



THE LINK

January 2026



Here's what happened at Next Chapter in the last month, and what's to come!

Cheers to the New Year! 2026 is off to a great start and so is Next Chapter. We continue to build momentum and welcome new members each week. We're growing!

Next Chapter hosted its first Game Night on Monday, January 12th and the event was booked to capacity. Sequence was the game of the night, and a fun time was had by all. Join us on February 9th as we do it again!

Core Energy Coaching with Janet Bartucci scheduled for Monday, January 26th unfortunately had to be rescheduled due to Snowmageddon. Stay tuned for information on the new date and time in May.

This month's newsletter has a new name, "The Link", and a new feature called "Worth It". Check out Megan Tyre's inspiring reflection on her Next Chapter. It's not to be missed!

Finally, as Next Chapter continues to grow, we are focused on creating a member directory that will enable each of you to connect with other members seamlessly. The directory, The Membership Circle, is only accessible to members and will feature profiles of each member with headshots, contact information, and fun facts.

In the future, new members will receive a welcome packet that includes information on Next Chapter and a profile form. To get started, a profile form will be coming your way in the next week or so. Thanks to everyone, in advance, for completing and sending back your profile form.

We appreciate **YOU!** Remember to **follow us on social media**. It's the best way to keep up to date on NC activities!

Anne & Mary Beth

Read On for...

Worth It!

Membership Update

January Game Night

Upcoming Events

Refer a Friend!

WORTH IT!

AN INTERVIEW WITH NEXT CHAPTER MEMBER, MEGAN TYRE



The Pivot

What was happening in your life or career that made you realize it was time for a change - even if the path ahead wasn't yet clear?

Last February I made the decision to leave Greenwich Academy after 25 years as the Director of Alumnae. I loved my job and my community very much and we were gearing up to plan a major fundraising campaign to support our 200th birthday in 2027. And yet out of nowhere, the thought hit me that it was time to make a change. Doing the math, I knew that if I didn't leave GA at this point, I would probably stay on for another decade until retirement. Did I want to leave a place and a community I loved and knew so well? Did I have more to bring to the table in a new professional environment?

I began to feel strongly that I had to try, not only for myself, but also to set an example for my own two daughters, both in their 20's, to dig deep into my heart and accept the challenge of change.

The Resistance

What fears, doubts, or practical concerns did you have to work through before taking that leap?

I was facing huge unknowns – I would be giving my notice without another job lined up; financially, I had a cushion to work with but would need to replace (ideally increase) my income within a year. Was I hire-able outside the world I'd been in for 25 years? I truly didn't know.

The Growth

How has stepping into this new chapter changed how you see yourself-professionally, personally and creatively?

In my personal life, I have been steeped in the local live music community for over 10 years, founding and fronting a cover band called the Cover Story Band in 2015. Over these 10+ years it's been exciting to grow creatively, collaborating with other musical projects and bands including Logical Pretzel which is a Steely Dan tribute band and Ace & Friends, a Grateful Dead cover band, allowing for a diverse range of genres and stretching my performing abilities.

Singing in front of a community of fellow live music lovers not only brings great joy, but it has served to hone my public speaking skills as well.

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Singing has provided so many magical musical moments, from my days as a Greenwich Academy Madrigal, to participating as an adult in the GA Gospel Choir, to being a part of the Choir of Saints and Friends at several Rob Mathes concerts at SUNY Purchase over the years. It has also led me to my involvement on the board of Project Music, whose mission is to use the transformative power of music to effect positive social change for the students most in need of access, opportunity and inspiration, bringing music to the next generation. At first, I kept my professional life separate from my musical endeavors – nothing wrong with a good boundary – but, increasingly, I found that growing and stretching my creative skillset in the music arena was giving me the confidence to do the same in my professional life. I began to see more clearly where my strengths lie and became very motivated to exercise more autonomy over my professional destiny. Launching my very own nonprofit consultancy, MTC, LLC is a manifestation of that!

Worth It

Looking back now, what makes this pivot “worth it” and what would you say to a woman standing at the edge of her own next chapter?

Stepping into the unknown has always allowed me to develop a broader view of my skillset; first as the new Director of Alumnae at GA in 2000, then as founder of Cover Story Band in 2015, and, now, as founder of MTC, LLC.

Each of these turning points has given me the opportunity to spend time and emotional energy in new spaces and communities which continues to revitalize my professional aspirations. Many of the most meaningful career leaps come from discomfort, not certainty. My advice to anyone on the edge of their next chapter is to continually work towards being in tune with your heart and your head. Learn to listen to the wisdom of your gut...it's your authentic inner sounding board. Keep your eyes and mind wide open and when you receive those internal messages, pay attention. I leave you with this quote by author Mark Anthony from his book The Beautiful Truth: “And one day she discovered that she was fierce and strong and full of fire and that not even she could hold herself back because her passion burned brighter than her fears.”





Membership Update

We are so gratified that membership is rapidly growing, and we have found that many members are telling their friends about this fun, inclusive new community. Please spread the word. Next Chapter is better and more fun with friends!

All new members will electronically receive a New Member Welcome Packet in the coming days. You will be asked to complete a profile and include a headshot as well as provide contact information and fun facts to share with fellow members. The Membership Circle, our new member directory is being developed and will be live on our website in the coming months.



JANUARY GAME NIGHT

On Monday, January 12th, Next Chapter hosted a fun Game Night for a sold out crowd of 20 women. The game we choose for January was Sequence, and whether you knew how to play or not, everyone caught on quickly and enjoyed sipping spirits and nibbling on the buffet provided by all players.

February's game will be "I Should Have Known That!," suggested by one of our members. The sign up sheet will be arriving soon by email so be on the lookout. You don't want to get shut out!



Upcoming events

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2026

GAME NIGHT

COME PLAY YOUR FAVORITE BOARD GAMES WITH NEXT CHAPTER FRIENDS AT GREENWICH BOAT & YACHT CLUB ON **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, AT 6:30 PM**

Don't miss this fun-filled evening where laughter and camaraderie are the main attractions. Whether you're a seasoned strategist or just love a good game of chance, there's something for everyone. Bring your competitive spirit and get ready to roll the dice or outwit your opponents. Snacks and refreshments will be provided to keep the energy high and the spirits higher. Mark your calendars and come be a part of the excitement!

Help us grow our community of inspiring mid-life women.....

#212

NOTHING INFLUENCES
PEOPLE MORE THAN
A RECOMMENDATION
FROM A TRUSTED FRIEND

Mark Zuckerberg



www.nextchapternetwork.net

MARCH 2026

HOT Flash (On a cold night!)

The Summit at One Vanderbilt & Grand Brassiere in NYC on **March 1**

GAME NIGHT

COME PLAY YOUR FAVORITE BOARD GAMES WITH NEXT CHAPTER FRIENDS GREENWICH BOAT & YACHT CLUB. **MARCH 9TH, 6:30 PM**

Speaker Series "Cultivated by Caryn"

Caryn Antonini, host of the podcast, "Cultivated by Caryn" shares global culinary and cultural experiences - **March 30th at 6:30pm** - Location - CoCreate @GE Kitchens, Stamford



Anne & Mary Beth

email: info@nextchapternetwork.net

