



Gabriel and Gannon, with mom Robyn Lange, snack on apples before taking an afternoon nap Monday. (Republican photo)

Slower pace, job opportunity reasons for return to Imperial

■ Editor's note: This is one in a series of feature stories about people who have returned with their families to their hometown of Imperial, after living and working in other communities.

By CAROLYN LEE
THE IMPERIAL REPUBLICAN

Robyn (Clevenger) Lange lived and worked in Omaha for eight years. She loved the facilities at which she was a Registered Nurse, but wanted a slower pace for her sons.

The 1996 Chase County High School graduate moved back to Imperial in January and accepted a position as an RN at Chase County Community Hospital (CCCH). It was the right move.

"I lived so far away for so long, everything looks like a shiny star to me here," she said recently. The slower pace, knowing her neighbors and the support of her family and the community are Imperial's benefits.

"Chaos was part of our life in Omaha. It's faster paced and the kids are at a faster pace, too. I grew up in a rural country area. I saw what my kids

were missing, just being... and having down time," she said.

Son Gannon is eight and will be in the third grade this fall. Gabriel is two and attends daycare.

Lange has attended a lot of classes in pursuit of her career. She received an Associates Degree in general studies from Colby (Kan.) Community College, followed by a Bachelor of Science in psychology and substance abuse from Chadron State College in 2002.

She then received an Associates of Nursing Degree from the College of St. Mary's in Omaha in 2005, followed by a Bachelor of Nursing degree in 2006.

The 32-year old worked as an RN in the ICO step down unit at Immanuel Medical Center in Omaha, before working with children with behavioral problems in a resident treatment center at Boys Town National Research Hospital.

She was an RN in acute care at the VA Medical Center in Omaha. "I love the vets. Vets feel like home to me," she stated. Lange still works 16 hours a month at the VA hospital in Omaha.

Which brings her to CCCH. "Here I have to push myself in a way I didn't expect professionally. It's the real deal here for nursing. We do it all," she said.

Lange loves what she calls the "Florence Nightingale" type of nursing, or all aspects of nursing a patient and his or her family.

From her work at the VA hospital, she is "able to bring back things to help the team here."

About the only drawback Lange said Imperial has is high health insurance. She still carries government insurance through the VA.

"I'm a homebody, so entertainment was never a drawback for me." Parents Rex and Sherry Clevenger, brother Kelly and wife Christine Clevenger and sister Tori and Cory Holm and families provide plenty of company.

Lange said Imperial has so much opportunity, or "fertile soil," she said.

"It's just a happening place, in the middle of nowhere but in the middle of somewhere. It's an honest place with honest people...a prime place to raise kids and have a family," she said.