

## FACES OF BODEGA BAY

### Speaking of Fish Fest ... Meet Joshua (Josh) Steven Perucchi

*by Robin Rudderow*



Josh is an enthusiastic supporter of Bodega Bay's Fisherman's Festival. He first volunteered his support for Fish Fest as a student at Tomales High. Starting in 2007 he assisted with site setup as a member of the Bodega Bay Fire Protection District. In 2015 he became Vice Chair and in 2018 was proud to be named the Festival's Chairperson.

The Perucchi Family have been local Ranchers and Firefighters for generations. Growing up in Bodega on his family's dairy farm, established in 1952, Josh developed a passion for animals and an appreciation for the land.

He helps out on the ranch moving animals, fixing equipment, harvesting hay in the Spring and spreading manure in the Fall.

But being a third-generation rancher is his second job. At a young age Josh knew he wanted to be a fireman, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. At age 16 he joined the Bodega Volunteer Fire Department. In 2007, after training and graduating from Santa Rosa JC's Firefighter Academy, Josh became a Bodega Bay Firefighter. He then earned his A.S. Degree in Fire Technology and obtained his Paramedic Certification. He was

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named Bodega Bay's Firefighter of the Year in 2013. Currently, he is with the Petaluma Fire Department as a Fire Engineer and Paramedic.

Josh's coastal loyalty is strong. He continues volunteering for the Town of Bodega as Fire Captain and Grant Writer. His excellent leadership has raised \$700,000 in grants. The money was used to purchase firefighting equipment and two new fire engines!

Josh and his wife Kelsey were married in 2017. Their first child was born in July 2019.

Asked what makes Bodega Bay special, Josh explains "I like the small town feel and beauty of the Pacific Ocean. I was lucky to grow up in Bodega where Bodega Bay was in my backyard."

We are lucky that Josh Perucchi is a dedicated leader and lifesaver in our community. ■



*A regular appearance in our quarterly newsletter, The Faces of Bodega Bay is a photojournalistic record of people in our town: school kids, surfers, shop owners, fishermen, restaurant workers; a whole gamut of people who live and work in Bodega Bay and help make it the wonderful community that it is. These "environmental portraits" portray the subjects in their natural environment, capturing their character and telling their story through their surroundings.*

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