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TUFF TIMES

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Tuffs hit the campaign trail

It's that time of the year again, when we dust off our old newspaper skills to send the Tuff Times to print.

The biggest news of 2015 was Russell's decision to run for [Collier County Commission District 3](#). After many years of covering campaigns, we are quickly learning the challenges of running our own. The primary election will be next August and the community response and support has been great, which has been encouraging. Our website is votetuff.com. All donations are accepted! :)

In addition to the campaign, Russell keeps busy with his business [Social-Impact.com](#) and as president of the [Golden Gate Civic Association](#) and incoming president of the local chapter of the [Public Relations Society of America](#). He continues to enjoy his musical involvement with [Cursillo](#) and

[Trinity-by-the-Cove](#) choir.

Kaydee loves her work with [The Shelter for Abused Women & Children](#) and serves on the board of directors for the Golden Gate Community Center, Golden Gate Civic Association, Junior Deputies League and co-chairs the Golden Gate Task Force.

In June, we traveled to New York City for the first time to attend a PRSA leadership conference. We had a fantastic time and came back with very sore feet! Allyn moved out in August so we have a guest room again. Call for reservations!



He asked and she said 'yes!'

Now in his second year working for the [Collier County Sheriff's Office](#), Allyn recently completed the necessary certifications and is awaiting appointment to become a corporal.

In June, he and his girlfriend Amy and went on a cruise to the Bahamas and in November they visited friends in Illinois. It was the first time Allyn had experienced real snow and boy did he get an experience - 12 inches in two days! He loved it!

In August, Allyn and Amy moved into their first place together. It is a nice townhouse, but in the process of signing the paperwork, they learned



the association would not allow dogs so guess who ended up with Tico and Mollie? You guessed it - their moms!

Best news of all - Allyn proposed on Dec. 14 and Amy said... "YES"! No date yet.

New paths & challenges

This year, Riley is finishing his Master's of Social Work at the [University of Southern California](#) and interning with the Director of the Department of Mental Health's Clergy Academy program, which teaches mental health classes for faith institutions. He also works part-time as an in-home counselor for families at risk of losing custody of their children.

It has been challenging adapting to the Los Angeles culture. This year, he celebrated Thanksgiving with a family from Ecuador and really got to put his Spanish speaking skills to the test.

Plans for a post-graduate position as a DMH senior disaster analyst changed after the San Bernardino attack urged officials to fill the



position immediately. It was very disappointing but he is moving forward.

"I'm learning that life isn't about finding ways to be happy," he said. "but rather appreciating the values and lessons learned by each path I take."