

Critelli looks to give back to community



Justin Critelli

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Brian McCabe, Mail News Editor

Justin Critelli said he sees running for council as a way to give back to a community that has given so much to him.

“After my attack (a stabbing at Critelli’s business, The Simple Lodge and Hostel), Salida really came together to help me, like family,” Critelli said. “I plan to be here for a while and return the favor.”

Critelli moved to Salida five years ago and is formerly from New York. He works as a massage therapist and is part owner of The Simple Lodge.

“I want to be here,” he said. “Salida has seen a lot of growth lately, and I want to be part of that and have a future here.”

He said he also wanted to get more involved with community events.

“I got involved a lot with Stage Left,” Critelli said. “I did Shakespeare in the Park and another play. It helped get me out of my shell.”

Critelli also said he hopes to bring a new outlook to the council.

“I’m not a registered Democrat or Republican,” he said. “People my age, they are usually so busy working several jobs, like I do, to stay here. I’m excited to meet my opponent and debate. I think we’ll probably have more in common than we realize.”