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Dingell, Senator Levin Salute Monroe County Citizens As River Raisin Heritage Trail Opens

Washington, DC – Congressman John D. Dingell (D-MI15) and Senator Carl Levin (D) today praised the River Raisin Heritage Trail Ribbon Cutting Ceremony which comes as a result of hard work from concerned Monroe County citizens. This trail links together Sterling State Park, the City of Monroe, the River Raisin Battlefield, pristine marshland, and Lake Erie.

“This unique complex of natural, cultural and historical assets is unlike anywhere else in the country,” said Congressman Dingell. “No where else is there a National Battlefield, a major State Park, and an International Wildlife Refuge all connected by trails and sitting along the backdrop of a pristine Great Lake. This represents not only an opportunity for people of Monroe to enjoy an enhanced quality of life, but it also provides access to these engaging assets to tourists who will provide revenue and a new and growing segment to the economy in Monroe.

“While Congressional business prevents me from part in the event today, I’m glad so many partners and good people will christen this state of the art trail – including the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and State Park officials. I would also be remiss if I didn’t mention Jeff Corwin, who has been so helpful on other important efforts like protecting the Bald Eagle. This is a great day and I hope everyone has a wonderful celebration to mark this terrific event. Of course none of this would have been possible without the help of my good friend, Senator Levin.”

“This trail connects a unique collection of sites, from a key battlefield in our nation’s second war for independence to the shore of a Great Lake,” Levin said. “It links Michigan’s history to its natural beauty and highlights how the intersection of land and water has shaped our state. I’m

proud to have worked with so many citizens, volunteers, private groups, government agencies and with the tireless John Dingell to make today's ribbon cutting possible.”

Congressman Dingell and Senator Levin helped secure funding for the final leg of the trail linking City of Monroe to Sterling State Park. Planning is under way to expand the trail in the near future to provide a physical linkage to the Ford Marsh Unit of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge which rests adjacent to Sterling State Park.

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