

# Long Glide Home Keeps Her Young

By DOUGLAS DILTZ

ANAHEIM, Calif. (UPI) — The real-life "Tinkerbell," who fits like a fairyland princess high over Disneyland each night, is a diminutive woman who has been doing daredevil stunts for more than a half century. Yes, she is 72 years old.

Gliding daringly down a wire from the top of a replica of Switzerland's Matterhorn, Helen (Tiny) Kline resembles her nymph-like cartoon counterpart on television—cavorting on the spotlight and waving her magic wand.

The thousands of spectators who witness her act she appears to be a young girl out of a storybook.

This is largely because Miss Kline is only four feet, 10 inches tall and weighs 98 pounds. She wears a skin-tight suit with frills over a youthfully-shaped body, which sparkles with lights during her spectacular act.

She is attached to the wire by a harness which she designed herself—and the veteran circus trouper supervises most of the details of her stunt.

As Miss Kline whisks down from the 178-foot-high top of the Disneyland Matterhorn, audiences gasp because it appears that she is shooting down from the sky. She plummets at high speed in her harness down the 178-foot-long wire in 18 seconds and is caught by two men at the bottom.

"It's the greatest sensation in the world . . . It makes me feel like I'm a girl again," says the graying widow.

Miss Kline, a native of Hungary, joined a dancing troupe when she was only 14 and the circus when she was a mere 16. During her career of wire-sliding—mostly in the circus and at fairs—she said, "I have broken nearly every bone in my body in falls and other accidents.

"I never use a net and have broken my ribs, jaw, arms, legs and suffered skull concussions."

However, she is quick to stress that her job at Disneyland does not come into such a

dangerous category. It is "perfectly safe," said Miss Kline. "Disneyland would not allow me to take any chances whatever."

Early in her career, Miss Kline married a circus rodeo star but he was killed in a riding accident during a show in Madison Square Garden in New York. She never married again.

One of Miss Kline's most famous stunts occurred in 1932 when—as a publicity gimmick for a Broadway show—she glided at high speed down a wire over Times Square. She was hanging to a leather strap by her teeth.

"I sailed down from the 28th floor of the Edison Hotel and landed on the 12th floor of the Palace Theater," says Tiny.

She was arrested for the daredevil stunt—such things were against the law—but she was released with only a warning.

At Atlantic City in 1933 she hung by her teeth under a captive balloon in the sky—four times a day. She also performed her famous "Slide for Life" act with Billy Rose's "Jumbo" show on Broadway.

In addition, she rode a wire down from the dome of City Hall in San Francisco.

Miss Kline rides a bicycle from her Inglewood, Calif., home to a bus stop, then hops a bus to her job.

"I'm afraid of these Los Angeles freeways," she said. "They're more dangerous than anything I ever did."

## Kidney Transplant Was Successful, But Patient Develops Cold

NEW ORLEANS (UPI)—The dockworker who made history by surviving an animal-to-human kidney transplant might have to spend Christmas in a hospital because he caught a cold.

Jefferson Davis, 44, received a pair of kidneys from a chimpanzee in a historic operation Nov. 5, and was supposed to have gone home Monday. But doctors said that Davis had developed a head cold, and they want to keep him in Charity Hospital for observation.