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The Detroit News

Wednesday, September 23, 2026 | detroitnews.com

SERVING MICHIGAN SINCE 1873

EX-NEWS ANCHOR TRIES HAND AT PLAY WRITING



Devin Scillian's debut effort as a playwright opens Sept. 24 at Jeff Daniels' Purple Rose Theatre in Chelsea and runs through Dec. 20. KATY KILDEE/THE DETROIT NEWS

SCILLIAN RETURNS TO HIS FIRST LOVE: THEATER

ADAM GRAHAM

The Detroit News

USA TODAY NETWORK

For Devin Scillian, retirement has been a real B-word.

That's "Bastard," specifically, the former WDIV-TV news anchor's debut effort as a playwright. It opens Sept. 24 at Jeff Daniels' Purple Rose Theatre in Chelsea and runs through Dec. 20.

The show tells the story of the Lambert brothers: one, a successful but faded country singer named Jake; the other, a buttoned-down financial guy named Beau. They've never gotten along particularly well, and

when their mother passes away, it forces the two of them to come together and reckon with some uncomfortable truths.

Scillian started writing the play two years ago, in his final months anchoring at Local 4, before leaving the desk he'd held down for nearly 30 years and walking off into the sunset.

But Scillian, 63, hasn't slowed down much since his December 2024 sign-off. Aside from "Bastard," he's maintained a steady live performance schedule with his country band, Arizona Son. He has a new children's book, his 23rd, due out next year.

Please see Scillian, Page 2A

Does state need to rewrite its constitution?

Some liken proposal to Pandora's box

BETH LEBLANC

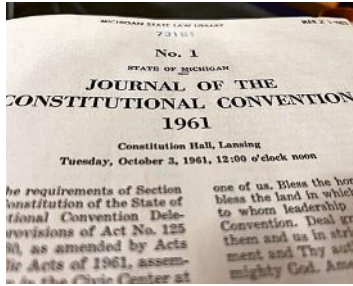
The Detroit News

USA TODAY NETWORK

LANSING – Michigan voters filling out their ballots this fall will be hit with something of a sleeper question in an election season dominated by a contentious top of the ticket: Should the state of Michigan, for the first time in more than 60 years, hold a constitutional convention?

The "con-con" question is one that's been rejected by voters the three times it's been put to them since the most recent 1963 Constitution was adopted. The ballot proposal is entering the voting season with meager publicity and little in the way of traditional "yes" or "no" campaigns.

The lack of campaign activity surrounding the once-every-16-years ballot question would usually signal confidence in its demise. But recent



The official uncorrected journal documenting the first day of the 1961-62 Constitutional Convention at the Library of Michigan.

BETH LEBLANC/THE DETROIT NEWS

polling suggested more individuals might support the proposal than the last time it was up for a vote in 2010.

An Aug. 31-Sept. 3 poll commissioned by The Detroit News-WDIV-TV (Channel 4) found that a plurality of voters supported Proposal 1, calling for a constitutional convention, by a margin of 47% to 31%. About 22% remained undecided, according to the poll, which had a margin of error of plus or minus four percentage points.

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Rogers splits with Trump on Iran as Senate race heats up

MELISSA NANN BURKE, CRAIG MAUGER AND GRANT SCHWAB

The Detroit News

USA TODAY NETWORK

Standing in a grocery store, Senate Republican nominee Mike Rogers broke with President Donald Trump this week in calling for the war in Iran to "end quickly," blaming the conflict for surging grocery and gas prices as diesel costs hit record highs.

"The war with Iran needs to end and end quickly. When it does, energy costs will plummet. But Michigan families

Please see Rogers, Page 7A



Senate candidate Mike Rogers' public shift on the Iran conflict reflects concerns over how the unpopular war and its impact on Michiganders' pocketbooks could be a political drag for vulnerable GOP candidates in the November midterm election.

JEFF KOWALSKY/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Trump warns U.N. he might 'annihilate' Iran

MICHAEL BIRNBAUM

The Washington Post

NEW YORK — Frustrated by a war with Iran that has lasted long past his initial promises, President Donald Trump told world leaders on Tuesday that he would "annihilate" the entire country if its leaders do not make a deal.

It was a stark warning in the green-marbled hall of the United Nations, where discussions more often tend toward advancing peace than annihilation. The president also expressed concern for the Iranian anti-government protesters who were killed by Tehran's security forces earlier this year.

He repeated the claim that a peace deal would be likely after



President Donald Trump, in a Sept. 22 speech to the U.N. General Assembly, repeated the claim that a peace deal would be likely after the midterm elections in November. BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI/VIA REUTERS

the midterm elections in November.

"They're waiting to see how I

do in the midterm election. What they don't realize is that I'm not running," Trump said, referring to Iran's leaders.

"I gave absolutely no credence and will not give credence to the election when it comes to Iran. It doesn't even enter my mind," Trump said. "The only thing that does is that Iran will never have a nuclear weapon."

Trump's vow to stay on his current path with Iran came despite an increasing number of Republican senators who have moved away from him on the war and have called for it to come to a swift end and as indications mount that Democrats may ride into Congress on

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Today's
weather
HIGH 64
LOW 51



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