



tucson.com
Arizona Daily Star



67°
Scattered Clouds
Weekly Forecast

sponsored by

[Fun & games](#) | [Critters](#) | [Lottery tracker](#) | [Games](#) | [Movies](#) | [Pets](#) | [TV listings](#) | [Reader gallery](#)

[Home](#) / [Tucson's entertainment guide](#)

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AUTHORS

Southern Arizona Authors: 2014 standouts

[f Recommend](#) 182

0

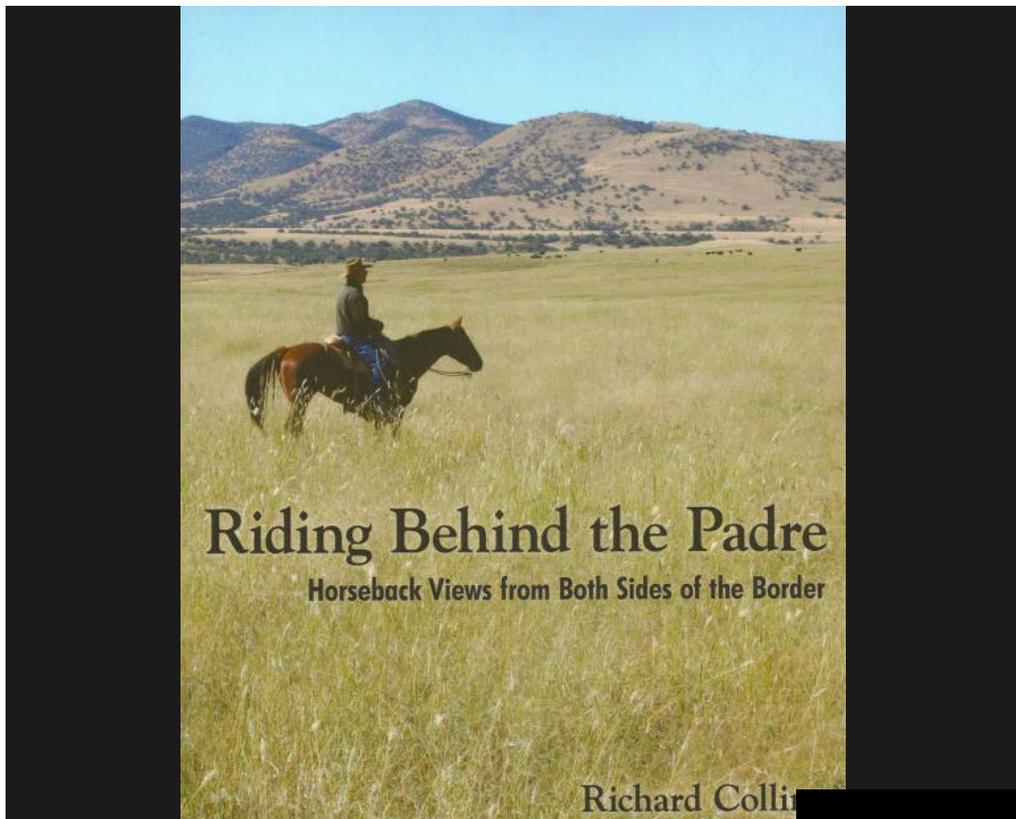
[Pin it](#)

2

[Print](#)

[Email](#)





[Buy Now](#)

By Mildred Reid Grant Gray related to Claire E. Scheuren (Zeitgeist West Publishing, \$25)

From 1946 through 1976, Gray was the telegraph operator in the small Nova Scotian village of Garbarus. As the introduction states, this meant that she was “the 911, information and referral service, spiritual advisor and companion to people giving birth and people dying.” Her remarkable memory also includes details of her own family and of village life in Nova Scotia.

“The Horse Lover”

By H. Alan Day (University of Nebraska Press, \$24.95)

In the late 1980s, Arizona cattle rancher Day — whose family includes his sisters, Ann Day, former Arizona State Legislator and member of the Pima County Board of Supervisors, and Sandra Day O’Connor, former U.S. Supreme Court Justice — bought a 35,000-acre ranch in South Dakota. He established a wild horse sanctuary on the South Dakota property. At Mustang Meadows, the first federally financed horse sanctuary in the country, Day provided a home to 1,500 wild horses for about half the cost the BLM was paying at the time to “warehouse,” them. Day recounts, in his well-written memoir (with Lynn Wiese Sneyd) that it was a bumpy but rewarding ride. When he had to resubmit his bid after five years he lost to a low bidder in Oklahoma, but the value of the concept was proven. This book has been selected by Southwest Books of the Year as one of its “10 best.”

JUNE

“Talking to Strangers: The Struggle to Rebuild Iraq’s Foreign Ministry”

By Ghassan Muhsin Hussein and David Dunford (Southwestern College Academic Press, \$18.95)

Dunford is a former member of the U.S. Foreign Service, now retired in Tucson, and Hussein is an Iraqi, now living in exile in Bahrain. They worked together in Iraq in 2003, just after that country’s

Arizona. In 1958, Sharp's mother, Florence Greene Sharp, as the result of a divorce settlement, became the owner of the San Rafael. The working cattle ranch had been acquired by her father, the copper and land tycoon, William C. Greene, in 1903. Despite the fact that she was 52 and had several serious health problems, Florence Sharp moved her four children, including Lisa, the youngest at 8, from Southern California to the ranch and managed it until her death in 1995. In this nonlinear memoir, Lisa Sharp drifts back and forth through the decades, remembering family and cultural history, anecdotes and ranch life. In 1998, the property was sold to The Nature Conservancy, which later sold a portion of it to the Arizona State Parks Department. Once again, this is another book in which an index would be helpful.

OCTOBER

“Riding Behind the Padre: Horseback Views From Both Sides of the Border”

By Richard Collins (Wheatmark, \$15; Kindle \$7.99)

Collins grew up on a ranch in Phoenix, attended both the University of Arizona and Arizona State, worked 20 years for the Centers for Disease Control in Central America and Mexico and is now a Southern Arizona rancher. Between 2008 and 2012, Collins joined a group made up of members from both sides of the border that, on horseback, retraced the steps of Eusebio Kino. Eusebio Kino was a Jesuit missionary who traveled in what is today Sonora and Arizona in the 17th and 18th centuries, converting the native peoples and building mission communities. Collins lays out his opinions, ideas and experiences in clean, solid prose. He doesn't claim to have solutions to our ongoing immigration conflicts but his thoughts are worth any border dweller's time and attention.

“A Land of Hard Edges”

By Peg Bowden (Peer Publishing, \$14.95)

There is no doubt where Bowden's sympathies lie. This retired public health nurse volunteers as a member of the Green Valley Land Committee, a group established in November 2009 to protect the