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I-95 fatality
Charges not filed following deadly collision

BY DELLA ROSE

An early morning trek for fuel in the dark led to the death of a Roanoke Rapids woman Saturday.

N.C. Highway Patrol District Sgt. Doug Bowens said Symanthia Pierce, 41, of Roanoke Rapids, was traveling on Interstate 95 with her friend Paulette Carter, of Roanoke Rapids, when she ran out of fuel.

He said it was about 12:30 a.m. when Pierce left her vehicle on the side of Interstate 95 and was walking in the roadway on Exit 171 to a nearby convenience store.

At the same time, a 2003 Dodge pick-up truck driven by Kristin Shylton was traveling south onto the exit.

Bowens said Pierce was killed when the truck struck her.

According to Bowens, the investigation revealed Pierce was wearing dark clothing, the area was extremely dark and there was a slight curve in the roadway.

All of this, along with the fact Pierce was walking in the roadway, contributed to the collision.

“There is no Way (Shylton) could have acted in time,” Bowens said. “No charges will be filed against her.”

Bowens said Pierce’s friend Carter was not injured in the collision.

Halifax Academy students enjoying 3-day planetarium visit

BY JACQUELINE HOGGH

Several fourth-grade students at Halifax Academy had a chance to go out in space and see the solar system without leaving the comfort of their classroom.

This included seeing 1,240 mile-per-hour lightning that is 10,000 times stronger than any on Earth and five-miles-high dust storms as part of “The Portable Learning for All North Carolina’s Elementary Teachers and Students (PLANETS) Portable Planetarium Program,” which is a solar system science show, “Moving All Around,” students used to solve a mysterious riddle about space.

In the live planetarium show, “Moving All Around,” students use observation and skills to explore the stars with the help of children’s books, on a quest to solve a mysterious riddle about space.

The Portable Learning for All North Carolina’s Elementary Teachers and Students (PLANETS) Portable Planetarium Program, which is a solar system science show, “Moving All Around,” students used to solve a mysterious riddle about space. (S.W.)

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