

# Holyoke

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are abundant right now in those areas.”

But like Whitegiver, Cross expects the supply of berries to dwindle quickly. The beneficiaries: Hunters waiting for bears to throw caution to the wind and approach their bait sites during daylight hours.

Northern Maine hunters may already be seeing better-than-average success, Cross said.

“I would say the blackberry has less influence over much of the range of bears in Maine,” he wrote, explaining that north of Millinocket and the Golden Road, the berries are pretty scarce, save for around farms in Aroostook County.

But down Route 9, where Whitegiver’s hunters are spending their time, there are still some dietary options for foraging bears.

“The abundant blackber-

ries and bristly sarsparilla berries ... especially in Down East Maine, is slowing the activity on many of the bear baits right now but it won’t last long,” Cross wrote. “Both of these fruits are ripening a little later this year than normal. The end result when all is taken into account will be a very successful bait hunting season compared with most years.”

The catch: Those who are hoping to encounter a bear during the traditional firearms season on deer in November probably won’t have that opportunity.

Again, it all comes down to food. When the bears decide it’s costing them more energy to find food than they’ll gain if they eat it, they’ll decide to take a long winter nap.

“Most of the bears in Maine will be entering their dens earlier this year, which will hamper late-season hunters, especially deer hunters,” Cross wrote. But that will vary across the state.

“A decent acorn and apple

crop will keep some bears out of the den longer in many of the same areas where blackberries are abundant,” he wrote.

Here’s hoping hunters start seeing more bears.

And if you end up with a great bear tale, send it along and I’ll try to fit it into a future blog or column.

## Any-deer lottery today

If you’re among the hopeful hunters who applied for an any-deer permit this year, your wait is nearly over.

The state will announce the 45,625 winners of this year’s any-deer permit lottery today.

Those who do earn permits will be allowed to target does or fawns; the rest of us will be hunting for bucks.

You can find the results of this year’s lottery at bangordailynews.com after 5 p.m. today.

John Holyoke can be reached at jholyoke@bangordailynews.com or 990-8214.

## Things to Do Outdoors

BANGOR -- Downeast Chapter of Ducks Unlimited’s 45th annual fund-raising banquet and auction to support wetlands conservation, 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, Bangor Banquet and Conference Center, 713 Hogan Road. Tickets \$55 single, \$75 couple, which includes dinner and \$35 Ducks Unlimited membership. Live and silent auction to include limited edition wildlife prints, decoys, guns, knives, jewelry, furniture, hunting equipment and apparel and more. Raffles and games. Limited seating. Reservations required. David Poll, 745-1936, or Tom Duff at 989-6082.

BANGOR -- Bangor Land Trust’s Pedal the Penobscot celebrates cycling and supports Bangor’s wild backyard, offering five distance options, 6:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, from Bangor

Waterfront and High Tide Restaurant in Brewer. Riders of all ages and abilities welcome. Ride solo, with a friend or register a team. Riders receive an annual mem-

bership to Bangor Land Trust and are entered into a raffle for prizes donated by area businesses. The first 150 to register also receive a 10th anniversary shirt.



### HOMEcoming 2016

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## Ellsworth Area

# Autumn Gold

### September 22-26 CELEBRATION

#### Autumn Gold Calendar of Events 2016

- Autumn Gold Decorating Contest Judging: September 19-21
- Thursday September 22**
  - Business After Hours: The Moore Community Center 5-7 sponsored by Maine Coast Memorial Hospital and Downeast Family YMCA. Members and guests
  - Winners of the Decorating Contest will be announced
  - The Grand: NT Live: The Three Penny Opera musical 2pm \$18/16/15/13
- Friday September 23**
  - Go for the Gold: Chamber Retail businesses will have Go for the Gold Bags at their locations for customers to enter to win great prizes.
  - Friends in Action Senior Day: Moore Community Center 9:00-12:00
  - Autumn Gold Golf Tournament: Lucerne Golf Course 9am contact Lucerne Golf Course at 843-6282. Registration starts at 8am.
  - Downtown Association: Music “The Crown Vics” 6-8 Acadia Realty Parking lot
  - The Grand: Live Music The Masterstons 7:30 pm General Admission \$18
- Saturday September 24**
  - Firehouse Breakfast: 6am-10am Trenton Volunteer Fire Dept. \$7/\$3.
  - Rotary Pancake Breakfast: 7am-10am Ellsworth Middle School \$7/\$3
  - Roger Willey Road Race: 5K and 10K 7am registration 8am start \$20 Sponsors: Downeast Family YMCA, Willey’s Sport Center
  - 33rd Annual Car Show: 8am registration Home Depot Featuring Busch National Champion Andy Santerre Shriners NASCAR unit, The Elks Club food truck. Admission is free. Corporate Sponsor: NAPA Auto Parts Registration Sponsor: PCT Communications
  - City Car Cruise: immediately following awards/travels down High to Main St.
- Mill Mall Family Day: Family games, crafters, food vendors. Cooking contest, rides, and more 9-3pm Sponsor: Machias Savings Bank.
- Maine Coast Mall: Craft Fair 9-3; Children’s Activities, Bounce House
- Live Without Limits Children’s Fair: Storytelling, Art projects, yoga, Touch Tables and more. Moore Community Center 9-11 Sponsored by: Child and Family Opportunities, Downeast Family YMCA Early Learning Center, Friends in Action
- Union River Boat Rides: Waterfront. 1-4pm Donations accepted.
- Chowder Fest: Harbor Park under the tent! 11:30-1:00 admission is \$5 Come taste and judge local chefs as they compete for the Best Chowders! Celebrity Judges include: Cheryl Wixon chef and author, Kevin Tesseo of Darlings winner of this year’s Top Drawer Award and Chris Facchini Anchor at WLBB2
- Live Music by Bobbi Lane and Ellsworth High School Show Choir; Boy Scouts Grill; Sponsored by: Merrill Furniture, Trenton Bridge Lobster Pound, Maine Shellfish, and EBS
- Autumn Gold Beer and Wine Tasting: Waterfront Park 1-4 pm, \$10.00 (age 21 and up) Airline Brewery, Atlantic Brewery, Catherine Hill Winery. Sponsor: Coastline Homes
- Rubber Ducky Race: Waterfront at 2pm sponsored by Ellsworth Noontime Rotary Club. Tickets available at the waterfront.

**Monday September 26 th**

- Jumbo Jackpot Drawing: 11am 50/50 tickets available now thru Saturday the Ellsworth Chamber Office, The 33 rd Autumn Gold Car Show and All Waterfront Events: Union River Boat rides, Chowderfest and Autumn Gold Beer and Wine tasting.

For more info and a complete list of events, visit [ellsworthchamber.org](http://ellsworthchamber.org). Events Subject to change. More activities can be found at all areas!

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## Seasons

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