THAT CLOUD LOOKS LIKE JESUS
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...Plus 53 Other Strange, Bizarre (and Possibly True) Stories You’ll Never See in the New York Times

Marc Berlin
To Heidi


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Many interesting news items which first appear in local newspapers never make it into the national press, and are usually all but forgotten. The following incredible, and possibly true news stories were discovered in various small town journals across the USA, and compiled within these pages for the reader’s enjoyment.
Man Talks on Phone to Dictator

WEBB FINNEL, 38, of Kelp Sands, Florida, telephoned his elderly mother to wish her a happy birthday, but got connected to the offices of North Korean leader Kim Jong Il by mistake. Finnel says he spoke to the “Dear Leader” for “maybe a couple of minutes” before he had to abruptly end the call and pick up his girlfriend at the laundromat. “Other than the screaming in the background, he seemed like a nice guy,” Finnel said.
Teenager Misses Manhole
By Inches

By Bill Schwegler

Snyder Verrel, 16, a Grillman High School student, narrowly missed falling into a manhole near his home late Friday night. Verrel admitted he’d been daydreaming, ironically, “about what it must be like to fall into a manhole.”

BABY BOARDS PLANE TO ASIA

Betheny Reedler, a single mother in Plenum, Utah, became hysterical after learning her year-old baby girl, Amanda, had seconds before “just walked away” from their home one evening. The girl was found by police thirteen hours later, checking into a budget motel in Nagoya, Japan. “Except for some jet lag, she’s completely OK,” Reedler said.
Grandmother Uncovers “City” in Back Yard

By Val MacAdam

LETTY GIPPER, 84, a Crisco resident, accidentally discovered a miniature buried “city” while digging near her tomato garden behind her home. The “city” had actual streets, buildings, a working police station and even a school. After telling her husband about her discovery, the couple carefully re-covered the tiny metropolis with dirt. “It’s a mystery,” Gippers said. “A whole little city, in my own back yard.”

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CLIP HOLDER QUOTES EX-PRESIDENT

A smiley face magnetic paper clip holder on Reg Arnold’s office desk in Homer, Wisconsin, started quoting the 41st president, George H.W. Bush, during Arnold’s lunch break. Other workers heard it too, and were “freaking out” for several minutes before help arrived. “I thought they were kidding,” Al Budge, 46, the office manager, said. “Then I heard it myself, with my own ears.”

“READ MY LIPS...”
**Giant Crab Invades House**

**BY EB TYDE**

An uninvited guest entered a Rooster City man’s house early Sunday morning. Spleen Geller, 42, said a giant fiddler crab crawled into the living room of his beachfront home, “stayed a while, maybe an hour” then turned around and left. “It seemed like he was looking for something, something real specific, but didn’t find it,” Geller said. “Like his wife, or girlfriend maybe.”

**Man Spends Night in Trunk**

**By Mike Muffley**

A LEMMING MAN travelling alone on Interstate 30 last Friday spent the night in his car — in the trunk. Kyle Grest, 53, was changing a flat, when he stumbled on the spare and fell backward, into his trunk. “Somehow the damn thing closed down on me,” Grest said. “It was dark in there, and lonely, but luckily not cold. Good thing it was summer.”
Marc Berlin is an author, actor, filmmaker, and satirist. When not writing, he takes long walks in the woods and cranberry bogs near his home in eastern Massachusetts. His website is at: www.marcberlin.net
Also by Marc Berlin
“The Skeptic’s Handbook”