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PRESS RELEASE

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT PRESENTATION ON JULY 19 AT 12:00
SORRY ABOUT THAT, GLORIA: SOUTHERN LIVING ENCOUNTERS THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT
PRESENTED BY MELISSA BLAIR

Montgomery, AL (7/7/2018)- *Food for Thought* continues another year of fascinating lectures on the rich history of Alabama at the Alabama Department of Archives and History on **Thursday, July 19 at 12:00** when Dr. Melissa Blair presents ***Sorry about That, Gloria: Southern Living Encounters the Women's Movement***.

In this presentation, Dr. Blair will examine how the iconic Birmingham-based magazine, *Southern Living*, reacted to the feminist movement of the 1970s. Bursting into the nation's consciousness just a few years after *Southern Living's* first publication in 1966, feminism had the potential to disrupt the vision of the prosperous, suburban world of luncheon parties and elaborate gardens that the magazine promoted. By focusing on a regular column that profiled "distinctive" Southerners, including many women who broke glass ceilings in a variety of traditionally male fields, Blair's talk will explore how *Southern Living* navigated a rapidly-shifting political terrain. Given the tremendous success of the magazine in those years, exploring how *Southern Living* reacted to political changes reveals much about the South at a critical moment in the region's history.

Dr. Melissa Estes Blair is a native of Lexington, Kentucky. She earned her B.A. in history and English from the University of Kentucky and her Ph.D. in American history from the University of Virginia. Before joining the faculty of the history department of Auburn University in the summer of 2015, she taught for six years at Warren Wilson College, a small liberal-arts college in Asheville, NC. She is the author of *Revolutionizing Expectations: Women's Organizations, Feminism, and American Politics, 1965-1980*, published in 2014 by the University of Georgia Press. She is currently working on a book exploring how twentieth-century presidential campaigns sought female votes.

Admission to *Food for Thought* presentations is always **FREE**. The public is invited to bring a brown bag lunch. Complimentary beverages will be provided. **For additional information call (334) 353-4689.**

Food for Thought 2018 is sponsored by the Friends of the Alabama Archives and made possible with support from the daughters of Judge Alex A. Marks, in his memory.

The Alabama Department of Archives and History is the state's government records repository, special collections library and research facility, and is home to the Museum of Alabama, the state history museum. It is located in downtown Montgomery, directly across the street from the State Capitol. The Archives and Museum are open Monday through Saturday, 8:30 to 4:30. The EBSCO Research Room is open Tuesday through Friday and the second Saturday of the month from 8:30 to 4:30. To learn more, visit www.archives.alabama.gov or call (334) 242-4364.

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