

From *The New York Times* Best-Selling Novel

The NOTICER

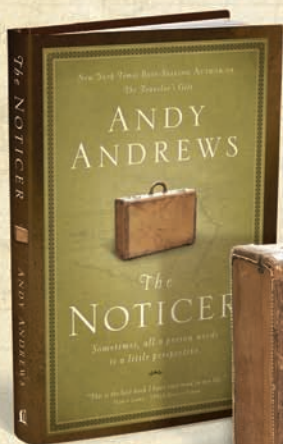
Sometimes, all a person needs is a little perspective.

By Andy Andrews
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POINTS *of* INTEREST

ORANGE BEACH
& GULF SHORES, ALABAMA



It's no fun to keep your favorite places all to yourself.

That's why we have compiled this list of **points of interest** in Orange Beach and Gulf Shores, Alabama that have special meaning for *New York Times* best-selling author Andy Andrews.

The Gulf State Park Pier

20115 State Highway 135, Gulf Shores, AL 36542
(251) 948-7275

Current facts . . .

Gulf Shores/Orange Beach, AL - When many people think of Gulf State Park, the first thing that comes to mind is the saltwater fishing pier that was destroyed by Hurricane Ivan in 2004. The 825-foot-long pier was Alabama's most popular place to fish and watch others fish. Hugh Branyon, Gulf State Park's superintendent, says the pier attracted about 250,000 anglers and sightseers each year. On the busiest days, he said, almost 5,000 people would visit the pier.



Construction of a new pier – this one 1512-foot-long and the longest on the Gulf Coast – began in December 2008, and a lot of anglers counted the days until it opened. Some built new fishing rods and planned their vacations to coincide when the pier reopened July 22, 2009. At the official ribbon cutting, the man who once lived under the pier, Andy Andrews, was invited to speak alongside Governor Bob Riley of Alabama!

This might be the easiest way to “catch” Andy out in public. He and his boys do a lot of fishing on this incredible structure.



Sea-n-Suds

405 East Beach Boulevard, Gulf Shores, AL 36542
(251) 948-7894
www.Sea-n-Suds.com

Current facts . . .

Andy and Polly's favorite is the fried oyster sandwich. Their boys love the fried crab claws. And yes, Nancy and Willie are there most days! Ask for them and say hello!



Craft Farms

3840 Cotton Creek Circle, Gulf Shores, AL 36542
(251) 968-7500
www.CraftFarms.com

Current facts . . .

This is where Andy is a lifetime member. There, he plays golf enthusiastically but not often enough to be any good! His family often eats in the clubhouse restaurant where Andy and Polly love the hamburgers, their boys always order the fish, and everyone agrees that the Craft Farms onion rings are the best in the entire world.





Of course, there are other local people mentioned in *The Noticer*. Here are some of them and where they might be found!

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Brent Burns

www.BrentBurns.com



Current facts . . .

Did you know Brent Burns is a local institution with a national following of his own? Here is the scoop...Brent Burns is the very first person ever to get Andy Andrews onstage. It happened in the old Holiday Inn (which is long gone) and is still a local legend. Brent and Andy remain fast friends to this day. When you go out for an evening in this area, your first question should be, "Is Brent in town tonight and where is he playing?" Get ready to laugh—Brent is one of Andy's funniest friends!

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Orange Beach United Methodist Church

28751 Canal Road, Orange Beach, AL 36561
(251) 981-6751
www.OrangeBeachUMC.org

Current facts . . .

Alan McBride is the pastor of Orange Beach United Methodist Church, where the Andrews are members and usually attend the early Sunday service. Jonathon Langston also is on staff at OBUMC as the pastor's assistant and Director of Special Projects. He also plays bass in the Praise Band for the early service!



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UPS Man

Mark the UPS Man . . . usually spotted in a big, brown truck!



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Pat and Claudia Simpson

www.PatSimpson.com

Current facts . . .

They are neighbors and friends of the Andrews. You can occasionally see Pat on NBC's *The Today Show*. He is America's home improvement expert!



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Winn-Dixie Pharmacy

Gulf View Shopping Center
5405 Perdido Boulevard, Orange Beach, AL 36561
(251) 981-9451

Current facts . . .



Susan, Clay, Tom, and Becky... This bunch is almost always in the Winn-Dixie Pharmacy located across the parking lot from Pack & Mail. Tom and Clay are big Auburn fans so make sure to tell them "Roll Tide" from Andy (who is an Alabama fan!).

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Wall Décor Frame Shop

25299 Canal Road, #A4, Orange Beach, AL 36561
(251) 974-1695

Current facts . . .

Ted and Kathryn are the owners and only staff at Wall Décor on Canal Road. They are also some of the Andrews' favorite people. Ted has literally framed everything in the Andrews home! Stop in and meet this wonderful couple. Andy says to check out the nautical items in the right side of the store!

The Willow Callaway Dock

Directions: From Doc's Oyster Bar in Orange Beach, head west on Canal road. Go exactly 5.7 miles and Willow Callaway's tiny dock is on your right. Or from the right turn onto Canal Road at Gulf Bait and Tackle in Gulf Shores, head east for exactly .5 miles. The Willow Callaway dock is on your left.

Current facts . . .

Andy doesn't often stop here, but drives by regularly and always honks the horn at folks who have stopped for photos!



Pack & Mail

Gulf View Shopping Center
25405 Perdido Beach Boulevard, Suite 21
Orange Beach, AL 36561
(334) 981-7225

Current facts . . .

Andy and his family frequent the Pack & Mail as much because Ted and Lynn keep a bowl of candy for kids as for any other reason! Stop and say hello to Ted and Lynn and maybe get a picture with "the suitcase!"



China Dragon (Jenny's)

China Dragon Restaurant-Orange Beach
25405 Perdido Beach Boulevard, Orange Beach, AL 36561
(251) 981-5855

China Dragon Restaurant-Gulf Shores
2200 East 2nd Street, # K, Gulf Shores, AL 36542
(251) 968-2115

Current facts . . .

Only a couple doors down from Pack & Mail, you'll find great food here! Andy's favorite is the vegetable fried rice! And Jenny has expanded. She and Abraham are often at the Gulf Shores China Dragon location.



Café Beignet

25405 Perdido Beach Boulevard, Orange Beach, AL 36561
(251) 948-2711

Current facts . . .

Café Beignet is located right next door to Pack & Mail. Since this is where the climax of *The Noticer* takes place, don't miss a morning with Andy's favorite Chicory Café Au Lait and a plate of hot beignets. And it'll have to be morning . . . Al closes it down for sure by noon!





Orange Beach & Gulf Shores Restaurants

When all that action (or lying around on the beach) makes you hungry, head to the table at one of the remarkable Gulf Shores restaurants. With the world's best fishing hole as the playground, succulent, fresh-off-the-boat seafood is the order of the day. Of course, you don't have to have seafood. You'll find plenty of restaurants in Gulf Shores and Orange Beach serving steak, barbecue, Italian, Mexican, pizza, or whatever you have a hankering for.



Nightlife & Entertainment

Nighttime is the right time . . . for having fun along the Alabama Gulf Coast. From family entertainment to rocking roadhouses, give your sunburn a chance to cool down at some local hot spots. Nightlife in Orange Beach and Gulf Shores offers countless perfect endings to countless perfect days.

Alabama Gulf Coast Welcome Centers

3150 Gulf Shores Parkway Gulf Shores, AL 36542

23685 Perdido Beach, Orange Beach, AL 36561

Mailing: P.O. Box 457, Gulf Shores, AL 36547

Phone: 800-745-7263 (SAND) or 251-968-7511

Email: info@gulfshores.com

www.OrangeBeach.com | www.GulfShores.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANDY

ANDYANDREWS.com

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