



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Greater Hartford Community of Autism Speaks and
Lake Compounce Host 3rd Annual Autism Awareness Day,
Honoring Dads on June 20**

June 15, 2010 – Bristol/Southington, CT - The Greater Hartford Community of Autism Speaks and Lake Compounce Family Theme Park, are pleased to announce the third annual Autism Awareness Day at Lake Compounce, on Father's Day, June 20, 2010. Volunteers from Autism Speaks will be in attendance from 11a – 8p spreading the message that dads do make a difference.

“Four times more boys than girls are affected with Autism, and studies have shown that when dads are involved with these boys, their communication, social and language skills greatly improve,” says Diana Yeisley, volunteer with Autism Speaks. “We want to both honor and educate these dads, and Father's Day at Lake Compounce is the perfect opportunity for us to do this.”

Autism is the fastest growing serious developmental disability, with current diagnosis rates of 1 in 110 children. A new case is diagnosed every 20 minutes, 67 children per day, with 1 in every 70 boys on the autism spectrum. More children will be diagnosed with autism this year than with AIDS, diabetes and cancer combined. There is no medical detection tool for autism, and there is no cure. It is a lifelong disability, but early detection, and therapeutic and educational techniques, can make a huge impact on an individual's outcome in life.

Families of individuals with autism can obtain a discount to the park for the day, by emailing greaterhartford@autismspeaks.org.

“We are looking forward to hosting the third annual Autism Awareness day at Lake Compounce this year”, said Sara Webb, Director of Marketing for Lake Compounce. “A portion of proceeds will be donated to Autism Speaks so this is the perfect day to come out and enjoy the park while supporting a great cause”.

To learn more about autism, Autism Speaks and how you can help, visit www.walknowforautismspeaks.org/greaterhartford.

About Lake Compounce

Lake Compounce, part of the Palace Entertainment family of parks, is New England's Family Theme Park and the oldest continuously operating amusement park in North America. Entering into its 165th season, Lake Compounce has invested more than 70 million dollars over the past 13 years in rides and attractions. Regular admission price for the 2010 season is \$34.99. Junior admission, which is for guests under 52 inches tall, is \$25.99. Senior admission, for ages 61 and up, will be \$17.99. Children 3 years of age and younger are

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Lake Compounce

NEW ENGLAND'S FAMILY THEME PARK

admitted free. Season passes available for \$79.99. All tickets and season passes may be purchased by visiting www.lakecompounce.com.

About Palace Entertainment

Palace Entertainment hosts over 14 million visitors annually at 38 locations with seven theme parks, ten waterparks and 21 family entertainment centers and is the largest operator of waterparks and family entertainment centers in the nation. For more information, visit www.palaceentertainment.com. Palace Entertainment is part of the Parques Reunidos family of parks.

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