



Hayes: Tennessee QB can win for every college football coach if his Vols can beat Georgia

SPORTS, 1B

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Wausau's Walk to End Alzheimer's features music, community stories, and a Promise Garden to honor those affected by the disease. PROVIDED BY ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION WISCONSIN CHAPTER

Central Wisconsin Book Festival Sept. 25-27

Nida Tazeen
AI-assisted reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Central Wisconsin Book Festival is set to return for its ninth year, offering a lineup of events across three cities. The festival will run from Sept. 25-27, with a bonus event on Oct. 4, according to a community announcement. Events will be held in Wausau, Stevens Point and Wisconsin Rapids. This year's highlights include New York Times bestselling author and humorist Michael Perry, author Rebecca Kanner with her new release "Last One Seen," Nickolas Butler discussing his latest book "A Forty Year Kiss" and Jon Hickey presenting his debut novel "Big Chief."

Festival kicks Sept. 25 off with bestselling author

The festival is organized by the Marathon County Public Library, Portage County Public Library and McMillan Memorial Library, along with community volunteers. It kicks off Sept. 25 with bestselling author and humorist Michael Perry speaking at 7 p.m. at McMillan Memorial Library in Wisconsin Rapids. All events are free to attend, with no registration required. More information can be found at mcpl.us/cwbf or on the festival's Facebook and Instagram pages.

Sept. 26 features workshops, discussions and more

On Sept. 26, there will be a creative

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Wausau walk on Sept. 27

Honors Alzheimer's patients and their families

Nida Tazeen
AI-assisted reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK

WAUSAU – The Alzheimer's Association is inviting Wausau-area residents to participate in the Walk to End Alzheimer's on Sept. 27 at Marathon Park. The event will begin at 9 a.m. with an opening ceremony at 10:10 a.m., followed by the walk at 10:30 a.m., according to a community announcement.

DJ Cookie will provide music throughout the day, and Bantr Fitness will lead pre-walk warmups. The walk will also feature the Promise Garden Ceremony, where participants carry colorful flowers representing their personal connection to the disease.

Personal connections drive participation

The Alzheimer's Association is recognizing Bonnie Marschall of Krueger Floral and Lori Berry for their dedication to the cause. Marschall's mother passed away from Alzheimer's, and Berry leads the high-fundraising team Ralph's

Rockstars in memory of her brother-in-law. "I am honored to be a co-chair of the Walk to End Alzheimer's Wausau Walk," Berry said. "I became a part of the committee and the walk because of the loss of my brother-in-law Ralph to Alzheimer's. Seeing my sister's family journey with Ralph changed who I was, and when he passed away, I knew that I would do anything to work towards finding a cure. I believe no family should ever have to go through that journey. Being a co-chair keeps me engaged in the community, helps me

See WALK, Page 2A

UW-Stevens Point launches online doctorate in language literacy in 2026

Nida Tazeen
AI-assisted reporter
Marshfield News Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK

STEVENS POINT – The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has launched an online Doctor of Education in Language and Literacy program, according

to a community announcement. The program is designed to help professional educators expand their impact in language learning across classrooms, schools and communities. It aims to meet the needs of working professionals passionate about literacy, equity and educational leadership.

The program offers advanced knowledge and practical tools for educators, literacy coaches, curriculum specialists and administrators to lead transformative change in language and literacy education. It is offered in a flexible, cohort

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The new Ed.D. in Language and Literacy program aims to prepare and empower individuals to design and build sustainable literacy systems that increase literacy outcomes for diverse learners. PROVIDED BY UW-STEVENS POINT



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