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The City of Midland - Going Above and Beyond

Below are highlights of the many achievements of City employees/departments in 2013. For a list of current year achievements, or to recount a positive experience you've had with a City worker or department, visit the [Above & Beyond Homepage](#).

*Achievements are in chronological order, with the most recent listed first.

PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE OF TOP 50 IN STATE (November 14, 2013) Midland's public school district was named a 2013 Academic State Champ for effective programming that leads students to perform better in school. Midland was ranked 47th among Michigan's 540 school districts in a Bridge Magazine report. [Click here for details](#).

MIDLAND RECOGNIZED AS BUSINESS-FRIENDLY (November 14, 2013) A University of Michigan-Dearborn research study has named the city of Midland as one of eight top performing communities in Michigan for its pro-business environment.

MIDLAND #1 DESIRABLE MICHIGAN CITY (October 2013) Those interested in moving to Michigan, look no more: Midland was named the best Michigan city in which to live. Movoto, an independent national real estate brokerage, deemed Midland tops for its many amenities, low cost of living, employment opportunities, high-quality education, low crime, and home value. [Click here](#) for details.



CITIZENS ACADEMY



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WINS NATIONAL AWARD (September 13, 2013)

The City's government 101 program has received a national award for outstanding citizen participation programming. The City-County Communications and Marketing Association presented Midland with an Award of Excellence for our annual Citizens

Academy, a 10-week class on city and county government. The academy gives citizens an up close and personal look at how City services help make Midland a great place to live and visit. See [Citizens Academy](#) for more details about the program.

OFFICER ORGANIZES HABITAT CREWS (August 8, 2013) Kudos to Midland Police Department Officer Robert Booth, the 2012 Carl and Esther Gerstacker police officer of the year who for the past two years has organized a department team to participate in the Habitat for Humanity Great Lakes Bay Neighborhood Revitalization Project. A multitude of officers, from the newest recruit to the police chief, have taken time out to help rehab homes in the area, thanks to Officer Booth's efforts.



CITY NAMED A "COMPANY THAT CARES" (April 30, 2013) The City of Midland was named one of Midland's "Companies that Care" during the United Way-Midland County's annual Spirit of the Community Celebration. Awardees are recognized for their commitment to United Way's fundraising campaign and the positive ways in which they impact the community. The City also received this award in 2010, 2011, and 2012.



MIDLAND ONE OF 100 SAFEST CITIES IN AMERICA (February 2013) Midland was touted as the 71st safest city in the nation by NeighborhoodScout. Midland was the only Michigan city listed in the top 100 communities recognized for this distinction, which is based on the total number of crimes per 1,000 residents. This great honor can be attributed to Midland citizens and the Midland Police Department efforts to maintain a high quality of life in our community.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR HONORED WITH YWCA AWARD (February 6, 2013) Grace A. Dow Memorial Library Director Melissa Barnard received the prestigious YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region's Women of Achievement award for her work in community education. She was one of nine area leaders recognized for their demonstrated volunteer or professional activities and outstanding contributions to healthcare, entrepreneurship, business, and young woman & community leadership.

DEPUTY POLICE CHIEF HONORED FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS CONTRIBUTIONS (January 10, 2013) Deputy Police Chief Rodney Roten received an award for outstanding fundraising efforts for the Michigan Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. He was the driving force behind the fundraiser, which - after a multi-year hiatus - brought the run back to Midland in 2011 and helped raise more than \$1,200 for Michigan Special Olympics.