

Staying sun-smart: Remembering Jimmy Buffett

OSF HealthCare Newsroom

Matt Sheehan – Media Relations Coordinator

BROADCAST SCRIPT

SEPTEMBER STARTED OFF ON A SOMBER NOTE WHEN COUNTRY MUSIC SUPERSTAR JIMMY BUFFETT PASSED AWAY.

THE MARGARTAVILLE CREATOR DIED FROM AN AGGRESSIVE FORM OF SKIN CANCER... CALLED MERKEL CELL CARCINOMA... OR M-C-C... A DISEASE HE BATTLED THE PAST FOUR YEARS.

TAKE VO

M-C-C IS A RARER FORM OF SKIN CANCER... THE SKIN CANCER FOUNDATION SAYS... WITH ONE CASE PER 130-THOUSAND PEOPLE IN THE U.S. THE FOUNDATION SAYS ROUGHLY 3-THOUSAND NEW CASES ARE DIAGNOSED A YEAR... AND THIS IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE TO 3-THOUSAND 2-HUNDRED AND 50 CASES A YEAR BY 2025.

BANESA CHAVEZ – AN ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE WITH OSF HEALTHCARE – WARNS PEOPLE NOT TO UNDERESTIMATE THE SIGNS OF SKIN CANCER.

TAKE SOT

“People think ‘oh this lesion is nothing,’ but you don’t know what’s underneath that lesion you see,” Chavez says. “You can have it there for years and it could already be spread elsewhere.”

VO TAG

CHAVEZ SAYS THE AGGRESSIVENESS OF BUFFETT’S M-C-C SHOULD BE CAUSE OF CONCERN FOR PEOPLE... AND A REMINDER TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR SKIN. SHE ADDS THAT SKIN CANCER DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE BASED OFF AGE OR OVERALL HEALTH – BUT NOTES IT IS HARDER TO BATTLE SKIN CANCER AT AN OLDER AGE. MAKE SURE IF YOU NOTICE ANY CHANGES TO YOUR SKIN – WHETHER IT’S A LESION GROWING OR SOMETHING NEW SHOWING UP... ADDRESS IT WITH YOUR DOCTOR. ALSO – APPLYING SUN BLOCK AND WEARING A HAT WHILE IN THE SUN CAN HELP PROTECT YOUR SKIN.