member connection

See Logan run

LOGAN BEAULIEU'S LIFE CHANGED in a split-second when he was 16. The passenger in a car accident that killed the driver, Beaulieu spent the following 16 days in a coma. When he awoke, he was paralyzed on one side. "Doctors told me I had a 10 per cent chance to

walk again," he says.

Five years later, after gruelling physical therapy, and displaying an unquenchable spirit, Beaulieu did not walk, but ran, 401 laps around a track—161 kilometres during a 24-hour race in Victoria.

And he kept running. Over the past 13 years, Beaulieu, a Costco member, has run three marathons and 27 ultramarathons. At 34, he is among Canada's premier ultramarathoners, racing on wilderness courses up to 160 kilometres (100 miles) or more in length.

With his achievements, Beaulieu hopes to attract sponsors (*www.logansrun.ca*) who will help him become a role model for other accident victims.

"Running kept me balanced," he says. "Without a positive goal, I easily could have grabbed on to something destructive. I could have gotten very depressed."

"In some ways he says he's better off because of the accident, in the way he looks at life," says Moe Beaulieu, Logan's father.

"I want to make people feel better about themselves," Logan says.—*T. Foster Jones*

Clownin' around

Running,

Beaulieu,

says Logan

saved his life.

RUCE EDWARDS

COSTCO MEMBER BOB PALMER juggles a busy schedule. A resident of Red Deer, Alberta, Bob performs as many as 400 shows annually, at which he walks the tight rope, does unicycle tricks, walks on stilts and, yes, juggles. Under the stage name Flyin' Bob (*www.flybob.com*), Palmer has been combining comedy and variety arts for 15 years, performing for corporations, schools, festivals and theatres. With his wife, Miyako, a face painter, he has taken his show all over Canada, Europe and parts of Asia.

"It all started when I saw a juggler performing on TV," explains Palmer. "I thought it looked like fun, so I got a book from the

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IF YOU HAVE a note, photo or story to share about yourself or your business (it should connect to Costco in some way), you can send it to "The Member Connection," *The Costco Connection*, 415 West Hunt Club Road, Ottawa, ON K2E 1C5, or e-mail to *connection@costco.com* with "The Member Connection" in the subject line. Submissions cannot be acknowledged orretumed. library on juggling and taught myself to juggle over a weekend. After that I was hooked."

Palmer, who also participates in a circus camp program that uses circus skills to help build self-esteem for troubled teens, says leaving his day job was the best career decision he's ever made. "I'm having a fantastic time," says Palmer. "I'm a big believer in taking something you love and turning it into a lifestyle. That way you are not going to work, you are just living

your life."— Will Fifield



Tents in the desert

WHEN SOMEONE mentions Palm Springs, what comes to mind? Golf? Swimming pools? Bob Hope?

If your answer is shopping, you're not alone. Over the past 23 years, the College of the Desert (COD) street fair (*www.codstreetfair.com*) has become a shopping oasis for locals and visitors. On busy days this carnival-size city of tents receives about 15,000 to 20,000 bargain hunters looking for everything from handbags and jewelry to art to fresh Coachella Valley produce, all sold by the 340 vendors who set up booths each weekend.

Most patrons don't know that a portion of the proceeds



Snowbirds and residents of Palm Springs, California, enjoy shopping at the College of the Desert street fair.

benefits the local community. Thanks to the street fair, the COD Alumni Association has donated more than \$5 million (about \$250,000 annually) to the College of the Desert, the junior college that hosts the street fair. The money goes to student scholarships and financial aid, says Gene Marchu, p resident of the COD Alumni Association, which maintains a Costco membership.

The fair is located on the northwest corner of the COD campus. It is open Saturday and Sunday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. October through May, and from 7 a.m. to noon June through September.

—Will Fifield