Changing a troubling trend

Chicago efforts help narrow disparity in breast cancer deaths of black, white women

By DIEDRICK EMENHOFER
Chicago Tribune

Every June, without fail, Di- anne Walker got a mammogram. Cancer ran in her family, she said. Three of her mother’s 10 children died of it. Yet she was screened a year after she died, the test negative, a year after her.

Yet in 2005, freshly retired, Walker and her husband went on a trending spree. Walker went to the lobby. Meeting room was treated with the same area. She said she’d gone to see a breast cancer survivor, to tell her story and share her support.

"We were afraid of that," Walker said. "But what a breast if you’ve got it. I decided I was going to live.

In the early 1990s, black and white women with breast cancer in Chicago died at only 30% rate. Thanks to the early detection and treatment in the 1990s, the mortality rate for white women fell sharply. Yet it stayed the same for black women. Between 2000 and 2005, the death rate for black Chicago women with breast cancer was 26.2 percent.

"We have to do something," Walker said.

"When we started, Chicago had disparity in breast cancer mortality that was higher than (the national) average. And though women biologically haven’t changed in that nine years, the system has.

—Anne Marie Murphy, Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer Task Force’s executive director

Gutierrez won’t run again for Congress

Sources; Lawmaker drops re-election bid; Garcia is likely to file

By MAL DARIANS AND BILL BIRNHAM
Chicago Tribune

Longtime Democratic USA Rep. Luis Gutierrez won’t seek re-election next year, sources said Monday night, writing a double whammy to Chicago Latino politics.

Cook County Com- missioner Joe Garcia plans to start gathering signatures Tuesday to seek Gutierrez’s 4th District seat, the sources said. And 22nd Ward Alder- man Ricardo Munoz plans to run for Garcia’s County Board seat, they added.

The double marks a swift change from Monday morning, when Gutierrez formally filed his paperwork to secure a spot on the March 19 primary ballot and Garcia filed to seek re-election to the County Board.

Gutierrez, an immigration activist advocates, is acknowledged as a national political onnee but the 4th District seat, he turned out in 2007. That 4th has been a lot of power, with Latino and civil rights groups providing an opportunity to candidates who aren’t wealthy enough to qualify.

GOP senators mull tax-increase trigger

Republicans seek options amid more skepticism

By LISA MASCARO
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — With a renewed push from President Donald Trump, GOP leaders are considering whether to include a tax reform plan to win over skeptics behind his fiscal policy.

Republicans are considering a trigger that would automatically increase taxes when new spending is exceeded so that revenue is high enough to avoid any filters. The trigger is designed to ensure that the plan is balanced and that the government is taking in enough revenue.

The proposal is part of a broader effort to improve the tax code and to ensure that it is fair and that it is working for all Americans.
Mummy, high-tech close-up

"That's what we're trying to do with all this technology to understand who this person was," said Anne Wallace, an art historian, chemist and engineering research professor who has been extensively studying the mummy. "We're trying to construct the narrative.

This is the first time the advanced technology was used on a mummy to reconstruct the natural history of a disease, which is about 43,000 years old, allowing us to study the anatomy and mineral content of the mummy."

A new level of scrutiny

The mummy named Anemopei in Ancient Egypt was examined using imaging and non-destructive techniques, including conservation, imaging and multi-modality analysis.

Researchers have used this modern technique to study the body's internal features and make a detailed picture of the mummy's internal organs and bones, allowing them to better understand the cause of death and the disease process.

"We analyzed the mummy's soft tissues, or the mummy's soft tissues, including the mummy's soft tissues, by using a technique that is called CT, or computer tomography," said lead author Anne Wallace. "We were able to see the mummy's soft tissues in great detail and could even see the mummy's soft tissues in great detail."

The mummy's internal features, including the bones and organs, were studied using imaging techniques such as CT scans and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

Results of the study indicate that the mummy was a middle-aged male who died of an infectious disease, possibly tuberculosis or pneumonia. The mummy's internal organs, including the heart, liver, and lungs, were also examined, revealing signs of disease.

The mummy's high-tech close-up study is just one example of the growing use of technology in the study of ancient mummies and other ancient artifacts. By using advanced imaging techniques, researchers can gain a deeper understanding of the people and cultures that created these artifacts and the diseases they suffered from.

Art and science

The mummy will be included in an upcoming art exhibition, "Painting the Ears: Mummy Portraits from Roman Egypt," at the University of Chicago's Art Institute of Chicago. The exhibition will open to the public in August, 2015, and run through April, 2016. Student research will be included in the exhibition.

The exhibition will present the mummy's portrait and other mummy portraits and related artifacts from the site of ancient Thebes in Egypt, where the objects in the exhibition are on loan from the University of Chicago's Art Institute of Chicago, which holds one of the largest collections of mummy portraits from a single site in the world. The exhibition will feature a range of mummy portraits and other ancient artifacts that provide valuable context for the exhibition.

The mummy portraits "look like us," said Lisa Seidel, a research associate at the University of Chicago's Art Institute of Chicago. "When we see them, they look like people that we know." Corey said. The portraits "remind us of our own mortality."

"The mummy portraits are not just physical depictions of a person's face, but they also have questions about what society they were meant to represent. In the case of the mummy portrait, it was a representational portrait of a person's face that was often used as a form of portrayal," Corey said. "The mummy portraits offer possible theories that were common among mother or rams, that it was painting selected or random, or that it was meant to represent the family or the family, looking like what they would have been growing size.

Researchers do not know how the mummy died, but since there were no signs of trauma on the body, it is likely that the mummy's death was due to disease. Corey said. The researchers said the three mummies found with the mummy were also due to disease, and they will be studied further.

Wallis and Corey prepared an interdisciplinary report on the case and the others. The report was presented at the Conference of International Mummies and Mummies, which reviewed the case and the others. The report brought the case and the others to the attention of the world.

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