

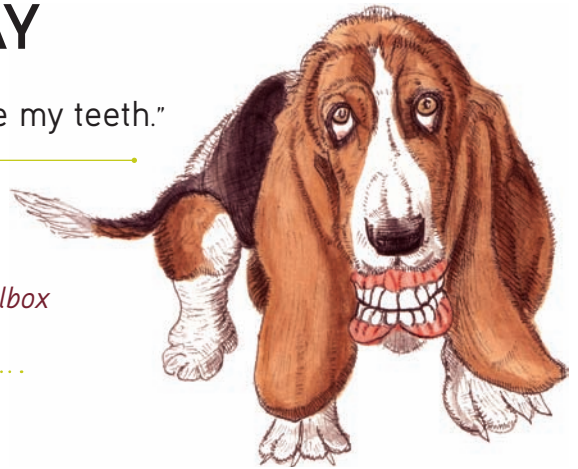
CAN YOU TOP THIS?

ILLUSTRATIONS BY PAUL LUKAS

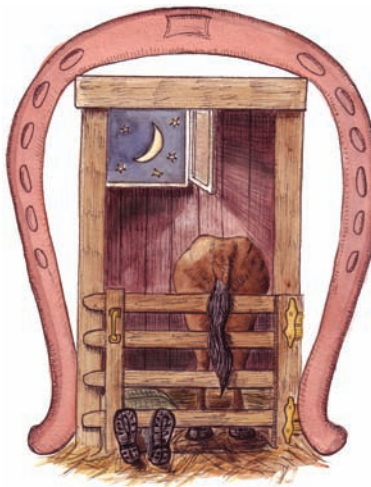
When it comes to collecting rent payment, property managers have often heard some strange and laughable excuses from tenants and residents. Here are a few of those excuses that IREM Members shared with JPM:

EXCUSE OF THE DAY

"I can't pay my rent because my dog ate my teeth."



"I couldn't pay because the mailbox outside my office is broken."



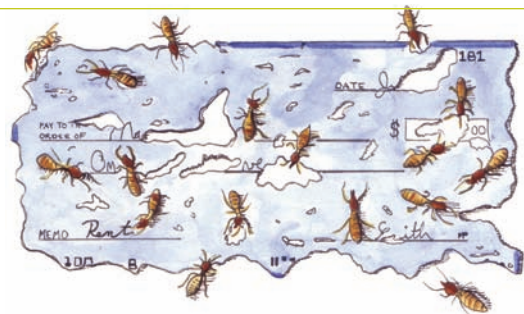
One tenant actually told me, "I couldn't pay the rent because I had to pay the stable rent for my horse." I suggested she might have to live with her horse if it wasn't paid.

"I can't pay my rent because I gave my rent money to help the homeless on the street."

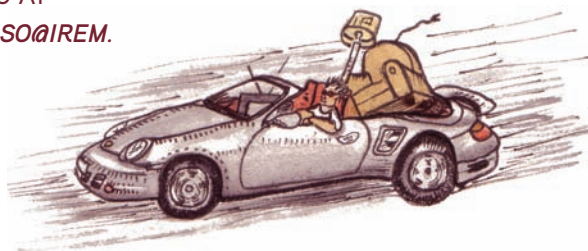
An expectant mother came into the office to explain she did not have her rent money because she had to use it to bail herself out of jail. Apparently, middle school children were harassing her child while exiting the bus and she took it upon herself to thrash the children.

» THINK YOU CAN TOP THIS TALE? SEND YOUR TRUE STORIES TO MARKISAN NASO AT MNASO@IREM.ORG.

A tenant whose lease was expired and owed us about \$8,000 asked me if it was ok if he went out of town to see a friend who would potentially let him borrow some money to pay off his debt. Apparently, this friend also had great tickets to a Ravens game.



"Termites ate my checkbook."



One of our residents said he couldn't pay rent because he just made a car payment. He said he only had enough money to pay the rent or make the payment on his car in any given month, and he chose the car!