

# Aurora Cosmos to celebrate 90 years of service

Aurora Cosmopolitan Club will celebrate its 90th anniversary from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at the Tanner House museum, 317 Cedar St. in Aurora.

The public is invited. Admission is free.

The event will feature tours of the museum, a hand-puppet show, raffle and refreshments hosted by club members.

A special guest will be Oswego resident Frankie Bush, 8, and Stanley, his diabetic-alert dog. Frankie's parents are Deanna and Scott Bush. Deanna is a Cosmo member. Information on diabetes, summer camp for diabetic children and Paws Saving Lives, which provides diabetic-alert dogs, will be available.

Founded in 1927, Aurora Cosmopolitan Club is known as the club that fights diabetes. The club contributes annually to the Cosmopolitan Diabetes Foundation, provides scholarships for children to attend diabetic camps, donates to University of Chicago Medicine-Kovler Diabetes Center and sponsors two scholarships yearly for Waubensee Community College students studying medical fields.

Additionally, the club supports a diabetic-alert Dog, for a local family, donated \$10,000 to Aurora's Presence Mercy Medical Center center for diabetic wellness and has supported Aurora organizations including Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry, Communities In Schools, Mutual Ground domestic violence shelter and Hessed House homeless shelter.

New members are welcome. Meetings are at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at Oak Street Cafe in North Aurora. Call (630) 466-8099 or visit [www.auroracosmo.org](http://www.auroracosmo.org) for more information.

## About Aurora Cosmopolitan Club

Cosmopolitanism was founded in 1918 in Kansas City, Mo. The Cosmopolitan Club is international, with clubs in the United States and Canada dedicated to research, education and detection of Diabetes.

The Aurora club was founded on June 6, 1927, at the Masonic Temple in Aurora. Dedicated to unity, service and action, the club's first president was Frank Weisgerber and there were 65 charter members. Weisgerber, a civic leader, left \$250,000.00 of his estate to the Edna Smith Home, now known as Mutual Ground, Inc.

The current club includes 34 members led by LaVonne Hawking, president. Cosmopolitan means "citizen of the world." The Aurora Cosmopolitan Club is a not for profit service organization that contributes to the community through charitable and volunteer service, with a focus preventing and finding a cure for diabetes.

The club has supported child-welfare projects, including camp scholarships for underprivileged children and , children's milk fund, Aurora Music Association, Jennings Terrace and restoration of Root Street Cemetery,

During World War II, Cosmos promoted and sold war bonds. From 1954 through the 1970s, the club's project was the Aurora Historical Museum. Members maintained the building and grounds of the historic Tanner House on Cedar Street. The club continues to support the AHA.

## About Cosmopolitan International

Except for invention of insulin, Cosmos have helped develop every major advance in treatment and research for a cure of diabetes. Cosmos helped build internationally recognized and renowned treatment and research centers, supported development of A1C and other tests, improved physician education and encouraged early intervention, treatment and islet cell transplantation.

In 1973, Cosmopolitan International made the campaign against diabetes its principal challenge. In 1976 the Cosmopolitan Diabetes Foundation was incorporated. In 1983, the University of Missouri-Columbia dedicated the Cosmopolitan International Diabetes Center with an \$800,000 Cosmo donation.

In 1985 Cosmopolitan International raised \$1,000,000 to support a diabetes Department, to make the eastern Virginia Medical School eligible for federal grants through the National Institutes of Health, to offer treatment, education and research for both Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes.

In 1999 Cosmopolitan International voted to support INGAP--islet neogenesis associated protein-- which shows promise as a diabetes cure. Cosmos have raised over \$765,000.00 in continuing support of research. The Cosmopolitan Diabetes Foundation and local Cosmopolitan clubs continue to support diabetes related Cosmo projects.



**Caption:** Oswego resident Frankie Bush, 8, and Stanley, his diabetic-alert dog, will be special guests at the Aurora Cosmopolitan Club's 90th anniversary celebration from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at the Tanner House Museum, 317 Cedar St. in Aurora.