Spring Fever
by MaryJo Tuttle

No.

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Palette: **DecoArt Americana Acrylics**

Antique Rose #13156	Burnt Sienna #13063
Carousel Pink #13264	Deep Periwinkle #13212
Espresso #13261	Grape Juice #13236
Hauser Dark Green #13133	Hauser Light Green #13131
Hauser Medium Green #13132	Lamp Black #13067
Light Mocha #13241	Melon #13245
Mink Tan #13092	Rookwood Red #13097
Saffron Yellow #13263	Slate Grey #13068
Soft Black #13155	Titanium White #13001
Turquoise Blue #13258	Winter Blue #13190

Surface: Triple Tile Shelf Sign #62403

Misc. Supplies:

DecoArt MultiPurpose Sealer #87392
DecoArt DuraClear Varnish – Matte #87395
DecoArt Instant Images Stencils
　　Journal Template – Spring Fling #70093
　　Pocket Template – Garden #70049
DecoArt Instant Images Tools
　　3/8" Duo Tool #29012

Brushes: **Papillon by the Artist's Club**
Papillon Coloré MaryJo's Favorites Set #20185
Angular Shader, size 1" #20114
Loew-Cornell Brushes
Maxine Thomas Brush Set #26265

Preparation:

Sand and seal the wood piece with DecoArt MultiPurpose Sealer. Sand again when dry and remove sanding dust with a damp towel. Basecoat the base with Hauser Light Green (I would recommend not painting the "channel" that the tiles slip into) and the tiles with Light Mocha. When the tiles are dry, sand lightly & wipe away any sanding dust.

Sideload the 1" Angular Shader with Hauser Light Green and float from the bottom of the tile up about 1/3 of the way. Mop to soften. Sideload the 1" Angular Shader with Winter Blue and float from the top of the tile down about 1/3 of the way. Mop to soften. There should be a part in the center of the tiles that pretty much remains the Light Mocha basecoat.

I used the Instant Images Templates listed above to basecoat the elements of the design. I have also provided a line drawing if you choose to not use the templates (you really should try the method – it's so quick and easy). So, either transfer the main pattern lines, or use the templates and basecoat as follows:

Titanium White – fence and clouds

Mink Tan - bunny
Deep Periwinkle – butterflies (bodies and antennae are Soft Black)
Hauser Medium Green – all flower stems & leaves
Saffron Yellow – largest flowers
Melon – medium flowers
Carousel Pink – square edged flowers
Antique Rose – kite and tail ties

Painting Instructions:

Shade under each of the clouds with a washy float of Winter Blue.

Shade the fence with Slate Grey, above and below the cross pieces, and on the left edge and bottom of the cross pieces. Highlight the top of the pickets and top of the cross pieces of the fence with Titanium White. Outline the fence and add grain lines with Soft Black. Dot the nails with Lamp Black.

Shade the butterflies against the body and to separate the wings with Grape Juice. Highlight the edges of the wings and add a dash highlight on the center of the body with Light Mocha. The dots on the wings are Saffron Yellow.

Shade the left side and left center of the kite, bottom of the kite tail ties and line crossbars and tail string with Rookwood Red. Highlight the right side and right center of the kite and top of the kite tail ties with Melon. The knots of the tail ties are dots of Soft Black with tiny Light Mocha highlight dots.

Stipple the bunny's tummy and muzzle with a brush mix of Mink Tan and Light Mocha. Shade the top of the ears, above the muzzle, under the muzzle, outside of the arms, body and feet and under the tummy with Espresso. Highlight the bottom of the ears, top of the head, ends of the arms and center of the feet with Light Mocha. Blush the bottom of the ears, cheeks and center of the tummy with Antique Rose. Outline as necessary, add the eyes, nose and mouth line and the kite string with Soft Black. The tie around the bunny's neck is lined with Deep Periwinkle, shaded against the knot and where the loops overlap with Grape Juice and highlighted with dashes of Light Mocha on the outside of the loops and ends of the ties. Highlight the kite string here and there with dashes of Light Mocha.

Shade all leaves against the stems with Hauser Dark Green and highlight the tips of the leaves with Hauser Light Green. Add a dash highlight in the center of the stems with Hauser Light Green. Outline with Hauser Dark Green.

Shade the around the edges of the large yellow flowers with Burnt Sienna. The centers are Espresso shaded on the bottom edge with Lamp Black. The dots around the centers are Light Mocha and Lamp Black. Outline with Soft Black
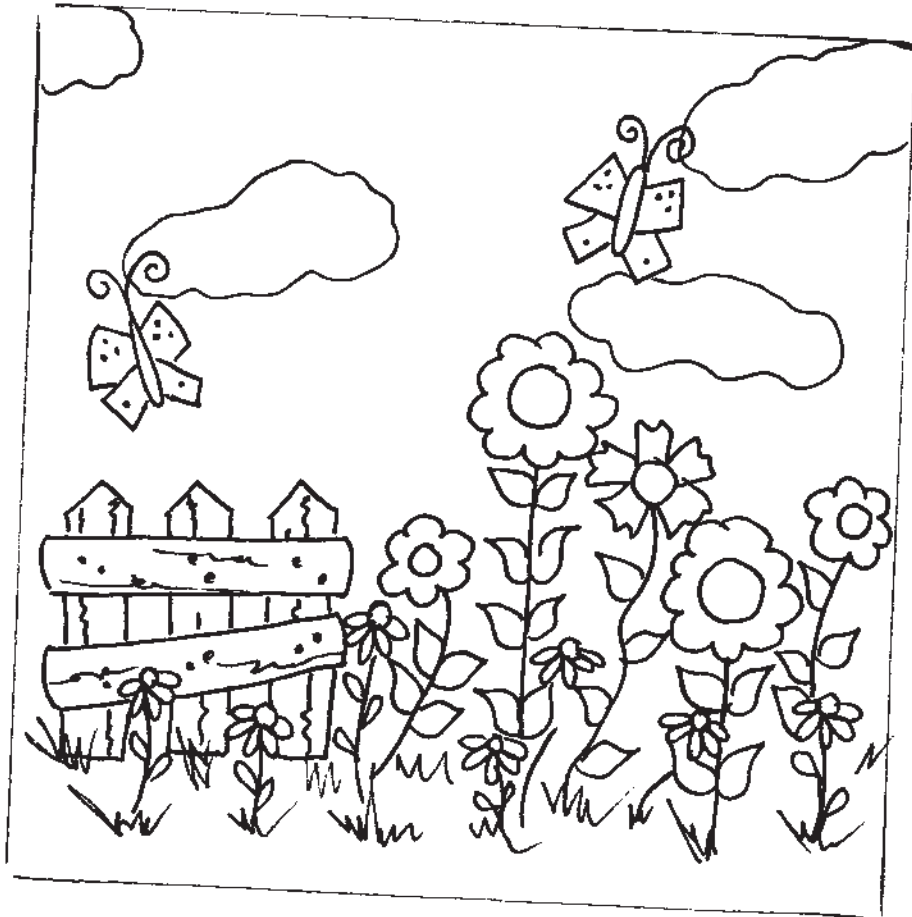
Shade around the edges of the Melon flowers with Antique Rose. The centers are Saffron Yellow with small Light Mocha dots around them. Outline with Soft Black.
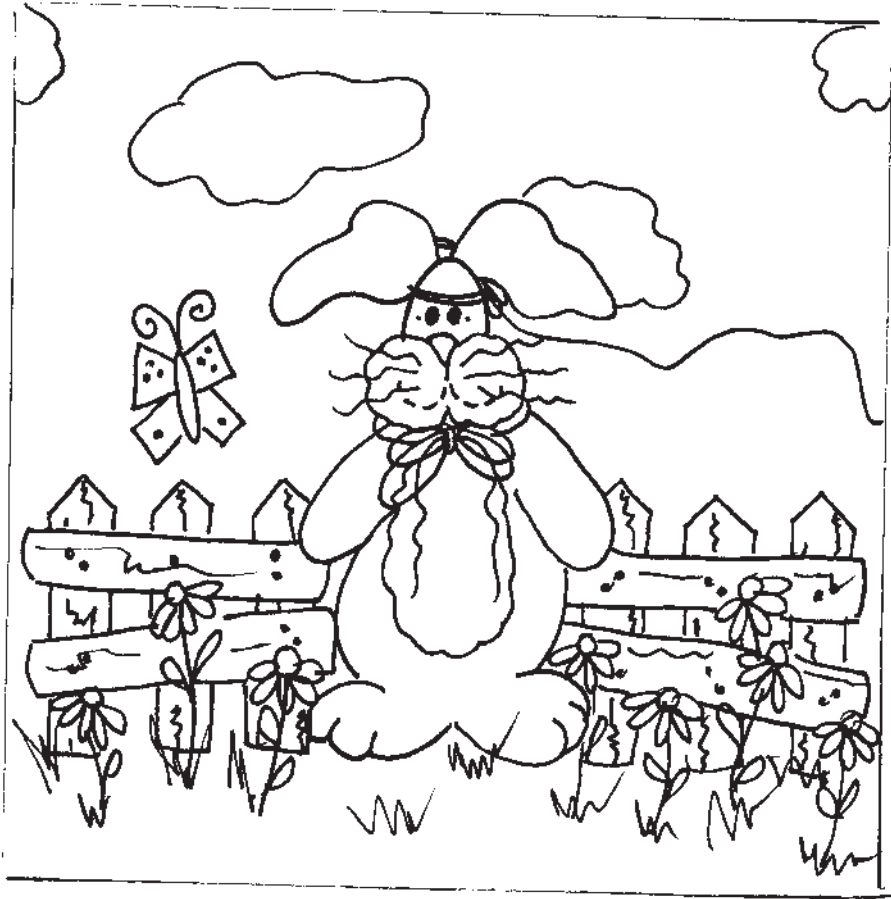
The centers of the pink flowers are Grape Juice with small Saffron Yellow dots around them. Add a dash highlight on the upper right of the centers. Outline with Soft Black.
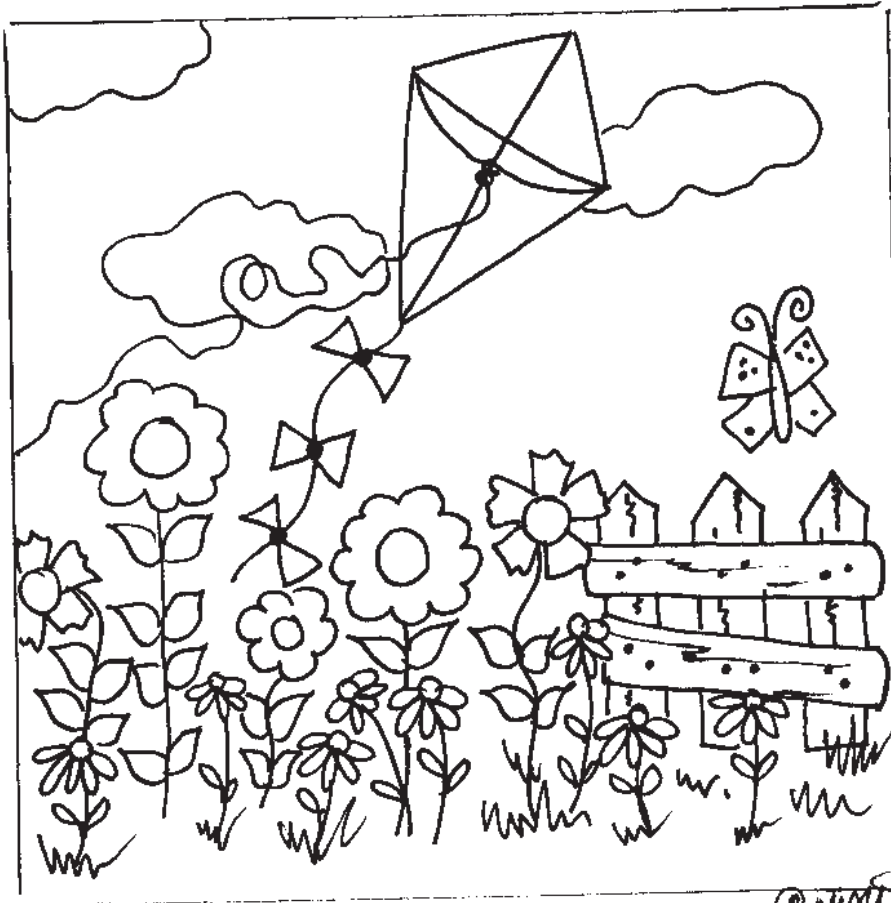
Stipple the ground line under the fence with Hauser Medium Green. Pull some grass and small flower stems and leaves with Hauser Dark Green. Add some 5 petal daisy like flowers on some of the stems with Titanium White – centers are dots of Espresso; some 5 dot flowers on some of the stems with Turquoise Blue – centers are Saffron Yellow; and some random dots of Carousel Pink and Titanium White amongst the flowers.

Finishing:

Varnish the base and tiles with several coats of DuraClear Varnish – Matte. Sand lightly between coats.