

BOSTON LAW GROUP, LLC



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Winter Storm Preparedness

Most areas of the country are gearing up for the coldest part of the year. Blizzards and ice storms have already maimed parts of the northeast and Pacific Northwest.

The Weather Channel has added a few safety tips. Be sure to prepare yourself and your vehicle before venturing out during times of potential hazardous road travel. Additionally, if you do not have to go out during potentially bad weather, please stay home. "Each year, on average, more than 5,000 people are killed and more than 418,000 are injured due to weather-related vehicle crashes. If you need to drive in snow or cold conditions, TAKE IT SLOW IN THE SNOW. Black ice can be difficult to see. If the temperature is near freezing, drive like you're on ice--you may be!"

"Before you leave the house, especially before a longer trip in winter, make sure all fluid levels are full and ensure that the lights, heater and windshield wipers are in proper condition. Keep your gas tank near full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines. Avoid traveling alone. Let someone know your timetable and primary and alternate routes. Then call 511 for the latest traffic and road incidents, including construction and weather conditions and restrictions. Every state offers this Department of Transportation service. Call before you leave; it might change your plans!"



Off The Press

Air Travel Headaches

The stretch between Thanksgiving and New Years is usually the most travelled time of the year. However, this year, the airline industry has delivered a mighty blow to many travelers.

As of December 27th, 87% of flights cancelled have been by Southwest Airlines. That is 2500 flights. For comparison, the next closest airlines with cancellations is Spirit Airlines with 83 cancelled flights.

What has caused this major setback for Southwest Airlines? " More bad luck: The storm hit just as the so-called tripledemic surged across America, leaving people and their families sick with Covid, the flu and RSV. Although Southwest says it was fully staffed for the holiday weekend, illness makes adjusting to increased system stress difficult. Many airlines still lack sufficient staff to recover when events like bad weather cause delays or flight crews max out the hours they're allowed to work under federal safety regulations."

"The problems Southwest faces have been brewing for a long time, said Captain Casey Murray, the president of the Southwest Airlines Pilots Association. "We've been having these issues for the past 20 months," he told CNN. "We've seen these sorts of meltdowns occur on a much more regular basis and it really just has to do with outdated processes and outdated IT."

He said the airline's operations haven't changed much since the 1990s.

"It's phones, it's computers, it's processing power, it's the programs used to connect us to airplanes – that's where the problem lies, and it's systemic throughout the whole airline," he said.

Southwest CEO Bob Jordan, in a message to employees obtained by CNN, acknowledged many of Murray's concerns, and promised the company will invest in better systems."

Adding to Southwest Airline's shortcomings Kathleen Bangs explained why the airlines has more problems than other airlines. "Southwest

also hurt itself with an aggressive schedule and by underinvesting in its operations. Southwest's schedule includes shorter flights with tighter turnaround times, which are causing some of the problems, said Bangs, a FlightAware spokesperson. "Those turnaround times bog things down," Bangs said.

Before booking air travel, be sure to check multiple airlines for the best deal and gauge of possible oversold, and/or cancelled flights.



Off The Press

Two Types of HIE Injuries

HIE or hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy is a type of traumatic brain injury in which there is a reduction in blood and oxygen which can lead a baby to suffer a brain injury. There can be multiple causes of an HIE injury. For example, if there are genetic issues present then this can cause an HIE injury. In addition to genetics, development issues can manifest and lead to an HIE injury. Finally, birth trauma caused by the actions or inaction of medical providers can lead to an HIE injury.

The type of HIE present can be identified through imaging. Imaging interpretation can be done by a medical doctor called a neuroradiologist. These experts can understand how these injuries reveal themselves in the various brain imaging.

The first pattern that can be seen is called an acute HIE injury. An acute injury can be categorized as a cut off of blood and oxygen. These types of injuries can happen quickly and usually take from 10-25 minutes.

On the other hand, a partial prolonged injury is the opposite of an acute injury. A partial prolonged injury is where there is not a complete cut off of oxygenated blood, but there is a reduction, which can lead to injury. A partial prolonged injury takes time, usually takes 30 minutes to over an hour.

When an HIE injury occurs, a baby can have either one of these types of injury patterns or a combination of both. As was stated earlier, imaging studies can help doctors understand the type of injury.

'Avatar: The Way Of Water' Tops \$1B Global

James Cameron's Avatar: The Way of Water has officially topped the \$1B global mark. As we wrote yesterday, the 20th Century Studios/Disney sequel got to the milestone with Tuesday's grosses. This benchmark has been met in just 14 days of worldwide release.

Way of Water now has bragging rights to being the fastest to \$1B since Spider-Man: No Way Home and the fastest to the mark in 2022. It has also become only the 6th film ever to cross \$1B in its first two weeks of release, and the 4th Disney release to do so. <https://deadline.com/2022/12/avatar-the-way-of-water-box-office-1-billion-1235207219/>



Have you received your complimentary 2023 calendar? If not, be sure to email us with your mailing address and we will ship one right to you. Have a Happy New Year!



Slow-Cooker Stroganoff



Ingredients

1/4cup butter
2lb boneless beef sirloin steak, cubed small
1cup chopped onion
2cloves garlic, finely chopped
1can (10.5 oz) condensed golden mushroom or cream of mushroom soup
1carton (8 oz) sliced fresh mushrooms
1/2teaspoon salt
1/4teaspoon pepper
4oz cream cheese, cubed (from 8-oz package)
1container (8 oz) sour cream
6cups hot cooked noodles or rice

Directions

In a skillet, melt butter over medium-high heat. Add beef, onion and garlic; cook 7 to 9 minutes or until beef is browned (this can be done in batches if you have a lot of meat or a small skillet).

In a slow cooker, mix beef mixture, soup, mushrooms, salt and pepper.

Cover; cook on low heat setting 5 to 6 hours or until beef is tender.

Stir cream cheese into beef mixture until melted. Stir in sour cream until well blended. Serve over noodles.

*garnish with fresh finely chopped parsley

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