

Video is a reminder of why you love Fall River

Lynne Sullivan
Editor-in-Chief

FALL RIVER — As we head into what is bound to be a difficult few weeks for the city, it feels appropriate to point out the positives.

The trial of former mayor Jasiel Correia II is set to begin Tuesday in Boston, no doubt shining a negative light on the city, particularly for outsiders. While local leaders we talked to say the city has and will continue to bounce back from the stain of Correia's two arrests, we know it's all too easy for some in the state and beyond to paint Fall River with a broad brush. How many times do we have to read about Fall River being "city of 89,000 that's still hurting by the collapse of its once-booming texting industry"?

Which is why we were so happy to stumble upon a video released by We Love Fall River, which calls itself "a social movement, showcasing positive stories about economic development, community initiatives, and arts and culture," and Viva Fall River, which describes itself as "a community-based arts, culture, and creative economy effort to increase support for arts, culture, and businesses and expand resources available to do cool things here in the city."

The video was produced, shot and edited by Don Burton Media and Ben Guan-Kennedy; in association with We Love Fall River, Viva Fall River, One SouthCoast, Fall River Arts & Culture Coalition, Southeastern Massachusetts

Visitor's Bureau, and MassDevelopment's TDI Program.

In the video, artists Harry Gould Harvey IV and Brittnei Ann Harvey talk about their work, and their efforts to open the Fall River Museum of Contemporary Art. What comes through loud and clear is their love for Fall River.

The Fall River Museum of Contemporary Art, or FR MoCA, opened last year as part of the FABRIC 2020 arts festival. What began as a two-day exhibition "snow-balled" into a museum, according to Gould Harvey.

The artists have even purchased a home here in the city. "We realized why are we trying to go elsewhere when growing up in Fall River was so integral to our art process?" Gould Harvey says in the video.

It's clear that the artists are here for more than just convenience. What follows in the video is literally a recitation of all the reasons they love it here — reasons other folks would love, too, if they just give the city a chance.

From the grand architecture of St. Anne's Church, to the European feel of the Gates of the City, to the retro style of Al Mac's diner, Fall River is a wonder. But more than anything, the Harveys focus on the "melting pot" aspect of the Fall River food scene.

From Taqueria El Habanero's authentic Mexican fast food, to the city's iconic chow mein sandwiches, to Lebanese meat pies and more, Fall River has an eclectic variety of foods



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Artists Harry Gould Harvey and Brittnei Ann Harvey are featured in a new video about why they love Fall River and decided to put down roots here.

and places to eat — and better yet, it's all very affordable.

So as we head into what could be a lengthy trial, with daily reminders of a very dif-

ficult past few years, we urge you, too, to think about what you love about the city.

Lynne Sullivan is editor of The Herald News.

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