

Aerial artistry



TY GREENLEES/DAYTON DAILY NEWS

THE PORTRAITS OF HOPE plane does a flyby above the Wright Brothers National Memorial on Monday. Patients in children's hospitals painted the flower decals on the DC-3.

WEDNESDAY'S LOCAL FLIGHT EVENTS

- **8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.:** Students will participate in a glider competition at the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery.
- **9 a.m.:** Wreath-laying ceremony on Wright Brothers Hill, above Huffman Prairie Flying Field at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Gen. Gregory S. Martin, commander of the Air Force Materiel Command, will speak at the Wright Memorial.
- **10 to 11 a.m.:** Dignitaries will gather at the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library at Wright State University to watch live TV coverage of activities at Kitty Hawk, N.C.
- **7:30 p.m.:** The Air Force Band of Flight will perform at the Dayton Masonic Temple. Tickets are required, but admission is free. Call 224-9795 for information.
- **7:30 p.m.:** Lecture and slide show on flight in the Wright B Flyer hangar at the Wright Brothers Airport, 10550 Springboro Pike.

Daily flight showcases artwork of ill children

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KILL DEVIL HILLS, N.C. — IF THERE IS SUCH A THING AS anti-camouflage, it's the gaudy floral pattern covering a DC-3 that has been making daily flights over the Wright Brothers National Memorial.

The 65-year-old Douglas airliner isn't the vintage transport of some visiting rock star. It's a flying showcase for the work of children around the world, according to Ed Massey of Santa Monica, Calif., founder of a creative therapy program called Portraits of Hope.

The nonprofit foundation worked with children's hospitals, aviation companies, the U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission and NASA to decorate the airplane in time for the First Flight Centennial Celebration.

The airplane has been taking part in daily flybys to salute the Wright brothers' first powered flights, made here 100 years ago Wednesday.

Massey said the flowers were painted

by more than 2,000 seriously ill, disabled or traumatized children in hospitals across the United States, including some in Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati. Some of the children in U.S. hospitals were from other countries.

They couldn't paint the airplane itself, but Massey's program had the children paint the colors on flower patterns marked on big plastic decals, which were then stuck onto the airplane's surface.

Avery Dennison of Pasadena, Calif., supplied the adhesive material, Massey said.

Portraits of Hope has been cheering children by putting their art on public

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