

## HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 19: NUMBER 1 .....JANUARY/ FEBRUARY 2, 2024

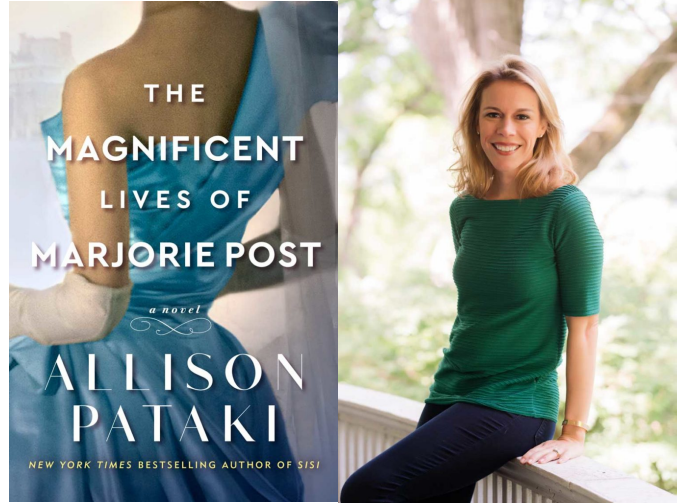
### From Breakfast Cereal to Riches

Allison Pataki is a New York Times bestselling author of several novels of historical fiction, two children’s books and a nonfiction book. In this novel, Pataki “has crafted an intimate portrait of a larger-than-life woman, a powerful story of one woman falling in love with her own voice and embracing her own power while shaping history in the process.” That woman is Marjorie Merriweather Post, businesswoman of Postum Cereal-Birdseye-General Foods fame.

### Featured this Month

#### The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post by Allison Pataki

The novel is based loosely on the extraordinary life of the heiress of the Post Cereal empire. Marjorie was years before her time. During her life span of eighty-six years, she became the wealthiest woman in the United States. Her modest beginnings, as a daughter of C W Post began in Battle Creek, Michigan. C W was very ill and called upon Dr. John Kellogg to cure him. Dr Kellogg’s cure was a severe diet composed mostly of grains and little else. The Post family was living in a rooming house whose family practiced Christian Science. When Dr Kellogg’s treatment made no improvement in C W’s health, they turned to Christian Science and C W eventually cured himself and at the same time thought that grains could be the cure for all the American families looking for something tasty and easily made for a quick healthy breakfast. He engaged his daughter in experiments with mixing grains with molasses. They developed a line of cereals that hit the markets at just the right time. C W introduced his daughter to the business. She became heir to the empire but as a woman in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, she was unable to make decisions about the operations of the company. She worked through her husbands to make changes in the business that eventually became General Foods.



The novel relates her lavish lifestyle. Married and divorced four times in an era where divorce was almost unheard of, she used her wealth to throw parties entertaining presidents and senators. She built extravagant homes in the Adirondacks, Washington, DC, New York City, and her most famous Mar A-Lago in Florida. She owned yachts and a private jet to fly her guests to parties. One of her marriages was to an ambassador to the Soviet Union during Stalin’s reign. It was there that she accumulated jewelry, dishware, and art works, formerly the Czar’s, that are now housed in the Smithsonian.

It wasn’t all extravagant parties. She built hospitals during both wars. Gave generously to the Red Cross and the Salvation Army. She built and hired help to man soup kitchens during the depression that gave people jobs and supplied food to the hungry.

*Review by Robbin Brodsky*

### Library Hours:

**Sunday, Monday:** closed

**Tuesday** ~ 3:00pm - 6:00pm

**Wednesday** ~ 10:00am -1:00pm

**Thursday**~ 3:30pm - 5:30pm

**Friday** ~ 10:00am -1:00pm

**Saturday** ~ 9:00pm - 2:00pm

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## New at the Library

### Fiction

**Mad Honey-** by Jodi Picoult  
**Small Town Sins-** by Ken Jaworowski  
**Song Yet Sung -** by James McBride  
**Wendy, Darling-** by A. C. Wise

### Nonfiction

**Musicophilia-** *Tales of Music and the Brain* by Oliver Sacks  
**The Afghanistan File-** Prince Turki Alfaisal Al Saud  
**The Medicine Men of the Apache-** by John Bourke

### Audio CDs

**Hundred in the Hand-** by Joseph M. Marshall III  
**Fantasy in Death-** by J. D. Robb

### DVDs

**City Hall... Donnie Brasco...**

### Mystery

**Cop to Corpse-** by Peter Lovesey  
**The Tooth Tattoo-** by Peter Lovesey  
**The Stone Wife-** by Peter Lovesey  
**Beau Death-** by Peter Lovesey  
**The Child Finder-** by Rene Denfeld  
**Warrior Circle-** by Robert Westbrook

### Notes from the Library Board

Happy New Year to All!

Please stop in. Visit our volunteers. Find a good book or movie to enrich your day.

### Bake Sale

The Library Bake Sale is on for  
**Saturday, February 3**  
**10:00am -1:00pm**  
Come and get your goodies!

### Bookmobile Schedule

**Thursdays**

Lil Abner's, Caballo **Feb 1, Feb 29, Mar 28**  
8am- 11:00am

Hillsboro Post Office **Jan 31, Feb 28, Mar 27**  
4:30pm – 5:00pm

<https://nmstatelibrary.org/bookmobiles/west-bookmobile/>

For a complete listing of Library materials, visit  
<http://www.hillsborocommunitylibrary.com>

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