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Illusionist Dave Womach performs a card trick for children at the Children's Village on Wednesday. Womach will perform at a fund-raiser Friday and Saturday put on by the Downtown Kiwanis. The event will help out both the family of Idaho State Police officer Todd Corey and the family of Coeur d'Alene Police officer Michael Kralicek.

# Fund-raising Magic

Donations allow entry to illusionist's show for officers' benefit

By LYNN BERK  
Staff writer

**COEUR d'ALENE** — Idaho State Trooper Todd Corey was barely out of the academy when his world tilted on its axis.

His wife, Kim, found out that she had cancer — and the progno-

sis was not good. They and their four children are facing a whole different future from the one they'd once envisioned.

But while it might have slowed them down, it hasn't stopped them.

"Every day Todd comes to work with a smile on his face," said ISP Capt. Wayne Longo, Todd's supervisor. "I've never heard him complain.

"I've never heard her complain. They're the most unusual people I've ever seen. They face adversity and spit in its eye."

Now other people are joining in

that stand-down. The Downtown Kiwanis is organizing a fund-raiser for this weekend to help out both the Coreys and the family of Coeur d'Alene Police officer Michael Kralicek, who was shot in the face on Dec. 28.

But instead of drinks and dinner, the public can buy tickets for a donation of at least \$10 and watch illusionist Dave Womach work his magic at the Schuler Auditorium at North Idaho College.

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# MAGIC

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Performances are 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Kiwanis member Jason Macek came up with the idea for the benefit.

"I've been around law enforcement my whole life," said Macek, who with fellow Kiwanian — and Coeur d'Alene Postmaster — Phil Kuntz is organizing the effort.

"My best friend is a police officer. I have a soft spot in my heart for all of them."

"Officer Kralicek was relatively new to the force, too," added Kuntz. "He was trying

to protect us from a madman. In a way, our whole community was hurt that day."

Kralicek is undergoing rehabilitation in a Colorado hospital. Kim Corey is in and out of intensive care. Although both families have insurance, that 80-20 percent coverage can escalate in a hurry with a protracted illness.

"The Coreys have faith that they're going to beat this thing," Longo said. "They're so extremely positive that I find myself thinking they might just do that."

The dual traumas also put his own problems into perspective. When Longo, a devout runner, recently pulled a calf muscle, he started to cuss — and then thought of Kim Corey.

"I thought, 'Life is good to you, pal. Just suck it up and limp back to the office.'"

For tickets to the Corey-Kralicek benefit, contact Jason Macek at 667-7485 or at [jason@shedlermackinsurance.com](mailto:jason@shedlermackinsurance.com).

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