
NEWS

CONTACT: ALISON BAILIN BATZ
(602) 957-8881

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“Cowboy Baby Doctor” visits hometown

**DR. KEN JACKSON VISITS HASTINGS IN GRAND JUNCTION
FOR READING, SIGNING**

Dr. Ken Jackson, who grew up in Grand Junction, will be visiting Hastings, which is located at 2401 North Ave. in Teller Arms Shopping Center in Grand Junction, on Friday, April 30 from 5 – 7 p.m. to sign copies of his first novel, [*Manifest West*](#), a contemporary Southwestern suspense that takes the reader deep into the heart and soul of the Apache people in a tale of passion, medical mystery and redemption in the American Southwest.

“Although I was born in East Tennessee, my family moved to Grand Junction when I was eight years old, so I consider it my hometown,” said Dr. Jackson. “My father was in the uranium business, and I still remember tagging along with him on trips to the mining and milling operations scattered across Colorado’s Western Slope.”

Dr. Jackson continued to call Colorado home through college, attending the University of Colorado on a full-ride academic scholarship. He later earned his medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. Following completion of his formal training in New Orleans, Dr. Jackson set out to practice medicine.

“Early in my medical career, I signed up with the Indian Health Service and began a two-year tour of duty that later stretched into five,” said Dr. Jackson. “While practicing there, I became fascinated with Native American culture. The people had a depth and edginess to them I’d never seen. Out of my admiration for the Apaches sprang the seeds for *Manifest West*, although it would be 20 years before I put pen to paper.”

Colorful characters and vibrant Southwestern settings continued to fascinate Dr. Jackson as his practice moved on to Pinetop, Ariz. and then to its current home in

Kingman, Ariz. To this day, he still assists the Hualapai in Peach Springs, Ariz., and on the last Friday of each month, he descends into the Grand Canyon on horseback to provide pre-natal care for the Supai, who live within the canyon walls.

He's twice crossed the entire state of Arizona on horseback, treks documented by *Arizona Highways Magazine* and PBS, as well as in other media. These adventures triggered a wave of creativity and contributed to the authenticity of *Manifest West*, which he finished in 2008.

From "Bitch Cassidy" to "Dazen Confused," all of the people, places and storylines Dr. Jackson brought to life are fictional but based on real people he encountered and real events he experienced on and off the reservation.

"*Manifest West* is exciting, intriguing and keenly written. A terrific read. Dr. Jackson has penned a winner – an original, tense journey into medicine as it is . . . and was," said 14-time *New York Times* best-selling author of *The Second Opinion*, Michael Palmer.

Dr. Jackson has great respect for the survivability and resiliency of the Native American people. He also has deep passion for their lifestyle and history. His goal is to weave stories that bring Southwestern and Native cultures to life for all his readers.

"*Manifest West* is a gripping story of loss, sacrifice and redemption. The characters are deftly drawn and the scenarios frighteningly believable. A sensational debut," said *New York Times* best-selling author of *Wrongful Death*, Robert Dugoni.

For more information, to purchase the book or to learn about Dr. Jackson's upcoming appearances, please visit www.manifestwest.net.