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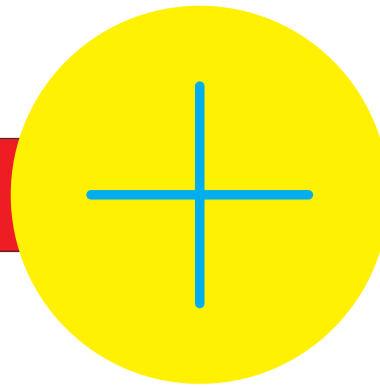
Iran to plant one billion saplings in four years

Planting saplings should be considered an investment for a country, not an expenditure, according to the forest deputy of Iran's General Department of Natural Resources and Watershed Management.

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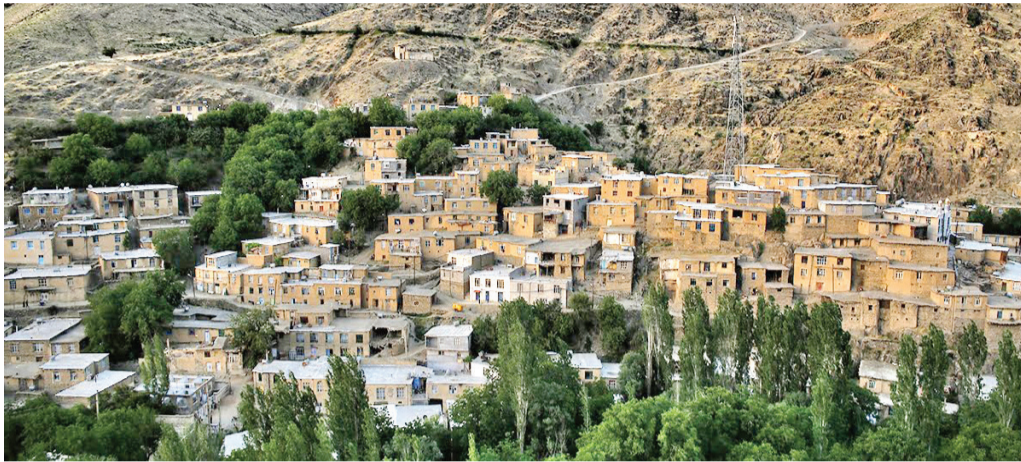
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Stair-stepped architecture of Hoyeh village attractive to tourists

Hoyeh village is located in the western part of Kurdistan Province, between the cities of Sanandaj and Marivan, in the Kellaterzan region.

Although the village is located in a mountainous area, it is in a relatively hollow place, surfiran.com

reported. Among the neighbors of Hoyeh village we can mention the names of Oihang, Bisaran, Serhoyeh and Salian villages. This village attracts the eyes of every viewer with its interesting stair-stepped architecture. The architecture of this

village, located in the lap of the mountains, displays an extremely attractive view. Hoyeh village is divided into two parts. Like any other terraced village, the roof of every house is considered the yard of the above house. This type of architecture

requires less land, and in such a mountainous area, where suitable land for construction is rare, it is known as an interesting and widely used method. Kurdistan Province is located in a mountainous region. The existence of the Zagros mountain range

has given a special beauty to this province. There are also some mountain ranges around Hoyeh village, among which Zardeh Khani Mountain, which is located directly in front of the village, is the most important. Other mountains around

this village that give it a special beauty are Shah Neshin and Se Bid, each contributes to the beauty of Hoyeh village. Valeh Mecheh Cave is located directly in the heart of Zardeh Khani Mountain. Although this cave is small, it was very important and

widely used in its time. It is still considered a must-see attraction. The village has two popular springs and a waterfall which give a special effect to the surrounding nature. The best season to visit Hoyeh village is in the spring and summer.

38th Fajr Music Festival wraps up

The 38th edition of the Fajr Music Festival in Iran wrapped up on Thursday at Tehran's Vahdat Hall, and winners were announced. The 38th edition of the event opened in Tehran on February 17. Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Mohammad-Mehdi Esmaeili several other cultural officials attended the closing ceremony of the festival.

The minister appreciated the significant presence of the artists who created an unforgettable festival. Speaking about regional section of the event, Esmaeili said that as of next year, the section will be held in various cities across Iran. The Barbad Award in the regional music category went to 'Luka', by Mohsen Sharifian. In the Dastgahi Music without Vocals category, the Barbad Award went to the album 'Arvand' composed by Amirhossein Samiei. The award in the Modern Iranian



Music without Vocals category section went to 'It Needs to Be Star' by Vahhab Ebrahimi, while the best singer award in this section was given to Gholamreza San'atgar and Aref Alizadeh for the album 'Dear Tehran.' Three awards were given in the Music Books section. 'Radifs of Iranian Music and Beats of Yusef Forutan' by Hutan Sharafbayani won the award for educational books. Amir Anjiri-Estaraki's collection 'Music Theory' won the award in the theory books section, while in

the research publications category, the award went to 'Bab al-Hava,' which is a study of folk music on Kish Island in the Persian Gulf. The book is written by Mohsen Sharifian. No awards were given by the jury in the National Iranian Music competition. A jury comprising Behzad Abdi, Majid Akhshabi, Hadi Azarm, Homayun Rahimian, Hushang Javid, Reza Mahdavi, Anton Tenetov and Olga Khomova selected the winners.



'Hot Winter' festival is underway at Aab-o Atash Park in Tehran, Iran until March 3.
BAHAREH ASADI/IRIB NEWS

'Pinocchio' gets a second bite at Oscar after winning in 1940

The Oscars' animated feature category turns voting age this year, which means none of the genre's masterpieces dating back to the 1930s ever competed for the coveted prize. And that means one of this year's competitors for the prize, "Guillermo del Toro's Pinocchio," represents something of a fresh chance for a story that worked so well for Walt Disney back in 1940 that it still garnered two Oscars — for song and score — and the kind of praise filmmakers of all genres and stripes can only dream of.

Variety's review of Walt Disney's masterpiece was typical of the ecstatic mood that greeted the film's release back in early 1940: "Technically an improvement on 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs,' and in many ways quite as captivating in imaginative fantasy, Walt Disney's 'Pinocchio' (Pin-oak-io) is the finest piece of feature length animation yet created, Variety wrote. "'Pinocchio' has all the fascinating elements ... lifelike movement and effects both in color and drawing seem miracles of artistry and further ex-

pounds the peculiar appeal of the medium. Refinements in technique over previous animation is particularly notable in the use of illumination and the intricacies achieved in the submarine sequence ... there are many figures in 'Pinocchio' also which completely beguile and bespeak the Disney creative genius." The co-winner of "Pinocchio's" two Oscars, composer Leigh Harline, captured the last of his eight nominations exactly 60 years ago for his work on the score of "The Wonderful World of the

Brothers Grimm," a colorful and pioneering Cinerama release from famed and innovative producer George Pal, one of the few Hollywood creatives capable of giving Uncle Walt a run for his money when it came to making daring and groundbreaking fantasy fare. It should be noted that two of that film's stars, TV icon Barbara Eden and legendary musical star Russ Tamblyn, will certainly be watching this year's Oscars to see which of their peers have wished upon the right stars.

