



Kent County Department of Aeronautics

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GERALD R. FORD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Gerald R. Ford International Airport Reaches a Milestone: 2 Million Passengers Served in a Single Calendar Year!

On Wednesday, December 15, 2004, GFIA celebrated a milestone event in the Airport's 41 year history: serving 2 million passengers in a single calendar year. The ceremonial 2-millionth passenger was presented with a gift package valued at over \$850.

About the Passenger:

Name: Tari Wright
City of Residence: Plainwell, MI

Gift Package Includes:

- Travel Voucher valued at \$500, compliments of the Kent County Aeronautics Board, John Van Laar, Chairman
- Gift Card to Starbucks® valued at \$100, compliments of HMSHost, Wayne Cole, Manager
- Gift Certificates for Valet and Express Shuttle Parking valued at \$135, compliments of Standard Parking, Dan Villalobos, Manager
- Selection of gift items from the Airport Gift Shop valued at \$75, compliments of HMSHost, Hayley Cornelisse, Manager
- Wheeled luggage valued at \$75, compliments of Northwest Airlines, Dan Conner, Station Manager



Timeline of Milestones at GFIA:

- 1963 – Airport opens at current location under the name of Kent County Airport
- 1964 – First full year of operation at current location; 230,875 travelers pass through the facility
- 1977 – Airport is renamed Kent County *International* Airport when U.S. Customs office opens
- 1984 – GFIA reaches 1 million passengers in a single calendar year
- 1999 – Airport is renamed Gerald R. Ford International Airport in honor of the nation's 38th President
- 2000 - \$50 million passenger terminal renovation is completed
- 2003 – Airport celebrates its 40th anniversary at the current location
- 2004 – GFIA reaches 2 million passengers in a single calendar year