

By Jan Rahn

Managing Editor

Early voting began Sept. 27 for this year's election, and there are several other dates to mark on the calendar over the next six weeks as the November General Election approaches.

Perkins County Clerk Rita Long has announced important dates for county residents to remember prior to Tuesday, Nov. 2.

Citizens have the option of casting their ballot early by requesting a ballot by mail, or they can appear in person to vote early.

Those who need to register may request a voter registration form via mail or may go to the clerk's office.

Watch for sample ballots to appear in the newspaper around mid-October.

Registering to Vote

New residents of Perkins County who wish to vote in the 2010 General Election may register one of two ways:

- *By Mail:* Voters registering by mail must return the registration form to the Perkins County Clerk's Office postmarked by Oct. 15.

- *In Person:* A voter wishing to register in person must do so by Oct. 22. The clerk's office will be open until 6 p.m. that day so new voters may register.

Early Voting

- *Sept. 27:* Early voting has already begun at the Perkins County Clerk's Office. Any person registered to vote may cast an early ballot.

- *Nov 1:* Deadline for in-person early voting. Clerk's office hours are 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Early Voting Guidelines

- *In Person:* Registered voters may stop by the county clerk's office and pick up an early ballot. A friend can also make the application for the voter, acting as their agent. A person acting as agent may do so for only two voters.

- *By Mail:*

□ *Oct. 27:* Last day for a voter to request that an early ballot be mailed to them by the clerk's office.

□ *Nov. 2:* ALL early voting ballots must be in the Perkins County Clerk's Office by 7 p.m.

Unless actually received in the clerk's office by closing of the polls on Nov. 2, the early voting ballot will be rejected.

