THOUGH THERE MAY BE some debate as to whether this is the Year of the Ram, Goat, or Sheep, there is no such argument about QMC’s February Employee of the Month Kenny Kwong. Kenny is a transporter for Central Transport Services (CTS) and is assigned to the Imaging Department. A QMC employee for only four years, Kenny nevertheless has made an indelible mark at Queen’s.

The first time Imaging coworker Jennifer Bradbury encountered Kenny was actually hearing him through the curtain as he was assisting a patient. “His whole tone was just so kind and thoughtful. You could tell he really wanted to make sure that patient was comfortable before he left the area,” she recalled.

“We all love you in Imaging,” assured Beverly Toledo, another Imaging staffer, who was herself an Employee of the Month back in February 2003.

Kenny deflected praise, saying, “We have great teamwork over here—everybody helps each other.”

His manager Shereen Johnson said, “I watch him at work… he is a quiet guy, but he is always out there on the floor doing what he needs to do. He inspires me to be better. I have learned a lot from him. He’s not afraid to come to me with an idea and he is always willing to try anything new that I come up with.”

Also attending the surprise celebration were Kenny’s daughter Vanessa, his wife Icy, and student volunteer Chris Ilar, who shadowed Kenny as part of his volunteer work. Icy works in Queen’s Heart Physician Practice, as does Kenny’s mom Amy (also the EOM in April 2012). Vanessa says that her dad has taught her to work hard, to give your all no matter what you are doing, to follow through, and to do what you say you will do. “He’s very caring and non-judgmental,” the teen added. “And he loves to help people. He literally stops whatever he’s doing if he sees someone who needs his help.” Chris said that he learned a lot from working with Kenny, including, “Just keep working, even if you’re tired. Take a break if you need to, but then get back at it and do your best.”

Many years ago, Kenny lived in Hong Kong where he worked in a law firm. He

(Continued on page 2.)
NHCH Gets Top Ultrasound Systems

THE IMAGING DEPARTMENT at North Hawai‘i Community Hospital (NHCH) purchased three Acuson S3000 ultrasound systems from Siemens Healthcare.

“This new equipment offers the top ultrasound technology available today,” explained Leslie Brusk, NHCH Director of Imaging Services. “The advanced technology ultimately translates into exceptional image quality, greater exam access and a wider range of exams for our patients.” New exams include musculoskeletal ultrasound exams, 3D imaging for obstetrics and elastographies, an exam that measures the elasticity of organs.

Additionally, the new ultrasound system offers multi-modality review capabilities allowing CT and/or MRI images to be imported for quick and easy side-by-side comparison, producing an additional layer of information to increase diagnostic confidence. “The advanced technologies available through the Acuson S3000 devices dramatically enhance our ability to provide consistently clearer results with a more comfortable and time-efficient exam experience for all of our ultrasound patients,” Leslie added.

Ultrasound is a common imaging tool that uses high frequency sound waves to produce images of structures and soft tissues in the body. It is most frequently used as a diagnostic tool to view organs such as the liver, spleen, arteries, veins, legs, arms, and neck. Ultrasound can measure the flow of blood to many organs. It is often used on pregnant women to check the baby’s size, development, and position, and to help guide needles for biopsies.

EOM Kenny Kwong

(Continued from page 1.)

started out as the firm’s messenger and ended up as its manager. When Icy and Kenny decided to move to Hawai‘i to be closer to family, Kenny found a job working for Catholic Charities as a billing specialist. He got laid off during a downsizing and looked to Queen’s where Icy was already employed. “I really like helping people, and though I was doing that at my previous job, now I actually get to help them directly,” Shereen says Kenny is one of the top performers in CTS, meaning the number of transports he makes per hour. She appreciates his proactive approach in reviewing the daily appointments and anticipating what’s needed. His nomination forms cited his positive attitude and constant smile.

Another coworker insists that Kenny has “dramatically helped the Imaging (patient) flow since he has been assigned.”

“Family is the most important thing in the world,” Kenny remarked. He believes in sitting down to eat together every night with the TV and gadgets off. “We share the experience of our days over dinner,” he explained. “It matters.” The close knit family usually enjoys dinner out once a week and spends a lot of time together driving Vanessa to her many activities. “He takes me to swimming practice at 6:00 am, and even drove me to the Honolulu Marathon start at 3:00 am,” she reported. “He’s a good dad.” Kenny just smiled with contentment.
HELP RAISE FUNDS to cure diabetes by joining the Queen’s ‘ohana at the American Diabetes Association’s (ADA) 2015 Step Out Walk. This year Queen’s will be hosting one big QHS team and all are encouraged to participate. They’ll be back on Friday, March 6, or Tuesday, March 10, from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm at the Harkness kiosk at the Honolulu campus. The family friendly event will be held on Saturday, March 21 in Kap‘olani Park. You can also register or donate online at http://main.diabetes.org/goto/QueensTeam. Call Alana Buskerus at 691-7050 for more information.

QMC-WO Diabetes Ed Center Recognized

THE DIABETES MANAGEMENT and Education Center at The Queen’s Medical Center – West O‘ahu has been awarded a Recognition Certificate for quality diabetes self-management by the American Diabetes Association (ADA). The ADA believes that high-quality education is an essential component of effective diabetes treatment, and the Recognition Certificate assures that educational programs meet their rigorous national standards.

Programs that achieve Recognition status have a staff of knowledgeable health professionals who provide comprehensive information about diabetes management. “The process gives professionals a national standard by which to measure the quality of services they provide,” explained Susan Murray, Senior Vice President, West O‘ahu and Chief Operating Officer of The Queen’s Medical Center – West O‘ahu. “In addition, this recognition assures the community that they will receive high-quality service at our facility.” Education Recognition status is verified by an official certificate from ADA and awarded for four years.

The Queen’s Medical Center in Honolulu has held the ADA recognition since 2004, and was recently re-verified in March 2014.
THE QUEEN’S MEDICAL CENTER’S 2014 Employee of the Year will be announced at a tea on Friday, March 6, from 2:30 – 3:30 pm in the Mabel Smyth Auditorium at the Queen’s Conference Center. All are invited to attend and support their favorite candidate.

CLEAN HANDS ARE SAFE HANDS Fair will be held at North Hawai’i Community Hospital (NHCH) Monday through Thursday, March 2 – 5, in rooms 319 and 321 at 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm. The special event will demonstrate the importance of hand hygiene and how to teach the proper technique to others. On Thursday, March 5, the event will culminate with a healthy dessert bar for all staff.

MARCH IS NATIONAL Nutrition Month. On the Honolulu campus, join Queen’s dietitians at the Farmers’ Market on Wednesday, March 4, as they focus on food trends. There will be handouts and healthy recipe tastings. The market is held in Harkness Courtyard from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.

NORMAN MILLER, MD, Gastroenterology; Michael Brodsky, MD, Cardiology; and Jeffrey “Doug” Miles, MD, Neurology, have recently joined the Queen’s – West O’ahu Physicians’ Center. They are now accepting new patients by referral and can be reached at 691-3150.

DINNER SERVICE has come to the NHCH café. Based on staff and visitor feedback, dinner will now be offered Monday through Friday, from 4:30 – 6:30 pm. Meal options include soup, salad bar, hot entrees, special orders, and packaged meals to go.

24 HOUR FITNESS is offering Queen’s employees a discounted membership if they sign up by August 1, 2015. A representative will be at the Harkness kiosk on the Honolulu campus on Wednesday, March 4, from 10:30 am – 1:30 pm to sign you up and answer any questions you may have.

“My Aching Joints,” a free Speaking of Health community lecture, will be held on Thursday, March 19, at QMC – West O’ahu from 6:00 – 7:00 pm in the main lobby. Orthopedics surgeons Alexander Garber, MD, PhD, Jason Kaneshige, MD, and Lorpin Lee, MD, will discuss: osteoarthritis…why do I ache so much?; what can be done about it; and should I consider joint replacement? Reserve a seat by calling 691-3620 or go online to queenswestoahu.org/classes-and-events.

“Engage as You Age: Keeping Fit in Your Fifties & Beyond,” a free Speaking of Health lecture, will be held Wednesday, March 25, from 6:00 – 7:00 pm at the Queen’s Conference Center. Staying active is important as you age. Exercising can help build strength, increase balance and provide overall health benefits. But as the body ages and changes, how do you ensure you get the most out of your exercises and activities while avoiding pain and injury? Join Rachel Coel, MD, PhD, Medical Director and staff physician for the Queen’s Center for Sports Medicine, and find out what’s recommended when it comes to exercising as you get older, as well as treatment options to help you get back into the game if you are already injured. Register online at www.queensmedicalcenter.org/health-lectures, or call the Queen’s Referral Line at 691-7117.

PERMANENT LIFE INSURANCE Open Enrollment takes place February 23 – March 13, 2015. Benefit counselors will be on-site from February 23 – March 13, 2015. Life insurance open enrollment is only available once a year, and this year is your only opportunity to elect under “guaranteed issue,” meaning that you can elect coverage without answering any medical questions up to a certain amount. Log on to https://www.schedapple.com to make your one-on-one appointment today.

A BLOOD DRIVE will be held at Queen’s – West O’ahu on Monday, March 30, from 7:00 am - 12:00 pm in the Emergency Department parking lot. To make an appointment, call 848-4770 or go online to BBH.org. Walk in donors are also welcome. All donors must bring a current photo ID that includes birth date information.

#WHATSHOT #WHATSNOT #GERIATRICMEDICINE,” QMC’s biannual geriatric medicine conference, will be held on Saturday, April 18 at the Halekulani Hotel. Guest speaker Eric Widera, MD, Director, Hospice & Palliative Care Service, San Francisco VA Medical Center; Program Director, Geriatric Fellowship, UCSF, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine - Geriatrics, UCSF Medical Center, will discuss decisional capacity and geriatric technology tools. Topics presented by Hawai’i faculty will include cognitive assessment; Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST); advance care planning; new guidelines on common geriatric treatment issues; prescribing for geriatric patients; when to order physical, occupational, and speech therapy; and elder abuse. The conference has been approved for 7.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ and nursing credits. For more information, contact: 691-7237 or cme@queens.org.