

Wireless internet to go live this week

Alexandria Bay – RidgeviewTel Franchise, along with the Town of Alexandria, are forming a partnership to provide high speed internet access to the rural community and the river. If all goes as planned, the service will be live by the end of this week. This project will allow high speed internet access for thousands of residents in the area.

“We’re looking to give service to outlying areas and islands,” Town Supervisor F. Sampie Sutton said. “Everyone has a computer, but most are struggling with dial-up.”

The internet service equipment has already been established on the water tower as of Sunday May 13. The municipal building in Alexandria Bay will serve as the “base” so to speak, called the local area network. According to Vince Jordan, CEO of RidgeviewTel, there will be a hot spot established at River Hospital, allowing those who are traveling down the St. Lawrence access to the internet.

“They will be able to open their laptops on their boats and it will direct them to a website,” Mr. Jordan said. “There they can make the purchase for whatever they need. Islanders will be able to link up as well.”

Prices will vary, depending on the need for daily, monthly or yearly use. Those who are interested in hooking up to the wireless system will not be charged for the install or the potentially required equipment, such as a router.

“There will be a \$30 charge for the original set up, then \$29.95 a month from that point,” Mr. Jordan noted.

RidgeviewTel began to set up rural broadband communities in Colorado. The conversations began in April with the township of Alexandria about becoming one of these communities. There will be an extension for the service available in Redwood and the service will extend over 7 miles.

Those interested in the service can visit www.ridgeviewtel.com or call 1-800-591-3060.