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Weather Wednesday: high 61, low 28, hum. 72%. At 7 a.m. Thursday there was a trace of precipitation, but it continued to rain most of the day.

Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, the former Panamanian dictator gave himself up to American authorities Wednesday night and was whisked away to Miami for arraignment on drug trafficking charges in a U.S. district court.

Thirty-three (nearly one-fourth) of the Justice Department's organized crime prosecutors have quit since Attorney General Dick Thornburgh announced plans to put their extraordinarily successful strike forces under the control of local U.S. attorneys. Since 1980, the strike forces have convicted mob leaders long thought untouchable in Boston, Brooklyn, Cleveland, Chicago, Denver, Kansas City, Los Angeles, New Haven, New Orleans, Philadelphia and Rochester.

Analysts say that even during the height of the oil crisis more than 15 years ago prices for fuel oil did not skyrocket as during the past several weeks. Price for diesel fuel and kerosene which had already gone up between 30

Continued On Back Page

Fire At Brannons

The Landrum Fire Department responded to a kitchen fire at Brannon's Restaurant at 12:14 a.m. Thursday. Chief Joe Williams said that the fire was caused by table linens in the clothes dryer.

Chief Williams said that there was some water damage, some fire damage and lots of smoke damage. The fire which was turned in by an automatic alarm system, was caught in time before it did major damage. The Columbus Fire Department also responded to the fire and Green Creek Fire Department was placed on standby.

Brannon's will be closed temporarily, but will operate from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Vineyard until further notice. The Tryon Rotary Club which ordinarily meets at The Vineyard on Monday will meet at the Tryon Youth for one week only.

EMS Home, Director Still Being Sought

Polk County Manager Steven D. Wyatt told the Board of Commissioners Tuesday night that the county's new Emergency Medical Service (EMS) does not yet have a home, nor a director.

Wyatt said no word has yet been received from the leaders of the Polk County Rescue Squad regarding the county's request that they consider housing the EMS office in their Columbus building.

The county agreed last year to

Continued On Back Page

Seeks Re-Election



Mrs. Judy P. Arledge

Mrs. Judy P. Arledge, Polk County Clerk of Superior Court has announced that she will seek re-election to that office. Mrs. Arledge is a Democrat.

Mrs. Arledge has served as Clerk of Superior Court since being elected in November 1978. She was re-elected in 1982 and 1986. Prior to being elected, Mrs. Arledge had been employed in the Clerk's office for seven years and had served as assistant clerk for two years.

Mrs. Arledge is presently serving as 1st vice president of the Association of Clerks of Superior Court of North Carolina. In 1988 Mrs. Arledge was presented a certificate of appreciation for the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Association of

Continued On Back Page

First Ever County Summit

The elected leaders from all parts of Polk County are scheduled to gather for a first-ever "county summit" Jan. 23 at the courthouse in Columbus, at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting will be an open public forum, although the public will not be invited to speak. All the speaking will be done by the elected members of the Saluda, Tryon and Columbus town councils and the Polk County Board of Commissioners.

County Manager Steven D. Wyatt said he expects issues of mutual concern, such as drug abuse, solid waste, and emergency 911 phone service, to be discussed.

Commissioner W. Kenneth Faulkner, however, suggested at Tuesday's board meeting that Wyatt contact the town officials and determine their interests.

Wyatt promised to do so and report back at the Jan. 16 board meeting.

Honored At SMC

The following area students were named to the president's list at Spartanburg Methodist College: James Hatchell of Campobello, S.C.; Lucille Atkins of Landrum, S.C.

Named to the dean's list was Shannon Ravan of Campobello, S.C.

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