Editorial: Three cheers to education, economic endeavors

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The Poughkeepsie Journal celebrates “greater good” efforts in the mid-Hudson Valley through positive articles, briefs and “3 Cheers” editorials, all of which can be found at www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/greatergood

To SUNY New Paltz, which recently opened the nation’s first MakerBot Innovation Center. In December, SUNY New Paltz received $1 million from the Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council to expand its 3-D printing initiative, which began in 2013.

The center is home to more than 30 MakerBot 3-D printers and the college’s new three-semester certificate program in digital design and fabrication. The program will offer training in 3-D printing. College and local business leaders hope that the 3-D printing program will draw people, interested in taking part in this relatively new technology, to the area.

College President Donald P. Christian said that 3-D printing is used in a variety of fields, including biomedical engineering, architecture, jewelry making and theater set design.

For more information on SUNY New Paltz’s digital design and fabrication course offerings, contact Daniel Freedman, dean of the college’s School of Science and Engineering at 845-257-3728 or email him at freedmad@newpaltz.edu

Kudos to SUNY New Paltz for becoming an educational leader in 3-D printing!

To the Ulster BOCES students who raised more than $2,400 for Alzheimer’s disease research. The fundraising effort culminated when students of the Ulster BOCES New Vision Health Career Exploration program joined a Subzero Heroes event on Feb. 1 at the lake at Berean Park in Highland.

In addition to the New Visions students, 20 Ulster BOCES students and members of the Career and Technical Center’s Culinary Arts club also made the trek to the lake. The culinary students prepared and served chili to participants.

This year’s Subzero Heroes event raised a total of $60,000 for Alzheimer’s disease research funding.

In addition to the Subzero Heroes event, the students will also travel to Albany next month to lobby for legislation that will better support Alzheimer’s disease research funding.

For more information about Alzheimer’s disease or what you can do to aid in the fight against it, visit www.alz.org/

To the Barrett Art Center, officially known as the Dutchess County Art Association, which held its annual fundraiser, “100 for 100” on Feb. 9. The fundraiser sold up to 100 tickets for $100 each, to an art showing featuring donated pieces from local artists.

The show was held at the Locust Grove estate in the Town of Poughkeepsie and ticket buyers each won a piece of art.

The Barrett Art Center, a nonprofit founded in 1935 by Poughkeepsie resident Thomas Weeks Barrett Jr., has helped to foster a love of visual arts. The center holds classes and other events and features the work of local artists.

Cheers to the Barrett Art Center for tirelessly promoting local artists and fostering a love of the visual arts here in Dutchess County.