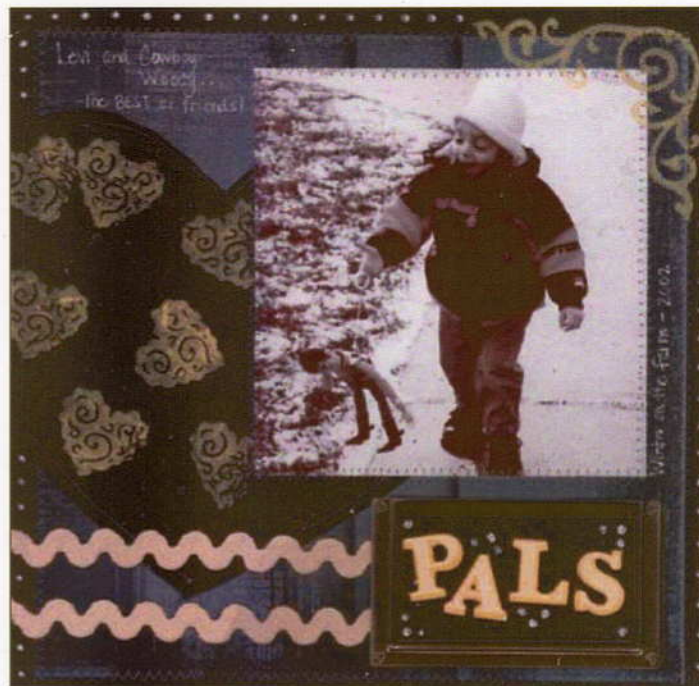
Happy New Year!!! I hope everyone has had a chance to settle down and relax now that the holidays are over. I know that I, for one, am very glad to have my house back to normal and my life a little quieter. It's much more conducive to scrapping, don't you think? I sincerely hope we all get some major scrapping done in 2006 and I also hope that you all share your layouts and projects on the website. I just love to see what everyone comes up with!

Speaking of what everyone comes up with, you should see what the design team has done this month. After watching the trends over the last year - I would say one of the most versatile has been the use of chipboard. It is amazing the things that you can do with it, and that is exactly what the DT has done - amazed me! Between the chipboard and the bottle caps - wow! So, without further ado....



Chipboard Flair with Die Cuts
 by Mikki Livanos

One of the hottest scrap products out there today is chipboard embellishments. All the big companies have their versions of alphabets,



Pals ~ Libby Jack

shapes and more... but did you know that with your handy dandy die cut machine, some chipboard and some Mod Podge you can make your own original chipboard designs with supplies you already own?

The first step is to dust off your machine and choose a die. If you don't own a die cut machine, you can usually use one at your local scrap store. Then you can either prepare your chipboard by adhering cardstock or patterned paper to it before you cut, or you can save your adhering until after your shape is cut. I usually glue the paper down first on complex shapes before I cut, but on more simple shapes I use the machine to cut the paper separately then glue it onto the shape. You can try it either way to see what works best for you.

Cut your shape out and then the fun begins. I take my shape and usually distress the edges a little bit with some sandpaper. Then I adhere what I want on the top of my shape, and after that I paint over it with Modge Podge to give it

December ScrapMuse papers designed by:
Amy Teets

