

By Jan Rahn

Managing Editor



A Holyoke, Colo. native has taken on duties as Director of Nursing Services at Golden Ours Convalescent Home. Janet (Krogmeier) Mitchell, RN, BSN, is new to Perkins County Health Services, having begun her position as DON back in October after Kristi Nieman requested and was granted a transfer to Park Ridge Assisted Living several months prior.

The graduate from St. Mary of the Plains College in Dodge City, Kan., is pleased to be back in Holyoke after spending the majority of her nursing career within an acute care hospital setting in a major metropolitan area—the most recent being in a critical care unit at Good Samaritan Medical Center in Lafayette, Colo.

Mitchell said she sees many good things happening at Golden Ours.

“We have lovely residents and a dedicated and loving staff,” she said. “We have a very supportive board of directors and administration who expect nothing less than excellence from all of the employees here. I hope to support their goal by inspiring greatness in my staff while aspiring to greatness myself.”

Although the foundation is solid at GOCH, Mitchell said she knows there is always room for improvement.

She plans to focus her energy on customer service—obviously with the main focus being on the residents and their families.

Mitchell plans to establish a family council with the help of the board that would meet on a monthly basis and assist in identifying and resolving any problems.

She said she wants to improve the admission process to provide a more welcoming setting and more communication between the various departments involved in Golden Ours and the residents and their families.

“I would love to see more community involvement at Golden Ours and would encourage anyone from the community to visit with me about their ideas or concerns,” said Mitchell. “I would also like to foster more constructive communication between Westview, Golden Ours and Park Ridge, as we are all in the business of serving the elderly and would likely benefit from a more collaborative effort.”

First and foremost, Mitchell said she expects all of the employees to treat the residents with respect, give them privacy and the choices they deserve because Golden Ours is their home.

“My motto throughout my nursing career has always been to see my patients through the eyes of Christ—‘Whatsoever you do to the least of My brothers, that you do unto Me,’” she said.

She said it’s refreshing to be back in a small-town setting after all these years and feels very fortunate to be employed at Perkins County Health Services.

She said she appreciates the warm welcome she has received from both the residents and employees, as well as from their families and the citizens of Grant.

As a farmer's daughter, Mitchell grew up near Holyoke and has spent her adult life in Wichita, Kan. and Arvada, Colo. She and her family moved back in September to be with her mother who has recently been widowed.

She and her husband Patrick have five children ranging in age from 16-28. Oldest daughter, Sarah, is engaged to be married to Carl in the spring, and manages a Dress Barn store in Loveland, Colo. Daughter Jeanie and husband Matt live in Denver where she will graduate in December from Metro State College. Son Andrew is considering pursuing a college degree soon, and son Eddie farms with his uncle in Holyoke with plans to enter the Air Force Reserves in February. Youngest son, Nick, who especially loves music and literature, is a junior at Holyoke High School. The Mitchells have two grandchildren.

Stop in and get acquainted with the new director and her staff who care for the elderly residents at Golden Ours Convalescent Home.