

**BY:** Senator GRIFFO

**COMMENDING** the band Double Axel upon the occasion of five decades of playing rock 'n' roll which was celebrated at its 50th Anniversary party on July 10, 2021

**WHEREAS,** The arts, in whatever form depicted, are central to human expression; they are truly a universal language and their contribution to the development of friendship and understanding among all peoples cannot be underestimated; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize those talented individuals within our midst, who have had a significant impact on the arts and culture of our communities through their outstanding entertainment; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the band Double Axel upon the occasion of celebrating five decades of playing rock 'n' roll; and

**WHEREAS,** To celebrate this milestone, the band members hosted an "Under the Big Top: Double Axel's 50th Anniversary Party" which was held on Saturday, July 10, 2021, at Mama Lucia, in Potsdam, New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Double Axel is a rock 'n' roll band that was created in the 1970s when the live music scene in Potsdam was a dynamo of energy, talent and creativity; its three band members have thoughts on the reasons for reaching that milestone, ranging from personal chemistry to being at the right place at the right time; and

**WHEREAS,** Double Axel was born in the basement of Theta Chi fraternity and was originally a four-piece band, before becoming a trio in 1995; its gigs have ranged from Rochester to Vermont, the 1980 Olympic Games in Lake Placid, and nightclubs and high schools throughout the State of New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Band members who make up this North Country legacy include: Alex Vangellow of Hannawa Falls, New York, who plays drums, keyboard, guitar and sings; Robert Zolner, also from Hannawa Falls, who plays guitar and sings; and Frank Johns of Saranac Lake, who plays bass and joins with vocals; and

**WHEREAS,** Double Axel, which has recorded a couple of original albums, is now traveling the North Country on its 50th Anniversary tour, giving many fans a chance to reminisce about good times and music shared with the band as well as to create new memories, as the band has no plans of slowing down; and

**WHEREAS,** Over the past five decades, Double Axel has earned its reputation as a talented band in Upstate New York; and

**WHEREAS,** It is fitting and proper for this Legislative Body to take note of such a prestigious, musically gifted band, which brings great pride to both the music industry and the citizens of this great Empire State; and

**WHEREAS,** With deep appreciation, this Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to recognize the exceptional talents of the three members of Double Axel, and to wish them continued success in all their future endeavors; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the band Double Axel upon the occasion of celebrating five decades of playing rock 'n' roll; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to the members of Double Axel.