



Talk of the town

[David Delcore](#) Sep 2, 2020

MONTPELIER — The Sustainable Montpelier Coalition is hosting a “Social Distance Ice Cream Social” on Northfield Street today to celebrate the network of neighborhood volunteers who have helped foster a sense of caring community during the COVID-19 crisis.

Perhaps you are one of them.

We’re talking about the folks who mobilized in response to the coalition’s call to reorganize the dormant Capital Area Neighborhoods (CAN) project in April.

Partly a response to the pandemic, the goal of the neighbors helping neighbors initiative was to create strong communications and support networks at the city’s most local level.

During the past few months CAN volunteers have fostered communications among neighbors and served as a conduit for conveying concerns to city officials and other service providers. They’ve been the boots on the ground when it comes to restoring and, in many cases building neighborhood networks that have flourished throughout the city.

Their work is far from finished, but we’re told it’s time to pause for ice cream, some face time and a pat on the back from Mayor Anne Watson, members of the City Council and city officials, and the staff of the Sustainable Montpelier Coalition.

Volunteers will receive CAN T-shirts and thank-you cards during the hour-long ice cream social that is set to start at 5:30 p.m. at 116 Northfield St.