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# Chicago Tribune



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## Changing a troubling trend

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

By Ese Olumhense

Every June, without fail, Diane Walker got a mammogram. Cancer ran in her family, she said. Even her mother had it.

Determined not to be next, she

went year after year. She tested negative, year after year. But in 2003, freshly retired, But in 2003, freshly retired, Walker and her husband went on a traveling spree. Walker went to the Bahamas, Bowling Green, Ky., back to her home-town of Waycross, Ga. So caught up relishing her retirement, she

said, she went everywhere, except to her doctor's office.

Walker next had a mammogram in mid-2004. Expecting her usual result, she said she was floored when she was diagnosed with ductal carcinoma in situ – cancer in her milk ducts. She

Nearly 15 years since her diagnosis, Walker, 78, has surdiagnosis, Waiker, 78, has sur-vived cancer. It cost her a breast, but she refuses to complain, considering how often black women like herself die of breast cancer each year.

"Yeah, I lost a breast," Walker Turn to Cancer, Page 7

said. "But what's a breast if you're gonna live? I decided that I was gonna live.'

In the early 1980s, black and white women with breast cancer in Chicago died at roughly the same rate. Thanks to improvements in detection and treatment in the 1990s, the mortality rate for white women fell sharply — but it stayed about the same for black women. Between 2005 and 2007, the death rate for black Chicago women with breast cancer was

"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



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Chris-Tia Donaldson, chief executive of hair care company TGIN, was only 36 when she was diagnosed with breast cancer



Northwestern's Stuart Stock, right, and Argonne's Jonathan Almer prepare to X-ray an 1,800-year-old Roman-Egyptian mummy on Monday

Researchers use high-energy X-rays to unravel secrets of girl who died 1,800 years ago in Egypt

By Patrick M. O'Connell

Inside a sprawling research building at Argonne National Laboratory, a collection of scientists, researchers and art curators assembled Monday to unravel the mysteries of a mummy.

The ancient Roman-Egyptian linen-wrapped remains of a 5-year-old girl, including an em-bedded portrait, were unearthed n Hawara, Egypt, in 1911. The mummy, about 1,800 years old and weighing 50 pounds, is from the collection of Garrett-Evan-gelical Theological Seminary on the Northwestern University campus in Evanston. Northwest- the Argonne machine will give ern researchers have been piec-

ing together her story.

That's how the mummy ended up inside the thick steel doors of the research hutch at Argonne, where the high-energy, brilliant and penetrating X-ray beams from the Advanced Photon Source synchrotron will be able to provide unprecedented details about her components.

The high-powered beams of researchers molecular informa tion about what is inside the mummy, including the girl's bones, burial materials and what has become of her remains. The powerful synchrotron allows scientists a noninvasive way of probing the mummy, offering snapshots of its contents at a

Turn to Mummy, Page 6

#### Gutierrez won't run again for **Congress**

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

By Hal Dardick, RICK PEARSON AND BILL RUTHHART

Longtime Democratic U.S. Rep. Luis Gutierrez won't seek re-election next year, sources said Monday night, setting off a domino effect in Chicago Lat-ino politics.

Cook County Commissioner Jesus "Chuy" Garcia plans to start gath-ering signatures Tuesday seek Gutierrez's



congressional seat, the sources And 22nd Ward Ald. Ricardo Munoz plans to run for Garcia's County Board seat,

they added.

The decision marks a swift change from Monday morning, when Gutierrez's campaign filed his paperwork to secure a spot on the March 20 primary ballot and Garcia filed to seek re-election to the County

Gutierrez, an immigration reform advocate with a high national profile on the issue, has been in Congress since 1993, representing the 4th District. He turns 64 next month. That long tenure has led to a lot of pent-up political ambition, and Gutierrez's retirement provides an opportunity for candidates who can quickly

Turn to **Gutierrez, Page 5** 

#### 2 acting directors fight for control of watchdog bureau

Mick Mulvaney, President Donald Trump's pick to lead the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, orders 30-day halt on regulations, despite Leandra English's assumed control of the position. Page 9

■ Robert Reed: Destroying the financial regulator would be dumb Trump policy. Business



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP GOP Sen. James Lankford says "What if this doesn't work?" should be built into the tax plan

#### Republicans seek options amid more skeptics By Lisa Mascaro

WASHINGTON - With a renewed push from President Donald Trump, GOP Senate leaders on Monday scrambled to revise their tax reform plan to win over skeptics ahead of this

week's crucial vote. Republicans are considering a

trigger that would automatically increase taxes if their sweeping legislation fails to generate much revenue as they expect. It's an effort to mollify deficit hawks who worry that tax cuts for businesses and individuals will add to the nation's already mounting debt.

GOP senators mull tax-increase trigger

Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., said the Trump administration and

Senate Republican leaders are open to some kind of a trigger to increase revenue if the tax plan falls short.

That development came as several Republican senators voiced new reservations about the bill, a \$1.5-trillion package that could become the most significant achievement of Trump's first year in office but

Turn to Tax overhaul, Page 9



### Mummy's high-tech close-up

Mummy, from Page 1

near-atomic level.

"That's what we're trying to do with all this analysis, to unpack who this person was," said Marc Walton, a Northwestern materials science and engineering re-search 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, according to Argonne. The synchrotron, which is about 1 kilometer around, allows for the study of the arrange ment of molecules and at-

It has been used in pharmaceutical research, including the development of a drug used to stop the progression of HIV into AIDS and to study a bone of Sue, the famed dinosaur at

the Field Museum.
"This will tell us about the history of the mummy and also tell us some things about its conservation," said Stuart Stock, a cell and molecular biology research professor at Northwestern's Feinberg School of Medi-cine who helped lead the experiment at Argonne, which is near Lemont. "We really hope this will open a new chapter in how we study these objects.

Northwestern researchers want to learn more about how the girl died and how she was prepared after death. Stock said researchers are particularly interested in the ceramiclike material that is inside of the girl's intact skull.

The mummy was examined for more than 15 hours, with researchers monitor-ing the results of the synchrotron overnight. Early results, Stock said, showed the material inside the skull did not appear to be crystalline. Stock was also able to detect wires embedded in the mummy and the enamel and bone of the teeth. The girl's bones looked as expected, he said.

"We can't do this with any other technique," Wal-ton said. "We're really pioneering new methods of looking at the intact objects without having to take an actual sample of them."

Researchers have not been given permission to take samples from the mummy, but they also want to preserve her for future examinations.

#### A new level of scrutiny

The mummy traveled to Argonne in a heavy wooden crate, accompanied by form-fitting padding and protective straps.

She was placed inside the

radiation enclosure of the research room, where the 1/110th-of-an-inch beam. which Stock describes as a "pencil beam," penetrated the materials of the mummy. Stock and Jona-than Almer, a lab technician at Argonne, then looked at the readout from the X-ray detector to examine the structure of the defraction patterns — the fingerprint of the material hit by the X-ray beam.

By studying the linen wrappings, the skeleton, other matter inside the wrapping and the external portrait, researchers can try to determine what materials were used and where they came from. Identifying and tracing the materials shines light on the culture, trade networks and commerce in the Roman Empire of the late first and early cond centuries.

In August, the mummy underwent a CT scan at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

The scan enabled reresearchers to confirm the mummy girl was about 5 years old, giving researchers a preliminary under standing of the mummy's composition and structure. It also pinpointed specific areas to be studied further with the help of the Argonne equipment.

And because child mummies are unusual, research-

ers also are hoping the new examination will reveal more about why the girl may have been preserved in such a manner.

#### Rare portrait

The mummy is one of about 100 worldwide with a painted portrait embedded in the wrapping above where the head would be, a style introduced by the Ro mans. The analysis also will provide clues about Roman-Egyptian mummy portraits, a style that differs from the a style that differs from the more familiar Egyptian mummies, which featured three-dimensional sculp-ture-style faces in an ideal-

ized form.
"She's really quite rare," said Essi Ronkko, a curatorial associate at the Block Museum of Art at Northwestern. "You don't get to study a mummy like this often. This is invaluable because it's a fully intact mummy."

Ronkko said she stum-

bled on the mummy's presence at the Styberg Library reference room when re-searching the art museum's upcoming exhibit on mummy portraits. She worked with others at the university to incorporate it into the exhibit and helped launch research with Walton, Stock and Taco Terp-stra, assistant professor of

classics and history.

The mummy is often referred to as the Hibbard mummy and also as Hawara Portrait Mummy No. 4. The mummy made its way to Evanston after it was given to Lydia Beekman Hibbard as a gift for providing finan-cial support to archaeolo-gist Flinders Petrie's excavations in a Roman ceme-tery in Hawara. She donated the mummy a year later to what was then Western Theological Semi-

nary of Chicago.

Affixing the mummies with a portrait "is a decidedly Roman phenomenon," Walton said. "So being able to study one and find out more about how it was made and used in the Roman period is very impor-

Walton and Terpstra taught an interdisciplinary course, "Materials Science and Socioeconomics of Por-trait Mummies From Ancient Favum," in which stu-



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Argonne physicist Jun-Sang Park prepares X-ray equipment to examine the mummy.

dents researched the mummy's discovery and how it made its way to Evanston They also analyzed the mummy's materials, examined the portrait for clues about how and why it was made and studied the techniques used to compose the portrait.

The portraits are lifelike depictions of a person's face, but researchers have tions about what exactly they were meant to represent. In the case of the mummy girl, the accompanying portrait appears to be of an older girl or young woman. Walton and Terpstra offer possible theories that it was a depiction of her mother or aunt, that it was a painting selected at ran-dom, or that it was meant to represent what the family envisioned the young girl looking like if she would

have grown older.
Researchers do not know how the girl died, but since there were no signs of trauma on the remains, it appears she likely perished from disease. Terpstra said the three most likely culprits would have been malaria, tuberculosis and smallpox, which had just appeared during the second century. He ruled out leprosy, which would have shown up on the skeleton, he said. Life expectancy at

the time was about 25 years, Terpstra said, and only about half of all children made it to age 10.

Researchers believe the girl was wrapped naked in the linen and was probably not wearing a dress when she was prepared for mummification.

#### Art and science

The mummy will be included in an upcoming art exhibit "Paint the Eves Softer: Mummy Portraits From Roman Egypt" at the university's Block Museum of Art. The exhibit, which is free to the public, begins Jan. 13 and runs through April 22. Student research will be included in the exhibition.

The exhibition will preent Roman-Egyptian mummy portraits and related artifacts from the site of ancient Tebtunis in Egypt, near Hawara. Most of the objects in the exhibition are on loan from the Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology at the University of California at Berkeley, which holds one of the largest collections of mummy portraits from a single site in the world. The Hibbard mummy will complement the other portraits and objects and help pro-vide context for the exhib-

ition.

The mummy portraits "look like us," said Lisa Corrin, director of the Block Museum of Art.

"When we see them, they look like people that we know," Corrin said. The portraits also "remind us of our own mortality."

"They have such potency," she said.

Studying the art aspect of the mummy, Corrin said, can help determine how pigments found in one part of the world ended up on a portrait in another part of the world. "This is material proof of

how far-flung the empire was," Corrin said. The interdisciplinary re-

search of the mummy, she said, also helps tie together the worlds of art, science

and history.
"They're learning that discovering about history is not just about reading a book or researching documents, and that science has a place in the world," Corrin said. "We can learn a tremendous amount about the past, and learning what these portraits were made of can tell us a tremendous amount about the people that made them and what their world was like.

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