



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Police, Parks and Rec Departments Team Up for RADKids Program

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Powell, OH: The City of Powell Police and Parks and Recreation departments have partnered to create a new R.A.D. (Resisting Aggression Defensively) Kids program for boys and girls ages 8 to 13. This youth-only course, which meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Monday evenings between March 2 and March 30, will offer comprehensive and realistic self-defense tactics and techniques.

The program begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and risk avoidance, and progresses to the basics of hands-on defense training. The classes will be taught by nationally certified R.A.D. instructors from the Powell Police Department.

“Many of us have taught our children to be aware of strangers. But familiarity alone does not ensure safety, and children must be taught to how to assess dangerous situations, regardless of the source. RADKids is a program for youths that deals with techniques of how to escape from potentially dangerous situations,” Police Chief Gary Vest said.

“As Powell’s police chief, I am pleased to offer this program,” Vest added. “This first-time offering is in response to parent inquires about how to prepare their sons and daughters with personal survival skills in a dangerous world. The course is designed to increase their mental alertness toward personal safety and to develop a physical response capability to aggression. Personal safety is ultimately an individual responsibility that has as its reward the ‘personal freedom.’ When we must limit of our freedoms due to fear of crime, we are already a victim of crime.”

The cost to participate is \$25 for Powell residents and \$32 for non-residents. Registration has begun, and those interested are encouraged to sign up soon due to limited class size. All classes are held at the Adventure Park Recreation Facility on Village Park Drive.

For more information on the R.A.D.Kids program, contact Sgt. Andy Lucas, Powell Police Department, at 614.885.5005, ext. 1109. You can also register in person at the Village Green Municipal Building, 47 Hall Street.

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