**West Michigan ‘Hot Jobs List’ released**

West Michigan Works! just released its 2019 Hot Jobs List which identifies the top 100 jobs in the region’s high-growth industries. According to that list from the workforce agency, the majority of the high-demand jobs in the seven-county region—banding Barry, Ionia, Kent, Montcalm, Muskegon and Ottawa counties are in the manufacturing and health sciences sectors. High-demand occupations are defined as those that have a significant number of open positions in an area’s job market, are expected to see considerable growth in the next five years, and can lead to self-sufficiency through living wages and opportunities for advancement.

To create the list, West Michigan Works! gathers state labor market information and data from job analysts. The data is then presented to employers who provide feedback and insights that help to create an accurate representation of the regional hiring needs. "The Hot Jobs Lists provides sound guidance for students, job seekers and our workforce partners," said Jacob Maas, CEO of West Michigan Works. “We’re grateful to the many regional industry councils and employers who provide input into the Hot Jobs List." The Hot Jobs List serves as a valuable resource for regionally-based educational institutions and organizations across the region.

West Michigan Works! staff uses the Hot Jobs List as an internal tool to begin discussions around career exploration, to identify existing skills that could transition into high-demand occupations, and to inform decisions regarding funding for occupational training.

The list also identifies careers that are eligible for training scholarships. The 2019 Hot Jobs List is available on the West Michigan Works! website at http://jobs.wmworks.org/hot-jobs.

**Correction**

The name of John Benjamin’s new mobile fitness gym should have been spelled YGMUUYZ in the Feb. 9 Sun and News.