

In brief

Stabbing breakthrough

Public feedback led police to a young male responsible for a stabbing in Denton Park. Detective Colin Baillie said police were talking to a youth after a man was stabbed on July 31 at about 1.50am. The youth would initially be dealt with by Youth Aid.

Crash death

A medical condition may have been the cause of a crash at the intersection of Innes Rd and Queen Elizabeth II Dr that claimed Florence McGilvary's life, police say. The 84-year-old Halswell woman, formerly of St Albans, died at the scene when her vehicle struck a tree on Monday, about 9pm. Police are awaiting the results of a post mortem before the cause is determined. Next of kin have been advised.

Plan feedback sought

Residents have only three more days to have their say about what is proposed in the draft Central City Plan for the redevelopment of the central city. More than 3450 comments have already been received by 730 submitters. City council central city plan sponsor Mike Theelen said light rail and proposed new building heights for the central city had produced the greatest number of comments. Submissions close 5pm Friday.

Maori health checks

Staff and medical students from the University of Otago, Christchurch, are offering free health checks to the Maori community this weekend in the hope it will improve wellbeing in what has been a tough year. Fifth year medical students and their supervisors will offer the checks to the Christchurch Maori community on Saturday, at Rehua Marae, 79 Springfield Rd, St Albans.

Bridge to be repaired

The Bridge of Remembrance will definitely be saved even though it has significant earthquake damage. Mayor Bob Parker said the city council was working through a concept and design process for a permanent repair, as any temporary measures could cause further damage.



BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY: Moira Evans from Harding's Jewellers receives her Business Hero Award from Registered Master Builders Federation chief executive Warwick Quinn. PHOTO: GEOFF SLOAN

Award for woman who recovered jewellery

WHEN MOIRA Evans braved the earthquake-damaged central city jewellery store she worked in, little did she know that six months later she would be receiving a prestigious award.

Moira was yesterday the first recipient of the Master Builders Business Hero Awards, a new award which will recognise Cantabrians who go beyond the call of duty in these tough times.

Moira, who works at Harding's Jewellers, was nominated after going out of her way to help customer Sandra Donohue.

After the February earthquake she helped to retrieve all the jewellery belonging to customers — knowing it was unlikely they could return to the building.

Among the items was a ring of special meaning to Sandra, Moira made sure the ring was returned to Sandra who was so appreciative she nominated her for an award.

The newly-launched Master Builders Business Hero Awards salute those at the business coalface in Canterbury who have continued to provide outstanding service, in spite of what nature



has hurled at them.

The awards are sponsored by *The Star* and Newstalk ZB.

Award's organiser Grant Woolliams said the past year has graphically demonstrated how much we all rely on individuals in business to keep us going.

Moira received a \$500 Hamner Springs Hot Pools and Spa gift card from complex manager Graeme Abbot.

Sandra Donohue said she had an inexpensive ring in for repair at Harding's when the quake struck.

"I thought that I would never see my ring again. While of no financial value, the ring has special meaning to me. Some years ago we were burgled and nearly all of the items relating to my teenage years were stolen."

The burglars were disturbed

and left the ring and other items," she said.

"When the earthquake struck and I thought it would be lost. Then, to my great delight, I received a phone message from Moira Evans to say she had found my precious ring and it would be delivered to me.

Registered Master Builders Federation chief executive Warwick Quinn said anyone in Canterbury who receives exceptional customer service can nominate the person who provided it for an award.

"Like all Cantabrians my members rely on everyone in business for support. This is a way of acknowledging them."

The Master Builders Business Hero Awards are also supported by Christchurch International Airport. Chief executive Jim Boulton will select the monthly winners from the public nominations posted on www.businesshero.co.nz.

Mr Boulton acknowledges that the recent earthquakes, ash clouds and the worst storm in 40 years have tested businesses in the region, including the airport.

Men face separate dog cruelty charges

By Caroline King

A 24-year-old man who allegedly shot a dog in the head and left it for dead has been charged after assistance from the public.

The male bull-terrier cross was found alive and tied to a post on Intake Rd near the Waimakariri River on August 6.

At the time, it was believed the dog had been shot three times in a botched attempt to put it down.

Canterbury's SPCA manager Geoff Sutton said the Hornby man had been charged with reckless ill treatment of an animal.

He is to appear in court on October 6.

A 33-year-old man is also to appear in court on the same day following an investigation by the SPCA into the death of a puppy at an Emmett St property, in Shirley, on June 17.

"It's alleged he threw the puppy onto a patio and the way it hit a post did some nerve damage to its spine and neck. It was allegedly a reasonably long period of time before any action was taken to put the dog out of its pain and suffering," Mr Sutton said.

The SPCA were advised of the matter by a member of the public and later executed a search warrant in which a body of a jack russell terrier puppy was found.

He has been charged with reckless ill treatment of an animal and failing to get an injured animal appropriate treatment.

Mr Sutton said: "The SPCA is heartened at the level of public assistance in bringing both these matters before the court."

He said both men could potentially be facing a jail term.

Reckless ill treatment could carry a potential penalty of up to three years in prison or a fine not exceeding \$75,000, or both.

Failing to get appropriate treatment could carry a potential prison sentence not exceeding a year or a \$50,000 fine, Mr Sutton said.

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