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## Tioga County man blames nearby gas drilling for polluting his well

By Delen Goldberg / The Post-Standard

January 02, 2010, 6:00AM



Candor, NY -- Fred Mayer holds a lighter to his faucet, lets the water run, and — pow — the flow ignites into a small fireball. “I can wash my dishes and poach an egg at the same time,” he joked.

But it’s no laughing matter. Mayer’s faucets spew natural gas. The gas has polluted his water supply, forcing Mayer to buy bottled water to drink. If enough gas builds up in his faucets or walls, scientists warn, Mayer’s house could explode.

Outside, the stream where Mayer once caught trout, minnows and crayfish bubbles and spurts, Mayer said. The stream is belching gas. The fish are mostly dead, he said.

Mayer, 59, a disabled Vietnam veteran, lives in Candor, a rural town in Tioga County, between Ithaca and Binghamton. He has lived in the same house since 1962. He has used the same drinking water well since 1966. The problems with his water started about three years ago, he said.

Mayer blames his flammable faucet on natural gas drilling near his home. Fortuna Energy Inc., the largest natural-gas company in New York, began drilling in Tioga County in late 2003, company lawyer and spokesman Mark Scheuerman said.

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### Upstate New York man finds his kitchen faucet spews flames

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
Saturday, January 2nd 2010, 5:49 PM

CANDOR, N.Y. - **Fred Mayer** has a special feature in his kitchen: a faucet that spews fire.

Mayer says that about three years ago the well supplying water to his home in Candor became polluted with natural gas.

Explosive vapors now run from his tap along with the water.

The **Vietnam** veteran demonstrates by holding a lighter to the running water and igniting it with a flash.

Mayer jokes that he can wash his dishes and poach an egg at the same time.

But it's no joke. Experts say the house could explode if the faucet emits enough gas.

State environmental officials say the gas was created and released by nature, but Mayer suspects that drilling by an energy company is to blame.

The natural-gas company Fortuna Energy denies any link to the problem.




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Fred Mayer of Candor, N.Y., uses a charcoal grill lighter to ignite water running from his kitchen faucet.

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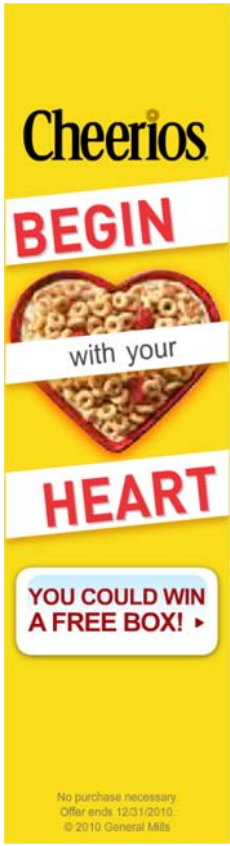
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Fred Mayer of Candor, N.Y., uses a charcoal grill lighter to ignite water running from his kitchen faucet.

Candor, NY - Fred Mayer has a special feature in his kitchen: a faucet that spews fire.

Mayer says that about three years ago the well supplying water to his home in Candor became polluted with natural gas.

Explosive vapors now run from his tap along with the water.

The Vietnam veteran demonstrates by holding a lighter to the running water and igniting it with a flash.

Mayer jokes that he can wash his dishes and poach an egg at the same time.

But it's no joke. Experts say the house could explode if the faucet emits enough gas.

State environmental officials say the gas was created and released by nature, but Mayer suspects that drilling by an energy company is to blame.

The natural-gas company Fortuna Energy denies any link to the problem.

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## Drill for natural gas wells on the suspected infiltration of the state houses could tap the ignition

2010-01-04 05:41:00

WASHINGTON (Reuters) Upstate New York Candor Town, a resident Meyer (Fred Mayer) in the kitchen there is a special device: the ability to fire-breathing taps. According to "Standard Post (The Post-Standard)" report, Meyer said, about three years ago, to their homes by natural gas, water wells contaminated. Now, their own tap water and natural gas flowing at the same time. Meyer holding a lighter near the water faucet, click on the point of the outflow of the water column (see figure). Meyer joked that while he could cook eggs while washing dishes. But this is not a joke, experts said that if the tap to release enough gas, Meyer's house might explode. Although the State Environmental Protection Agency official, said the gas is a natural production and release, but Meyer suspect, is an energy company's drilling activities have caused this phenomenon. However, this is named "Lucky Energy (Fortuna Energy)" The gas company refused to acknowledge any relationship with this issue. Meyer said it was due to the distance from their homes in the vicinity of drilling, that led to their taps contain natural gas. Fortunately, energy companies by the end of 2003 had started drilling in Tioga County. Meyer said his family had never the problem, since the drilling began on the sudden appearance of this strange phenomenon. New York State Environmental Protection Office, had never sent people to Meyer's home to investigate, but concluded that these natural gas is a natural process, and do not need to be investigated. Hydrogeologists Kapur (William Kappel), said buried in the underground rock formations in the pages of natural gas, it is possible to naturally infiltrate into the pipeline as well as the residents homes. However, there are records show that drilling will lead to penetration of natural gas to distant wells.

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**Fred Mayer is in the kitchen combustible water from the tap. For about three years, the 59-year-old from Candor in the U.S. state of New York, can light the water when he holds a lighted match to it. Cause: Since that was drilled in the vicinity for gas, gas is mixed into the water. And experts fear that the house could even explode.**

The noises from the gallery were too ambiguous. Therefore, a pair flew out, had shortly before the morning service in the Church of Rennertshofen (Bavaria) sex. He was a policeman, who immediately suspended the night work. In a homemade igloo in 2226 meters above sea level - that as an outdoor weekend on the Pizol offered in eastern Switzerland. With snow shoe hike to the summit and reheated fondue adventure will cost 169 euros per person. In Switzerland, Arth came in a 66-year-old in a police show, and could not drive. No wonder! The man confessed to having driven the last 40 years without the cardboard. He had like 1970 after a serious accident müssen. Unterhalten two GTI driver. "You, Erwin, I've bought myself a Duden!" - Asks the other: "And, Klaus, do you have installed it yet?"

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**CANDOR, N.Y. - Fred Mayer has a special feature in his kitchen: a faucet that spews fire. Mayer says that about three years ago the well supplying water to his home in Candor became polluted with natural gas. Explosive vapors now run from his tap along with the water.**

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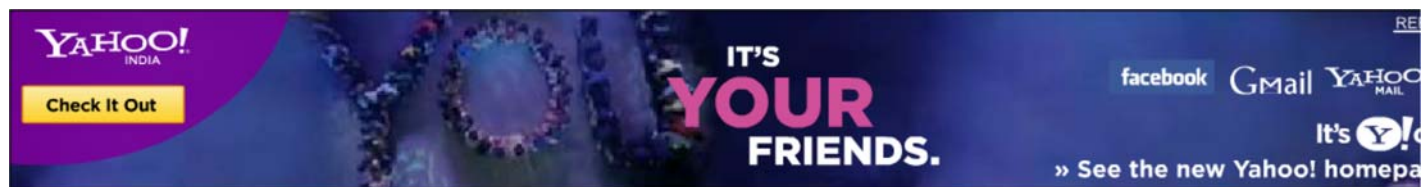
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## New Yorkers' kitchen faucet spews natural gas!

Sun, Jan 3 12:25 PM

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New York, Jan 3 (ANI): Fred Mayer is one happy man, as he can wash his dishes and poach an egg at the same time, all thanks to his kitchen's special feature: a faucet that spews fire!

Mayer, 59, a Vietnam veteran, lives in Candor, a rural town in Tioga County, between Ithaca and Binghamton. He has lived in the same house since 1962. The problems with his water started about three years ago, he said.

Mayer blames his flammable faucet on natural gas drilling near his home. Fortuna Energy Inc. began drilling in Tioga County in late 2003, reports The New York Daily News.

State environmental officials, however, say the gas was created and released by nature.

If enough gas builds up in his faucets or walls, scientists warn, Mayer's house could explode. (ANI)

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**State environmental officials, however, say the gas was created and released by nature.**

**ough gas builds up in his faucets or walls, scientists warn, Mayer's house could explode.**



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## New Yorkers' kitchen faucet spews natural gas!

**New York, Jan 3 : Fred Mayer is one happy man, as he can wash his dishes and poach an egg at the same time, all thanks to his kitchen's special feature: a faucet that spews fire!**

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## New Yorkers' kitchen faucet spews natural gas!

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Jan, 03, 2010 03:00 AM - Asian News International



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## New Yorkers' kitchen faucet spews natural gas!



New York, Jan 3 (ANI): Fred Mayer is one happy man, as he can wash his dishes and poach an egg at the same time, all thanks to his kitchen's special feature: a faucet that spews fire!

Mayer, 59, a Vietnam veteran, lives in Candor, a rural town in Tioga County, between Ithaca and Binghamton. He has lived in the same house since 1962. The problems with his water started about three years ago, he said.

Mayer blames his flammable faucet on natural gas drilling near his home. Fortuna Energy Inc. began drilling in Tioga County in late 2003, reports The New York Daily News.

State environmental officials, however, say the gas was created and released by nature.

If enough gas builds up in his faucets or walls, scientists warn, Mayer's house could explode. (ANI)

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## New Yorkers' kitchen faucet spews natural gas!

Published - Jan 03 2010 10:34 AM

New York, Jan 3 : **Fred Mayer** is one happy man, as he can wash his dishes and poach an egg at the same time, all thanks to his kitchen's special feature: a faucet that spews fire! Mayer, 59, a Vietnam veteran, lives in Candor, a rural town in Tioga ... [Read Full Story](#)

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Konstantin Chernichkin/Reuters

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Fred Mayer has a special feature in his kitchen: a faucet that spews fire. Mayer says that about three years ago the well supplying water to his home in Candor became polluted with natural gas.



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172 Fred Mayer holds a lighter to his faucet, lets the water run, and — pow — the flow ignites into a small fireball. "I can wash my dishes and poach an egg at the same time"

(syracuse.com)

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5o4u2nv 12 points 2 days ago [-]

Across PA and into NY there are tremendous reserves of Natural Gas. In fact, some are calling this area the "Saudi Arabia of Natural Gas"

Problem being, it's not like the good ole days where you drill a hole and and the natural gas comes flowing out. Rather, drilling uses newly developed technologies that combine horizontal wells with hydraulic fracturing techniques. This article does a good job explaining things:

<http://www.popularmechanics.com/science/earth/4318390.html>

The downside is that the hydraulic fracturing dumps massive quantities of waste water in the environment and the degradation of well water is becoming apparent. In fact, there was a case not too long ago in PA where a drilling company was investigated because residential wells started exploding! There was a write up on it in the Philadelphia Inquirer in November:

[http://www.philly.com/inquirer/local/20091122\\_Pa\\_\\_residents\\_sue\\_gas\\_driller\\_over\\_pollut](http://www.philly.com/inquirer/local/20091122_Pa__residents_sue_gas_driller_over_pollut)

So, yea, what this guy is experiencing is real. Sucks to be him. Not sure how he can sell his house now. And good luck suing them, too.

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dauidsickmiller 6 points 2 days ago [-]

The article says he's now getting \$57,000/year on the drilling lease from the company. I'm not sure how much it would cost to vent his well, but that can at least buy a lot of bottled water!

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Tioga County man blames nearby gas drilling for polluting his well

By Delen Goldberg / The Post-Standard  
January 02, 2010

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## Upstate New York man finds his kitchen faucet spews flames



Fred Mayer of Candor, N.Y. , uses a charcoal grill lighter to ignite water running from his kitchen faucet. CANDOR, N.Y. - Fred Mayer has a special feature in his kitchen: a faucet that spews fire. [Full Article at New York Daily News](#)

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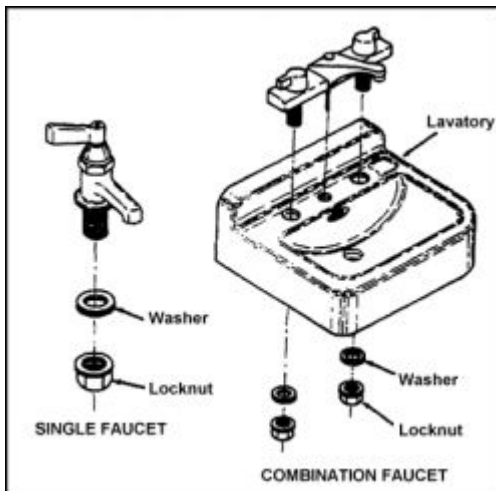
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#1

NYC Drew

CLM Number 182  
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Join Date: Mar 2003  
Location: New York  
Posts: 33,142

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NY: Upstate man has gas.

No, this is not one of those juvenile NYC Drew threads. 🤔

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Quote:

CANDOR, N.Y. - Fred Mayer has a special feature in his kitchen: a faucet that spews fire. Mayer says that about three years ago the well supplying water to his home in Candor became polluted with natural gas. Explosive vapors now run from his tap along with the water. The Vietnam veteran demonstrates by holding a lighter to the running water and igniting it with a flash.

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Rising in the Light



**Tioga County man blames nearby gas drilling for polluting his well**

By Delen Goldberg / The Post-Standard  
January 02, 2010

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Ignitable Drinking Water in Candor, NY, Above Marcellus Shale

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TEtgvwllNpg>

Candor, NY -- Fred Mayer holds a lighter to his faucet, lets the water run, and — pow — the flow ignites into a small fireball. “I can wash my dishes and poach an egg at the same time,” he joked.

But it’s no laughing matter. Mayer’s faucets spew natural gas. The gas has polluted his water supply, forcing Mayer to buy bottled water to drink. If enough gas builds up in his faucets or walls, scientists warn, Mayer’s house could explode.

Outside, the stream where Mayer once caught trout, minnows and crayfish bubbles and spurts, Mayer said. The stream is belching gas. The fish are mostly dead, he said.

Mayer, 59, a disabled Vietnam veteran, lives in Candor, a rural town in Tioga County, between Ithaca and Binghamton. He has lived in the same house since 1962. He has used the same drinking water well since 1966. The problems with his water started about three years ago, he said.