

## Professor receives Fulbright award

### BAR HARBOR —

College of the Atlantic Professor of botany Nishanta "Nishi" Rajakaruna '94 has accepted a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program grant to his motherland of Sri Lanka, where he will pursue multidisciplinary and collaborative research on the under-studied geological formations of the island.



Nishanta Rajakaruna

Rajakaruna is one of more than 1,200 U.S. citizens who will travel abroad for the 2016-2017 academic year through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program. Recipients of Fulbright grants are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement.

Rajakaruna has passionately pursued serpentine geocology since his early graduate days and has now reached a position of leadership in the field, mentoring many students and facilitating in the publication of numerous papers. He has not spent an extended period of time conducting research in Sri Lanka and is eager to collaborate with Sri Lankan students and scientists to help them establish a wide range of descriptive, experimental and applied studies, and to develop the understudied and bio-diverse serpentine habitats of Sri Lanka as model settings for long-term research.

"I am most excited about the opportunity I may have to return to my motherland as a Fulbright Scholar and share my professional expertise and other life experiences acquired over the last 25 years in North America with those in Sri Lanka, the country that first instilled in me a passion for botany and environmental studies," said Rajakaruna.

Rajakaruna will use this opportunity to collaborate with two leading serpentine researchers in Sri Lanka – plant scientist M.C.M. Iqbal and environmental chemist M. Vithanage – on current funded projects at the National Institute of Fundamental Studies (NIFS) in Kandy. He also will provide mentoring and present seminars for undergraduate and graduate students at the NIFS, the Royal Botanical Gardens and nine leading universities with specialized departments of botany and plant science.

At the conclusion of his Fulbright year, Rajakaruna will be taking up an associate professorship in botany at the Biological Sciences Department at California Polytechnic State University, in San Luis Obispo, Calif.

## ELVIS/1: Beloved postal clerk about to leave building

to involve people, because I think I thrive off people."

Anyone who has used the post office here in a generation would agree that Young is a consummate people person. He said he looked up to the late Robin Williams, to the comedian's ability to find humor in everything and show care and affection to those he meets.

"He has always made me feel really special," Bar Harbor resident Martha Abbott said. Now, as she hears people talking about his retirement, she is realizing she wasn't along. "He did that for everybody," she said.

Another resident, who is only 5'2" tall, remembers that when she went to open a new Post Office box, Young came around to the lobby and made sure she would get one she could easily reach.



ISLANDER PHOTO BY LIZ GRAVES

*Residents and customers have been thanking Warren Young, longtime Bar Harbor postal clerk, for his many years of service and friendship. He retires at the end of the month.*

Young remembers the time the town was abuzz over a wild black bear that "made a visit to behind the town office," he said. "One customer

said there must be more people watching the bear than there were at town meeting!"

Young decided to run a contest to name the bear. "I went up to UMaine and got a black bear jersey for the winner. The bear was such a big talk of the town." The winning name was "Ruck-us."

"The post office is like a barbershop, everything happens here," he said. "I'm grateful to the community for being able to take care of them. I'm lucky to be here. When I first started there were young people, now they've had kids, now their kids are having kids. It's very meaningful for me."

A retirement celebration is planned for July 2 at the Kebo Valley Golf Club. Contact Kebo for more information.

## Restaurant features local fare

By Dick Broom  
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### MOUNT DESERT —

"Northeast Harbor has had a struggle with restaurants over the years, but I think it's time to make a comeback," said Katelyn Buell of the village's dining scene in general and her own new venture in particular.

The owner of the former Tasteful Tides restaurant at 102 Main Street has opened The Fork & Table, which she describes as a "farm-to-table bistro," in the same location. She said it will be open only on Fridays and Saturdays until mid-June, when she will go to six days a week.

The menu will depend largely on what is available at any given time, Buell said.

"I'm going to base my menus on what's fresh and

local and looks good. You won't see a Sysco truck parked outside," she said, referring to the international food distribution company.

"I feel that any chef could order things from across the world. But it really shows your talent by being creative in using what's available locally."

Buell said The Fork & Table is place for casual fine dining that also offers pub fare and comfort food that is "financially feasible for people."

"I think it's a good mix," she said. "We'll have seafood, local steaks, braised meats and homemade pasta."

Buell is a former head chef at McKay's Public House in Bar Harbor and has worked at several restaurants in the Portland area.



ISLANDER PHOTO BY DICK BROOM

*Katelyn Buell recently opened The Fork & Table restaurant on Main Street in Northeast Harbor.*

## Jail log

The following were arrested or booked into Hancock County Jail between April 25 and May 1:

Jacob E. Sampson, 44, Bucksport, 10 days for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant.

Jenny D. Reese, 38, Marshfield, two counts failure to appear.

George C. Rumill, 34, Bar Harbor, domestic

violence assault.

Robert R. Marsee, 39, Ellsworth, OUI.

Randolph W. Garland, 51, Sullivan, theft by unauthorized taking or transfer and probation revocation.

Wayne Lawrence, 36, Belfast, default in payment of fine.

Edward P. Cooney, 56, Etna, back for court.

Edward Suckiel, 50, Bangor, back for court.

Damian R. Pickard Sr., 36, Franklin, fugitive from justice.

Paul E. Colbeth, 36, Bass Harbor, bail violation.

Justin N. Kane, 20, Sullivan, violating conditions of his release.

Wayne M. B. Kane, 47, Sullivan, violating conditions of his release and probation revocation.

Justin W. Rowell, 35, Eastbrook, OUI.

Shane A. Rolfé, 33, Veazie, theft by unauthorized taking or transfer.

Kevin T. Reed, 48, Ellsworth, back for court.

Joseph A. Cobb, 38, Hancock, violation of a protection order.

Tanya T. Prime, 47, Brooklin, operating after suspension, bail violation, failure to appear.

Ailin D. Rafferty, 32, Tremont, OUI and violating

conditions of release.

Rachel Lea Braun, 33, Gouldsboro, probation violation.

Caleb D. Lord, 27, Lubec, domestic violence assault.

Dakota A. Hatton, 28, Lamoine, OUI, bail violation.

Brock A. Murphy, 30, Hancock, default in payment of destitution.

Daniel J. Silva, 61, Ed-dington, 15 days for criminal threatening, terrorizing and two counts harassment by telephone.

John I. Gordon III, 26,

Hancock, bail violation.

Lori E. King, 42, Ellsworth, probation violation.

Craig E. Strout-Desmond, 29, Ellsworth, probation violation.

Andrew B. Herrick Jr., 23, Sedgwick, OUI.

Timothy W. Wiggins, 34, Frenchboro, five days for unlawful drug possession.

Jason W. Robbins, 24, Ellsworth, probation revocation.

Amy M. Poors, 42, Hancock, back for court.

Joseph L. Gionet, 50, Ellsworth, bail violation.