

# 2017 A YEAR IN REVIEW

BY CARLIN BILLS AND DELPHI DRAKE-MUDEDE

## GOOD NEWS

- Stephen Jones, a man who was homeless, was sleeping near the Manchester stadium when he heard the attack. He helped multiple survivors who were fleeing the scene. An online fundraiser was started for Jones which raised enough money for him to rent a house for at least 6 months.
- 23 year old Chance the Rapper won three grammys including Best New Artist. He made Grammy history since his album "Coloring Book" was available by streaming only and Chance had no label supporting him.
- An 81 year old woman named Masako Wakamiya taught herself the basics of programming and releases her own iPhone app. Her app is called Hinadan and is based off of a traditional Japanese festival called Hinamatsuri.
- On August 21, a total solar eclipse was visible throughout parts of the United states including northern Oregon, and South Carolina. This was the first total solar eclipse visible in the US since June 8, 1918.
- Same-sex marriage bill passes in Australian Senate: In November, the Australian senate passed the same-sex marriage bill. The bill easily passed the senate by 43 votes to 12.

## CELEBRITY NEWS

**November 15th:** 21 year old rapper Lil Peep died the night before his concert in Arizona. He was an inspirational artist to many due since he addressed topics such as mental health in his music.

**May 18th:** Legendary singer, songwriter and musician Chris Cornell died. He was best known for being the lead vocalist for the rock band Soundgarden.

**November 27th:** Prince Harry and Meghan Markle announced their engagement. The pair will get married in the spring of 2018 but the actual date is unknown.

**June 13th:** Beyonce gave birth to twins, Rumi and Sir.

### HUMANITARIAN CRISIS, MARCH 11

The UN declared the world to be facing the largest humanitarian crisis since 1945. 20 million people faced the threat of starvation and famine in Yemen, Somalia, South Sudan and Nigeria.

### MOSUL, JULY 10TH

Approximately three years after the city first fell, Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi declared Mosul to be fully liberated from the Islamic state.

### HURRICANE HARVEY, AUGUST 13TH

The storm formed on August 13th, and on August 25th, it became a category 4 hurricane when it hit the coast of Southern Texas. The storm brought on heavy rainfall and flash flooding leaving at least 39 people dead and an estimated 185,149 homes damaged or destroyed.

### LAS VEGAS SHOOTING, OCTOBER 1ST

A 64 year old gunman fired upon a crowd of at least 30,000 people attending the Harvest Music festival in Las Vegas. 58 people were killed and at least 515 people were injured making this tragic event the deadliest mass shooting in the United States.

### WOMEN'S MARCH, JANUARY 21

The day after Donald Trump's inauguration, more than a million people worldwide participated on a march to promote women's rights and gender equity as well as to protest Trump's presidency.

### FBI DIRECTOR JAMES COMEY FIRED, MAY 9TH

President Trump fired F.B.I. Director James Comey. Comey was the leading investigator looking into the potential collusion between Trump's advisors and the Russian government.

### CHARLOTTESVILLE PROTESTS

AUGUST 11

A group of white supremacists and white nationalists rallied against the removal of a confederate statue. The rally which included a torchlight march evoked images of the KKK, resulted in one dead and dozen injured. It was met by counter protesters who hung a banner on the base of the statue reading Black Lives Matter.

### HURRICANE IRMA, AUGUST 31

Became a major hurricane that swept through the Leeward Islands, then Barbuda and the Virgin islands. It escalated to a category 5 and left a trail of devastation through Cuba, the Key West, Alabama, Georgia along with North and South Carolina. The storm killed at least 112 people and left countless residents homeless.

### EARTHQUAKE IN IRAQ AND IRAN, NOVEMBER 12

A 7.3 earthquake hit the border between Iraq and Iran. It left at least 530 people dead and over 70,000 people homeless.