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### Access to safe drinking water subject of lecture at law school

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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Jan. 22, 2007

**Contact:** Shelley Hopkins, UM School of Law, (406) 243-4319,  
shelley.hopkins@umontana.edu.

**ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER  
SUBJECT OF LECTURE AT LAW SCHOOL**

**MISSOULA-**

Access to safe drinking water will be the subject of a lecture in a series offered by The University of Montana School of Law on Thursday, Feb. 1 at noon in the Law Building's Castles Center. The series is financed by the Frank and Elvira Jestrab Lecture Fund.

Steven M. Werner, executive director of Water For People, will address the topic "Is Access to Safe Drinking Water and Proper Sanitation a Basic Human Right?" Sarah Halvorson, UM associate professor of geography, also will speak.

Water For People is a nonprofit organization based in Denver, Colo. Its mission is to help people in developing nations gain access to safe drinking water and proper sanitation. The organization conducts programs in Latin America, Africa and Asia. Before joining Water For People, Werner consulted for national and international organizations in the areas of fundraising and marketing. Werner also worked for three of the largest and most successful nonprofit organizations in the United States: the American Cancer Society, CARE and Habitat for Humanity.

Halvorson specializes in water and society and teaches water policy at UM. Her teaching and research interests span several broad and diverse areas, including gender and social aspects of water resources and environmental hazards; medical and health geography;

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gender geography; international development in Central and South Asia and Africa; and water and landscape transformations in the Rocky Mountain West.

UM alumnus Frank E. Jestrab graduated from the UM law school in 1938. He worked for a few years for the Anaconda Copper Mining Co. in Butte. He received a Bronze Star while serving in the 475<sup>th</sup> Infantry during World War II and left the armed services in 1945 as a captain.

Jestrab practiced law in New York City and Houston, Texas, until 1949, when he joined the legal department of the Amerada Petroleum Corporation in Casper, Wyo., and Williston, N.D. He practiced law in Williston from 1952 to 1978. President Jimmy Carter appointed him a Commissioner of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission for a six-year term ending in 1984. He currently resides in Maryland. Jestrab married Elvira Waitt Evensen in January 1952. She died in 2000.

Other lectures yet to be determined will be part of the series. The UM Public Policy Research Institute and the Public Land and Resources Law Review assisted with the lecture program.

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