



**Channing
Tatum**
SINGLE AGAIN!



Missing Mom
WAS SHE
MURDERED FOR
HER BABY?

**The Royal
Christmas
Party**
All the Details!



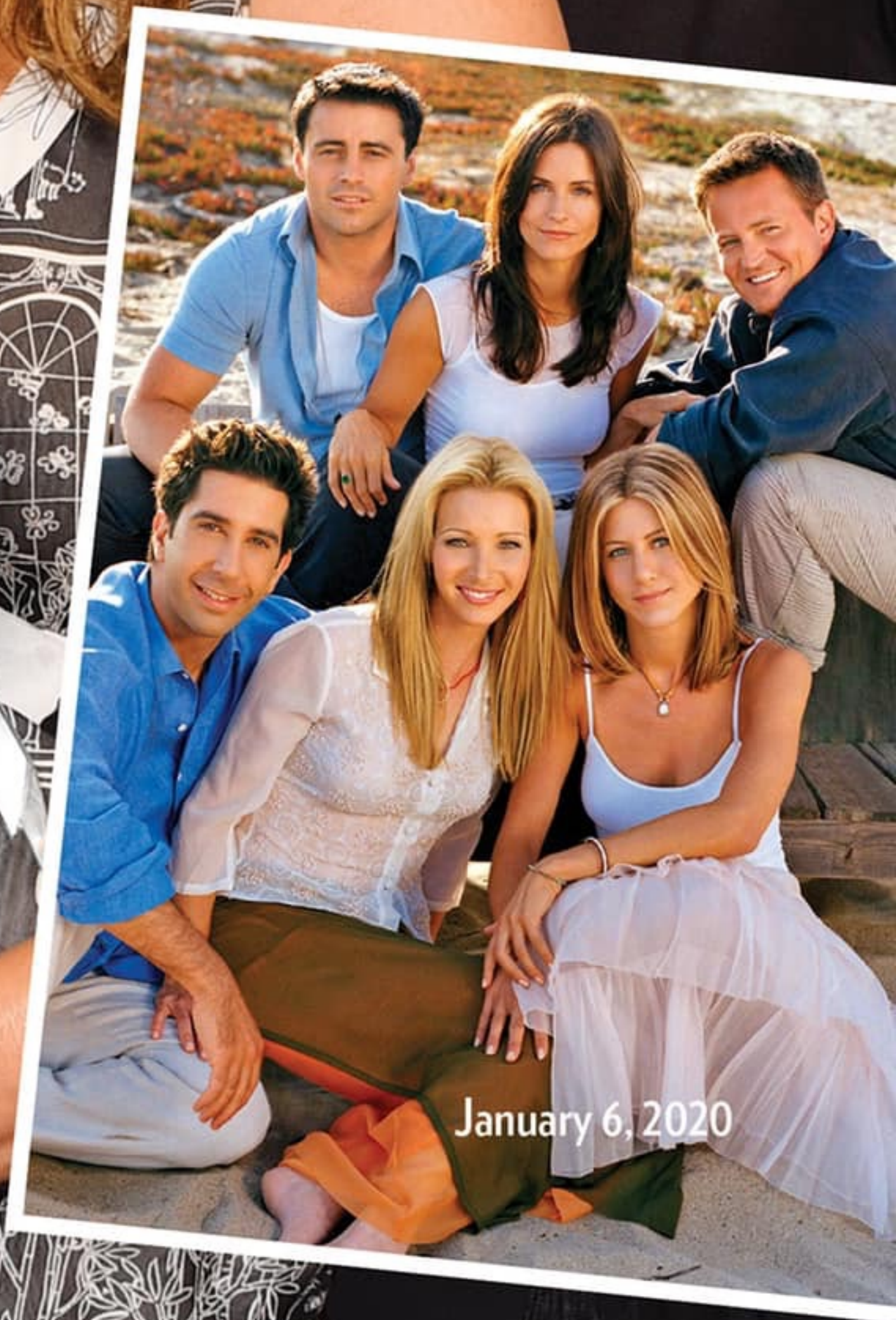
People

**Friends
Forever!**

Inside Their Lives Now

How the stars of the beloved
show have leaned on
one another for 25 years

Plus! Will there be a reunion?



January 6, 2020

NEXT GENERATION LEADERS

HERO KIDS to the RESCUE!

MEET 8 AMAZING TEENS
AND TWEENS FROM THE
NEW DISNEY+ SERIES
MARVEL'S HERO PROJECT
WHO ARE WORKING
TO MAKE A BRIGHTER
FUTURE FOR EVERYONE
By **GRETA BJORNSON**

SEAMUS CASEY, 16

Supporting Military Families

One of 20 youngsters featured on *Marvel's Hero Project*, Seamus was inspired by his grandpa, a veteran who served two tours in Vietnam. Seamus has tackled a variety of physical challenges to fund scholarships for families of wounded and fallen soldiers. First the Gillette, Wyo., teen trained to turn his fear of heights into a love of climbing. (He hasn't looked back, scaling the 867-ft. Devils Tower National Monument when he was just 11 years old.) For his 13th birthday he organized a triathlon and raised more than \$40,000 for military scholarships through the nonprofit Folds of Honor. "Knowing that I have been able to help those who have paid the price for my freedom is the greatest reward," he says. Seamus (at Devils Tower in 2018) recently reached his \$65,000 fundraising goal: "I want these families to receive a better education and chase their own dreams."



AUSTIN HURT, 14

Feeding the Hungry

In 2014 Austin and his family, who had previously been homeless and lived in a shelter, once again hit hard times and lacked enough to eat. With no help from food stamps (the family was above the threshold because his mom was working two jobs), Austin found another solution: He planted a bag of beans in hopes of growing more—an act that would become the start of his blossoming community garden in Indianapolis (pictured). Even though his family could lose their home again, Austin has a goal: “My mission is to provide fresh food for everyone in my community.” Instead of selling what he grows, he lets others take what they need. His go-to crops? “Tomatoes and herbs are my favorite.”



DANIELLA BENITEZ, 15

Building Homes for Impoverished Families

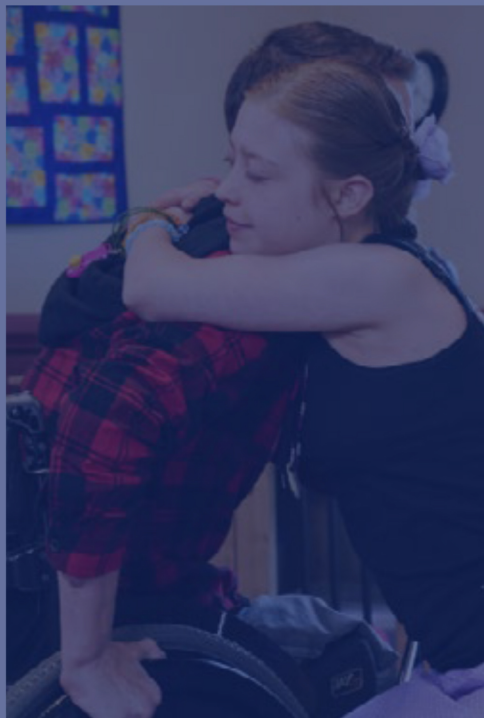
After Daniella traveled with her school to Tijuana, Mexico, in 2017 to pitch in building houses, she returned home to San Diego with a new appreciation for what she had. “I got to come home to my own room,” she says, “and it gave me an unsettling feeling that could only be fulfilled by helping other people.” Since then the sophomore (above, with her brother Gabriel in September) has built three houses in Tijuana with money raised from lemonade stands, babysitting and a school fundraising club—and she plans to continue building at least one house per year. “As a young person, it’s easy to be made to feel that you are less valuable,” she says. “Helping families makes me feel very special.”



**LORELEI
McINTYRE-
BREWER, 14**

Giving Heart Patients Hope

After her third open-heart surgery in 2005, the Pennsylvania teen—who was born with an underdeveloped heart—was given a compression heart pillow to help manage her pain, but the adult size was uncomfortable. So she decided to make her own kid-size version and has since given away 50,000 of them and the DIY pattern. “I don’t really look at the end or even the middle to see if what I’m doing makes a difference,” says Lorelai (offering a hug in Grantville, Pa.). “I just trust that if I follow my heart, what needs to happen will happen.”



GENESIS BUTLER, 13

Speaking Up for Animals

Genesis has big plans to make the world a gentler place for even the smallest creatures. With her nonprofit Genesis for Animals, the vegan activist from Long Beach, Calif., has raised \$15,000 to fund animal sanctuaries and launched a fundraiser for animals affected by the California wildfires. “When you spend time with animals, you can see that they are individuals who just want to be loved, just like us,” says the teen (at a California sanctuary). “They deserve compassion and to live in peace and be protected.”



CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT: MARVEL & DISNEY+ (2); GEN BENITEZ; MARVEL & DISNEY+ (2); BETH LIVY REDWOOD; MARVEL & DISNEY+



ELIJAH LEE, 12 | Fighting to End Child Abuse

When a classmate told Elijah she’d been hit by her father at home, he was devastated. “I felt disappointed with our society that someone I knew was going through this pain,” he says. “We are violating and abusing the most vulnerable and innocent humans.” He couldn’t change the past, but he was ready to make a difference in the future. An ordained minister for more than a year (he gives youth sermons at his church), he knew the power of community, so he organized 250 classmates and neighbors for a 2018 march (above) in his hometown of Roanoke Rapids, N.C., to prevent child abuse. “Adults will doubt the determination and passion a child is capable of,” he says. “But the thing about younger generations is that we will no longer let other people decide our limitations.”



REBEKAH BRUESHOFF, 12

Raising Awareness for LGBTQ Youth

Rebekah is a transgender activist, but she doesn’t want people to focus only on her gender identity. “It’s the least exciting thing about kids like me,” she says. “We have talents, hopes and dreams.” Since 2017 the Vernon, N.J., seventh grader has been speaking at rallies and organizing meetups to increase visibility for LGBTQ youth, and her efforts helped pass a bill in the New Jersey state legislature in February to include LGBTQ history in school curricula. “The very first time I spoke at a rally, I realized that by getting to know me and hearing my story, people saw that transgender kids are just kids,” says Rebekah (at a Jersey City bookstore). “We’re not scary. We’re actually pretty cool. We’re just being ourselves.”