

**Treat your Valentine!**

Springsteen ▶ 3 • Otto Miller ▶ 5

The

# Chronicle

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**Coming Feb. 25:  
Prime-Time Seniors**

## West Mountain's new owners still upbeat despite the non-winter

By Gordon Woodworth

Chronicle News Editor

Just as Spencer and Sara Montgomery geared up their effort to revitalize the West Mountain ski center that they bought in December 2013, here came the non-winter of 2015-16.

"It is definitely challenging," said Spencer, a Glens Falls native.

"I can't describe it any other way. Taking into account we put in a new chair lift, and extrapolating the numbers out year to year, looking at the increased season passes [up by 25%] and the increased school programs, we're off about 50% from where we would be if we were having a winter."

He said, "If you forced me to project, we're off about \$800,000 from where we should be. That's

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**Spencer & Sara: Biz is off by \$800,000 'but it's not dire'**



Spencer and Sara Montgomery at West Mountain are in the middle of a five-year plan to return the ski center to profitability. They say this winter, on a scale of 1 to 10, has been a 5, but that could improve to a 6 or a 7 with some snow and cold temperatures.

*Chronicle photo/Gordon Woodworth*

## Israelis see doom in '2-state solution'

By Mark Frost

Chronicle Editor

Israel is under intense and ever increasing global pressure to accept a "Two-State Solution" that would establish a Palestinian state adjacent to Israel.

The Two-State approach has the backing of Democrats and Republicans, Europe and the U.S., Russia, China, the United Nations and Middle East nations.

Israel is largely isolated, seen as the illegal occupier of Palestinian territory and deemed a villain by much of the world.

But what we found on our family's two-week trip to Israel and Jordan in January is that many — if not most — Israelis see the "Two-State" approach not as a solution but as an act of suicide.

The people expressing this view — who included both the Jewish guides we hired via Internet, as

**What we gleaned from our 2-week journey**

*Please turn to page 6*

**Fear not: Peepers will do fine!**

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Gerry Lemmo photo



## Pilot Knob man's stand for pizza on the grill

**Chronicle News Editor Gordon Woodworth writes:** Retired trial attorney Fred Pflaum of Pilot Knob has invented and patented the Innovo Pizza Grill Stand, a stainless steel grilling platform

that facilitates making pizza in most outdoor gas grills. He plans a Kickstarter campaign to fund bringing it to market.

"My fiancée Linda Demers and I spend a lot of time outdoors and we're passionate about cooking on our outdoor gas

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**Hacksaw & Jason**  
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