

DAVI7 12/01/17 \*\*CHILL  
UNC-CH SERIALS DEPARTMENT  
DAVIS LIBRARY CB# 3938  
P O BOX 8890  
CHAPEL HILL NC 27599-0001

# The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIDED

VOLUME 96 - NUMBER 23

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA - SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2017

TELEPHONE (919) 682-2913 PRICE: 50 CENTS

## North Carolina GOP refuses Democrat Roy Cooper's session demand

By Gary D. Robertson

RALEIGH (AP) - North Carolina Republican legislative leaders refused June 8 to hold a special redistricting session demanded by Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper, calling his decree faulty and unconstitutional.

Cooper had signed a proclamation June 7 calling for the General Assembly to convene June 8 afternoon for the purpose of re-drawing state House and Senate maps.

GOP leaders and declared the "extra session" unnecessary because the General Assembly's work session, which began in January, is still going on and there was no "extraordinary occasion" to call one, which would have run simultaneously. In formal protests on the House and Senate floors, they also argued Cooper sought only cursory advice from other statewide elected officials before issuing the formal proclamation.

House Speaker Tim Moore and Lt. Gov. Dan Forest, the Senate's presiding officer, directed staff to withdraw the agenda for the special session. Democrats on the House and Senate floor tried to stop the cancellation, which hasn't occurred in at least several decades.

The new governor is trying to push GOP lawmakers to act quickly after the U.S. Supreme Court this week upheld a lower court decision striking down nearly 30 House and Senate districts as illegal racial gerrymanders.

Citing a state law, Cooper argues that if lawmakers don't act within 14 days, three federal judges could draw new maps for the legislature. By acting quickly, legislators might enable the judges to order special legislative elections under new maps this fall, rather than wait until the next regular cycle in November 2018, which the GOP prefers.

Republicans say the Supreme Court still must formally return the case to the three judges and those judges must weigh in on how new boundaries should be drawn before they can act.

"There's no need to have a special session. We're here, we're conducting business," Moore told reporters, adding that "we will deal with redistricting once we have guidance that we need from the federal court."

Cooper and his Democratic allies say GOP leaders still remain under a court order to draw new maps and the General Assembly should act now.

The Republican-dominated "legislature is thumbing its nose at the North Carolina Constitution as well as the U.S. Supreme Court," Cooper spokesman Ford Porter said in a release. It's unclear what step, if any, the governor will now take. The special session marks the latest friction between Cooper and Republican lawmakers since he narrowly defeated GOP Gov. Pat McCrory in November.

The current maps, drawn in 2011 and used first in the 2012 elections, helped Republicans pad their majorities in the House and Senate, allowing them to more easily pass tax cuts, abortion restrictions and taxpayer funded scholarships for students to attend private schools.

Democrats, who in 2010 were pushed out of power in both chambers for the first time in more than 100 years, originally sued over the current maps in late 2011. Democrats need to gain another three House seats or six Senate seats to eliminate the Republicans' veto-proof majorities, providing them a tool to thwart the GOP agenda.

"It's a game of chicken," said Meredith College political science professor David McLennan in an interview. "They're fighting because it matters a lot ... how much more gamesmanship will occur before we get a resolution - that's the question."

Redistricting lawsuits have worked their way through the state and federal courts. A three-judge federal panel threw out 19 House and nine Senate districts last August, agreeing with voters who sued that Republican mapmakers needlessly created too many majority-black districts, which helped boost white, GOP-leaning majorities in the surrounding districts.

### Barber: N Carolina legislators should stop work, draw maps

RALEIGH (AP) - The head of the North Carolina NAACP says state legislators should halt other lawmaking immediately and focus on redrawing General Assembly districts because courts have said once and for all that current boundaries were tainted with racial bias.

The Rev. William Barber held a news conference June 7 outside the Legislative Building and blasted Republican leaders for what he sees as dragging their feet. The U.S. Supreme Court last week upheld a lower court ruling that threw out 28 House and Senate districts as racial gerrymanders that illegally packed black voters.

Barber says GOP leaders should stop passing bills he believes contain destructive policies and get new lines in place for special elections this fall.

Republicans say they are waiting for directions from a three-judge panel before drawing new boundaries.



Little Giants team members pictured left to right: Dustin Livengood, Jodie Fleming, Kevin Donoghue, Corey Raymo and Liz Schlagel.

### NCCU Researcher Advances in NBC's Spartan: Ultimate Team Challenge Little Giants team makes it through to second round

North Carolina Central University (NCCU) professor and research scientist Jodie Fleming is advancing in the second season of the NBC's "Spartan: Ultimate Team Challenge" airing weekly on Monday nights. Fleming is part of the five-member team Little Giants. During the season's premier episode on June 12, the Little Giants made it past four other teams to earn a spot in next round of competition. The show was filmed earlier this year in Atlanta, but the results will not be disclosed until the final episode airs.

Spartan: Ultimate Team Challenge requires teams to traverse an obstacle course designed to test endurance, strength and agility. The group that wins the final competition will receive a purse of \$250,000.

Fleming grew up outside of Pittsburgh, Penn., where she was a cheerleader, gymnast and horseback rider. She became an obstacle-course athlete more than five years ago and now participates in individual competitions at events around the world.

Fleming said her appearance on Spartan: Ultimate Team Challenge required not only navigating a course filled with ropes, mud pits, slip walls and other obstacles, but also team work and cooperation.

"This is different from competing as an individual, because we have to work together as a team," she said. "You take what you have learned training as an individual and add cooperation and communication. It takes it to a whole new level."

Hosts for the Spartan: Ultimate Team Challenge include Olympic speed skater Apolo Ohno and Kelvin Washington of ESPN radio.

The three men and two women who make up the Little Giants are all 5'5" or shorter. "We bonded when we first met," she said. "We are trying to prove that being smaller isn't a drawback."

Fleming said she trains at least two hours daily by working out at Durham CrossFit or running, often taking to the trails at state parks such as Umstead and Pilot Mountain, where there are "lots of hills."

Fleming came to NCCU in 2012 after earning her Ph.D. at Rutgers University. As a breast cancer researcher, Fleming knows that fitness is key to good health.

"I try to live a healthy lifestyle, because know that is one of the best ways you can prevent cancer," she says. "I try to pursue the kind of lifestyle I tell other people to adopt. Exercising is also great for stress."

### North Carolina marker to honor slave who killed his master

BATTLEBORO, N.C. (AP) - A historical marker being unveiled in North Carolina remembers a slave who killed his master and the lawyer whose arguments spared him the death penalty.

The marker dedicated Saturday in in Battleboro calls the actions in 1834 of a slave remembered only as Will as "a simple act of resistance to slavery."

Will refused to give a fellow slave a hoe he made with his own hands, so their slave owner shot Will in the back at an Edgefield County plantation. Will then cut the slave owner on the hip with a knife and he bled to death, the News & Observer of Raleigh reports (<http://bit.ly/2seWTLc>).

The marker on the site of the Edgecombe also honors lawyer Bartholomew Moore. He got Will's murder charge argued down to manslaughter by saying even slaves had a right to self-defense.

Moore, who would later become North Carolina's attorney general, argued to the state Supreme Court that "absolute power is irresponsible power."

The argument persuaded justice William Gaston. "The prisoner is a human being degraded by slavery, but yet having 'organs, senses, dimensions, passions,' like our own," Gaston wrote. Will's new owner wanted to avoid the trouble of having a slave who killed a white man among his other slaves, so he sent Will to Mississippi.

There, Will killed a fellow slave and was put to death by hanging.



Emancipation Juneteenth Celebration at Historic Stagville June 17. U.S. Colored Troops re-enactors will be part of the June 17 program at Historic Stagville. See story on page 14.

### Building A Durham Economy That Works For All

Historic Convening on the Future of the Durham Economy to be held at Hayti Heritage Center

Durham, NC, June 12, 2017: Durham's most powerful advocacy groups are coming together to discuss the future of the Durham Economy. Durham Growth 1.0 resulted in an incredible amount of capital investment in Durham, particularly downtown. However, that hasn't come without some challenges. As that phase matures, the question at hand is what will Growth 2.0 look like and who will benefit from it.

On Thursday, June 15, 2017 from 6:30pm-8pm at the Historic Hayti Heritage Center, those questions will be asked, among others.

Hosted by DCABP, with participation from People's Alliance, Durham CAN, Durham Congregations in Action, and Friends of Durham. This is the first time all of these organizations have come together under one theme - to jointly support the idea of a Durham Economy that Works for All.

Panelists include: Andre Pettigrew (City of Durham Economic and Workforce Development); Andrea Harris (former co-founder and President, NC Institute of Minority Economic Development and current Senior Fellow at Self-Help); Dan Jewell of Coulter Jewell Thames PA, Meredythe Holmes of Made In Durham, Camryn Smith of Northeast Central Durham Entrepreneur's Initiative, Carl Rist of the Durham Living Wage Project, Rev. William Lucas of First Chronicles Church, and Ronda Taylor Bullock of We Are.

Building A Durham Economy That Works for All  
Thursday, June 15, 2017, 6:30-8:00pm, Hayti Heritage Center, 804 Old Fayetteville Street, Durham, NC 27701

ALL PUBLIC OFFICIALS and THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO THIS FREE EVENT

### Man held in shooting death of 7-year-old North Carolina boy



(AP) - A judge has refused to set bond for a North Carolina man charged with shooting and killing a 7-year-old boy who was riding in a passing SUV.

Media outlets report the judge refused to set bond June 7 for 28-year-old Devon Maurice Fowler of Durham in the shooting death of Kamari Munerlyn.

Fowler is charged with murder and conspiracy in the shooting death late Sunday afternoon.

Investigators said Kamari was in the SUV with nine other people when several shots were fired from a passing car. The boy was taken to a Durham hospital where he died.

He was the only person hurt in the shooting.

There was no record of an attorney for Fowler, whose next court date is June 28.