

Kerri Pomarolli comes home for August 30 show

By Sam Eggleston
ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Though you wouldn't know it by looking at her, former Northville resident Kerri Pomarolli has managed to break the laws of physics.

How, you ask? It's simple — she stopped aging at 22 years old.

"The joke out here is how everyone seems a lot younger

than they really are, but that's the way it works in TV land," Pomarolli said about her home in the Los Angeles area. "Basically, you're ageless out here. Between 21 and 40, your age is just vague. People will say to me that I must be about 22, and I say 'Yes, I am.'"

Pomarolli, who graduated from Northville High School and is now a successful stand-up comedian and actress, says that life in Los Angeles is a whole different world compared to that of Northville — especially from when she was still living here.

"I just can't believe Northville has a Starbucks," she said with a laugh. "We weren't even allowed to get fast food unless it was Hardee's."

Even growing up seemed so simple in this area.

"We were good kids," Pomarolli said. "When we graduated from high school we had never been out drinking or anything. I didn't see any kind of drug. We weren't dorks or anything, we were just good kids."

Pomarolli said that when she comes back to Northville now, it seems so much different. No longer are the kids sheltered or the community refusing to accept the changes of business and the challenges that come with it.

Pomarolli said coming back to Northville is not only a trip down memory lane and a good time, it gives her something to be impressed with too.

"The houses are so big," she

said. "They just look enormous compared to Los Angeles. People have yards and actual grass. They can ride their bikes around here."

But, no matter how much the draw of the houses and the family life may be in Northville, Pomarolli is home in Los Angeles. Out in Redondo Beach, a small beach community where Pomarolli calls home, she is realizing her dream.

"I'm living near the beach and I am definitely living my dream," she said.

"I basically moved out here to be a beach chick, and that's what I am. I even have an ocean view if you stand on one leg and stretch."

But, it's nice to visit Northville and the surrounding area once and a while.

"Los Angeles is really crazy," Pomarolli noted. "It's a fast-paced lifestyle and every now and then you just have to leave to detox. That's why it's nice to come back."

And coming back is exactly what she's about to do. An actor and a stand-up comedian, Pomarolli is making the trip to Michigan to showcase her comic talents at the Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase August 30 with two shows. The first is at 8 p.m. and the second is slated for 10:30 p.m.

"This is basically a trial run," she said. "I would love to travel more and want to eventually be a comedian that goes out on the road. When it comes time to leave, I'd like to come back and do some shows in Michigan. Hopefully, people will harass the owners of the club enough that they'll want me back."

Pomarolli jokingly said that even if the crowd doesn't get into her act, she may still find the support she needs to be asked back for future dates.

"Even if I'm not funny, I'm sure my parents invited enough people to help me out," she said. "They are probably going 'Kerri needs to make something for her-

self, so come support the cause." Pomarolli's act consists of things that happened in her life or to people she knows — and according to her that's the way it should be.

"I talk about my mother a lot and her obsession with me getting married," Pomarolli said. "I talk about growing up in the Midwest and I even talk about Corey Feldman, my childhood crush."

And there's a variety of other subjects too — including a conversation she had with a girlfriend of hers who stated that she had just seen the "hottest homeless guy."

"I can't believe she said that to me," Pomarolli said. "I told her right away that I'd be using it and she didn't care."

Pomarolli is also an actress who has made over 25 appearances on the "Tonight Show with Jay Leno" in a three-year span playing such roles as Jenna Bush. She also had a recurring role in the day-time soap opera "Port Charles" as a nurse named Kathy.

"I called her Kathy the mute nurse because they were always cutting my lines," Pomarolli said with a laugh.

She also had a role on game show "The Price is Right" as well as in "Shop 'Till You Drop" — both times as a contestant.

to choose from, but they were all off limits.

"I was doing stand-up at a gay bar," she said. "All of the men were just beautiful, Abercrombie-model-looking men with bulging muscles and not a single one of them was interested in anything but the comedy. There was absolutely nothing I could do about it either. After the show, they all come up and shake my hand and say 'Good job.' I'm just standing there saying 'I love you.'"

Pomarolli credits God for being a major reason she's had the success she has in her career of choice.

"There were many times I wanted to walk away and just leave it all behind," she said. "But, God opened doors for me. Stand-up was one of those doors. I really think it was the Lord giving me another opportunity."

Being a comic was never something Pomarolli thought she'd be doing — especially in her time at Northville High School. If it weren't for her drama teacher, Mr. Kurt Kinde, she would never have even known it a possibility.

"You had to do some stand-up in his class in order to pass," Pomarolli said. "For some reason, he passed me even though I knew I would rather kill myself with a plastic fork

"I won on The Price is Right but not big," she said and then added it wasn't rare for her to be caught at a game show. "I was always dragging my boyfriends on the shows or dragging my friends on TV."

She even found herself starting to be recognized now and again. In fact, she even received a phone call from an ex-boyfriend one night who saw her on television.

"I was a blue alien in the movie Deadlock," Pomarolli said. "My whole body was painted blue because I wouldn't do a nude scene. One night, an ex-boyfriend calls me up and says that he was watching me on Showtime. That was an interesting experience."

Pomarolli said that being single has been an interesting life for her, but that it's pretty much the norm in Los Angeles.

"Everyone is single out here," she said. "When I come back to Northville to visit, it seems that all my friends are married, driving a Beemer, living in a nice house and own a dog. My mom is always talking about how I should get married and when she comes out to visit she's always suggesting where I could meet guys."

Pomarolli did note that one of her more recent shows was in a place that may have looked as though there were plenty of men

than go up there for two seconds. It always supported me and always made me feel like I was the best one."

And it helped that her friends at the time were willing to pitch in with making her a little stronger.

"Northville was a really cliquey high school and the girls in high school aren't the nicest in the world," she said. "They would make fun of people and just laugh at you. I guess my girlfriends laughing at me made me tougher."

Pomarolli's time at Northville High was spent as a member of the pom pom team and always trying to be in the right place at the right time.

"It was a miserable experience like so many things in high school," she said. "I always thought I had it sit at the right lunch table."

Well, now she is.

"I'm at the right table now, and just took me a while to realize that right table is where you want it to be," Pomarolli said. "God is a big part of that and so much of where I am today. Everything I do stems from that. It's all about me and my relationship with God."

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