

# High-tech in the mouse war

Ben Franklin once said, "In this world, nothing is certain but death and taxes."

Now most times I tend to agree with Mr. Franklin, in spite of the fact he was reckless enough to fly a kite in a thunderstorm.

But I think there is one more certainty.

In an old house, it's mice.

And living on a farm, (another certainty) in an old farm house, well, I got 'em— mice that is.

Over the years, the mice and I have come to an amicable unspoken agreement. They remain on the inside of the walls and I stay on the outside.

But lately, I've been thinking of re-writing that agreement, with a silence clause written in.

You see, they became a bit noisy at times. Not a huge party going on in there, more a scamper here and a scratch there, just enough to annoy me.

The Sidekick and I were at the TSC Store in Guelph last fall, and came across a device that claimed all sorts of miraculous things, including repelling rodents.

And the best part? It was on sale!

Now, I'm usually a skeptic from hell. I wouldn't as a rule purchase any electronic device that claims to drive mice away by emitting a high-pitched supersonic sound. But dammit, put a sale tag in front of me and I'll certainly take a second look.

I bought one and plugged it into a receptacle in the bedroom at home. It was now in a force field, you know, going high-tech in the mouse cold war.

The sounds in the walls stopped immediately.

Okay, I admit, I was cautiously impressed. I left it there for a few months. Notta sound in the walls.

I couldn't help but wonder if it actually worked.

Now moving along, we all know about the kitchen. In the mouse world, that's no man's land (or should that be no mouse's land) where no teeny tiny rodent should ever show himself, or, worse still, leave evidence of the same.

Apparently, I have a couple of rebel mice in the walls, and some aforementioned evidence

## Ted Brown



appeared on the kitchen counter one morning.

Immediately, I sprang into action, and ran upstairs and grabbed my miracle electronic force field and plugged it into the receptacle on the kitchen counter.

There hasn't been a speck of evidence since.

I could only imagine a conversation in the walls as the mice discuss the new strategy of dealing with the TFF (Ted's Force Field).

The day I pulled it from the bedroom, I thought I heard a mouse patrol with listening device on the other side of the plaster reporting to one another.

"The TFF is deactivated! Pass it on!"

And then they'd take the appropriate action to move into the once-protected area in the bedroom as the kitchen has become a protected zone.

Does it work? Maybe, maybe not. I don't know.

But after reading up on it, in spite of all the negative press that these devices get, I must admit that mine seems to have worked— for now.

After reading lots of pro and con comments, I think the key is to keep moving it around every few months. That way, the mice don't have the opportunity to become accustomed to the supersonic sounds it emits.

Now that I've got that working, I'm thinking of developing another protection against these lowly mice. I'm considering installing listening devices in the walls, so I can hear what they are reporting back to their superiors.

That way I can stay right on top of my defenses.

Before they develop little earplugs...

(Ted Brown can be reached at [tbrown@independentfreepress.com](mailto:tbrown@independentfreepress.com))

# Glen residents can give input on traffic study

Ward 2 Councillor Joan Robson requested that Glen Williams residents be given an "avenue for comments" in the proposed traffic study for that hamlet.

Council had recently added

\$25,000 to the Town's 2008 capital budget to fund a Transportation Study for Glen Williams this year.

Town Engineer Chris Mills said the process will be designed to ensure the community has input.

DR. A. MALIK MD FRCSC FACS *Principal owner & founder of Peel Laser*

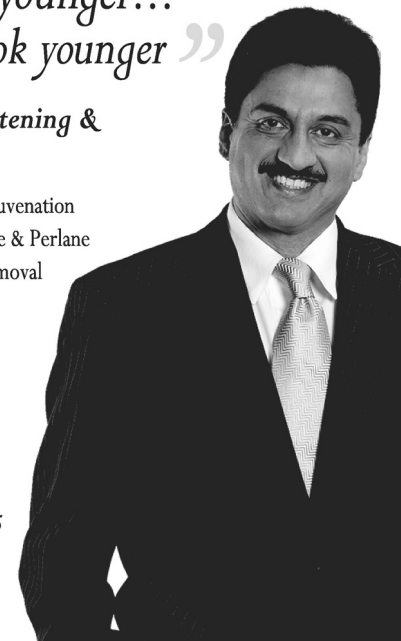
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