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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Lafayette Hoot project comes home to roost at City Hall

LAFAYETTE, Colo August 11, 2015 – In 2003, the City of Lafayette launched a collaborative public art project involving businesses, Front Range artists, and teens from the Youth Advisory Board. Hundreds of hours were spent creating thirteen 4-1/2 foot barn owls for the Lafayette Hoot project. City Administrator Gary Klaphake and Cultural Resources Coordinator Susan Booker have headed up an effort to gather the remaining nine sculptures for display at City Hall.

“While the Lafayette Hoot Owls originally stood watch in businesses and public buildings throughout the city, over the years a few were damaged or have gone missing,” explained Booker. “It’s been a fun project to track them down, perform some minor repairs, and reunite them in one place for the public to view.”

The barn owl was chosen as the subject for the original art project because it is an indigenous species of Lafayette and symbolizes the area’s agricultural heritage. Owls are generally solitary, but when convening together in a group, they are referred to as a “parliament”. This, coupled with their characteristic of possessing a wise disposition, makes outside the Lafayette City Council Chamber a fitting home for the owls to be on display.

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