UMS graduate receives her scroll in hospital from CM

By Neil Brian Joseph

KOTA KINABALU: A Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) graduate who was involved in an accident earlier this month was given a confidence boost when she received her scroll personally from Chief Minister Datuk Seri Shafie Apdal.

Fatma Faisal, 23, could not attend the recent UMS Convocation Ceremony as she was still undergoing treatment at Queen Elizabeth Hospital 1 (QEH 1) due to the injuries that she had suffered in the accident, which occurred on November 1.

To show his support for the psychology graduate, Shafie opted to visit and personally present the scroll to Fatma, who managed to obtain Second Class Honours in her course, at the hospital yesterday.

11 new JP sworn in

KOTA KINABALU: Eleven newly appointed Justices of the Peace (JPs) were sworn in before Chief Justice of Sabah and Sarawak, Dato Sri Panglima David Wong Dak Wah, yesterday.

The an oath-taking and swearing-in ceremony was held at the Dewan Persidangan Mahkamah Tinggi of Kota Kinabalu Court Complex here.

They were Sabah Sukang Lotud Association (Locud) president Dato Fredie Sua, Sessions Court judges Elsie Primus and Azreena Aziz, Jakaraya Ab Ja’ili, Bahrulhaim Geo, Abdul Razak Jamil, Mathew Willie, Mustapha @ Mohd. Yunus Sakmud, Sazalye Donol Abdulrahman, Hassan Basri Aplasin and William Michael Molilip. Also present to witness the ceremony were Datuk Lawrence Thien and Datuk Gordon Leong Vui Cheung representing the Council of Justices of Peace Sabah (Maljap).

“Today (Friday), we conducted a special ceremony for a student who was involved in an accident. She is still in her weak state but she is conscious. “As a result, she was not able to attend the recent graduation ceremony. I hope that this (the visit) will lift up her spirit and give her joy. “We pray that she would recover as soon as possible,” Shafie told reporters when met after the visit.

On November 1, the car that Fatma was traveling in crashed and hit a tree near Masjid Bandaraya, Likas, around 9.30pm. The driver, Karbi Ali, 24, was pronounced dead at QEH 1, an hour after the accident. Mohd Roslan Faisal, 26, who is Fatma’s elder brother, disclosed that his sister had suffered nerve injuries in the accident.

“The doctor told us that Fatma suffered injuries in her C3, the part that controls the conventional reflex system especially in her respiration and her body’s reflex.

“She also suffered swelling on her brain. However, she is recovering well so far,” he said. Fatma is the fifth child out of 11 siblings. She and her family are from Semporna.

When asked how the family had felt about Shafie’s visit, Roslan said his family was very touched and thankful by Shafie’s kind gesture.

Roslan revealed that the family had never requested for Shafie to come and that it was Shafie himself who willingly came.

Also present was UMS Vice Chancellor Professor Datuk Dr D Kamarudin M Mohd.

Support for extended smoking ban

KOTA KINABALU: Social activist Robert Foo applauded the firm decision made by the Health Ministry to extend the smoking ban to open-air restaurants, such as coffee shops, mamak restaurants and foodstalls.

Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly bin Ahmad said the ban will take effect from 1 January 2019 despite lobbies by certain groups.

Foo noted that so far, huge motivator and it helps put life into perspective for me and you too,” said Datuk Christina Liew, Deputy Chief Minister and Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment.

For more information, please call +60 88-212 121 or email to cassie@sabahtourism.com. See full programme on www.hellosabah.my