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NEWS FROM AMERICA.

Out California way, near Santa Cruz, nature takes on some strange twists at the Erlandson Tree Circus. By careful grafting, living trees have been transformed into fantastic shapes.

A Valentine heart? That's an easy one. Or how about an armchair, made out of four growing trees? It's enough to make a cat laugh!

Everyone of these startling designs is alive and growing. They're all the work of 75-year-old Axel Erlandson, who considers this one his masterpiece - an upside-down tree with the roots waving in the breeze.

The end of the 90-year-old Holy Name College in Oakland, which must make way for a few office block. One pull - and there she goes!

Little is left of the building which has stood here since Civil War Days. As a memento, sisters of the College receive the cross which crowned its roof - to adorn the new College of the Holy Name.

At Daytona Beach, Florida, test drivers are putting sports cars through their paces - and when you're travelling at 130 miles an hour, a small skid means big trouble. Just watch this!

Horrified onlookers run to the rescue. After a crash like that, it seems impossible that any driver could live!

Flames are licking round the shattered wreck, and at any moment the petrol tank may explode. Rescuers struggle to pull driver Bill Merkett away - but he walks clear under his own power! The safety belt saves his life.

He's practically unharmed, but he's shaken. Who wouldn't be, after a miraculous escape from certain death?