



## Smoke but no fire

JUDY BICKNELL/EYE-WITNESS

The Birtle and District Fire Department was called to action on the evening of Tuesday, Feb. 27 when a passing motorist alerted them to investigate a possible fire at the J.A. Woods Riverside Service station on Main St. in Birtle. Arriving on the scene firefighters were relieved to find that the smoke-filled service station's used-oil furnace had backed up, permeating the entire building with a dark ominous smoke. No one was injured during the incident, with Hobo being released from the building before he could suffer any smoke inhalation injuries. Here firefighter Brian Salmon (at top of ladder) is assisted by fellow firefighters (l-r) Butch Bartram and Fire Chief Kevin Hickman as they investigate the attic for possible signs of fire. Again we must be grateful for the quick response of our local fire department, had the furnace been left unattended all night, the end result of this incident could have meant a devastating fire.