

# Other top stories of 2014 that missed the cut

From staff reports

## **SANDUSKY**

These stories were also in the running for the Top 10 news stories of 2014:

### **City gets leadership, tax levy**

With veteran leadership returning to commission, city government found its footing in 2014, voting in favor of painful budget cuts, firing its city manager, hiring a new one, and working with residents and businesses to get a tax increase approved by a wide margin.

### **Forever young**

Scott Gast, frontman of the CoCoBeanOs, had been the standout in the local music scene for more than a decade. He tragically

died in a traffic crash Nov. 2 after falling asleep at the wheel while driving home from a gig in the Huron area.

### **Last Call triple homicide**

The Register was the first to report a triple homicide at the Last Call Bar in Fremont; the first at the scene with remote reports, photos and descriptions from witnesses; and the best at providing continuing coverage with live updates at sanduskyregister.com throughout the week, posting interviews, arrest information and audio of 911 calls within just hours.

### **Truckers are champions**

The Norwalk High School boys basketball team brought back the state

crown to a city overjoyed.

### **Huron girls win big**

The Huron High School volleyball team scored a state championship — again.

### **Botched raid**

Before he knew it, John Collins was handcuffed and pinned to the floor after eight Huron County sheriff's deputies busted through the door of his apartment in Norwalk. For 20 minutes they searched his house, rifling through his personal belongings and ignoring his pleas as he told them they had the wrong house and the wrong guy.

Public records — including a review of text messages exchanged between a Norwalk

police officer and a sheriff's detective — confirmed the sheriff and his chief deputy knew all along that Collins was the wrong guy and they were in the wrong home. Information they provided about what occurred was determined inaccurate.

### **Tenants fear building unsafe**

Sandusky city commissioner Jeff Smith, a property owner with numerous rentals, cleaned up his multi-unit apartment building in the city after a Register reporter and photographer verified complaints about the property on Central Avenue and the commissioner's prior refusal to make repairs, photographing the unsafe conditions and providing narratives from tenants.

---

## Register website boosted by social media in 2014