



Alabama DEPARTMENT OF
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PRESS RELEASE

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT PRESENTATION ON NOVEMBER 16 AT 12:00
ANNE MAE BEDDOW, PIONEERING WORLD WAR I ANESTHETIST
PRESENTED BY ANNE GIBBONS

Montgomery, AL (11/2/2017)- *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, November 16 at 12:00**. Anne Gibbons will present ***Anne Mae Beddow, Pioneering World War I Nurse Anesthetist***.

In this presentation, Anne Gibbons will present the remarkable life and work of Anne Mae Beddow, a pioneer in the development of anesthesia techniques as a battlefield nurse during World War I. A graduate of St. Vincent's School of Nursing in Birmingham, Beddow was one of the first nurse anesthetists to administer sodium pentathol to patients. Because of her published research, the drug became one of the most widely used anesthetics of the twentieth century. A 2016 Alabama Women's Hall of Fame Inductee, Beddow has been recognized by the Alabama Association of Nurse Anesthetists and the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists for breaking barriers of advancement for women in medicine.

Anne Gibbons, niece of Anne Mae Beddow, is a graduate of Birmingham-Southern College and Cumberland School of Law. Much of her thirty-year legal career was spent working as a Senior Staff Attorney in the office of United States District Judge J. Foy Guin. After retirement, Gibbons dedicated herself to historic preservation. Her work has helped bring deserved recognition to the legacies of several outstanding Alabamians.

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 2017 is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Alabama Archives and the Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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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