

# A 'bar' in town

By Gordon B. Seavey

**I**t's not only more people moving into Westford but also some wildlife that we usually find in vast empty spaces in New England.

Looking out of his kitchen window over his back lawn last week, Ray Cantin of 24 Depot Street spotted a young deer leisurely feeding along the wall, positively undisturbed. Then it sauntered off among a cluster of trees.

"I've seen a bear near my home several times," says Betty Sweetman who lives on Cold Spring Road, "but no one ever believes me." She had proof of this however, when Rob O'Brien reported that he found bear droppings (scat) near a cluster of wild blackberries, sufficient proof that a bear had been tasting these tasty morsels. His home backs up to the little mill pond at Westford Depot and near by Mrs. Sweetman's.

Homeowners have long been pestered with raccoons but another person reported an opossum feeding off a suet bag hanging on a limb with a sign "For birds only."

As for bird life, a flock of about 20 killdeer spend most of their time catching insects around the playing areas in back of the Abbot Middle School. Cute little fellows, about half the size of sandpipers. When they want a rest in a safe spot, they congregate on the roof of the school's gym.

Do folks today remember that picture in old textbooks of a sign reading, "Daniel Boone killed a bar here?"

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