Residents find little left in burned Oklahoma town

BY TIM TALLEY
The Wichita Eagle

AT LEAST 10 WILDFIRES BURNING IN OKLAHOMA
towns were being ordered to evacuate, residents in several other towns may have been deliberately set.

Residents in some Oklahoma towns were being ordered to evacuate Saturday to salvage what was left.

LUTHER, Okla. — While residents of one Oklahoma town burned through their flooded homes and other buildings before firefighters were able to gain some measure of control Saturday, the Luther fire was one of at least 10 wildfires burning in Oklahoma. Before fire destroyed it, Luther, a town of 3,000, had been the site of a semiconductor manufacturer.

Laurie Plonka comes from a long line of voters.

Claire Hernandez said she saw how votes have consequences.

52-year-old Patrick Sanchez is an Iraq veteran and a voter.

The Wichita Eagle

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THEIR CIVIC DUTY
Those who plan to vote take it seriously

BY SARAH TUCKER
The Wichita Eagle

More women learning to shoot guns

The story was reported through the Public Insight Network, a group of more than 700 Kansans who have volunteered to share their insights, ideas and experiences with journalists.

The two friends had driven from Hutchinson to learn how to shoot a gun. They chose Bullseye because of the women-only handgun class.

Ciara Hernandez said she sees a long line of voters.

Laurie Pivonka comes from a long line of voters.

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LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING FACILITY
County rethinks funding for center

BY DOG SHERRER
The Wichita Eagle

Some Sedgwick County commissioners say they are bracing to go forward with their plan of the Heartland Preparedness Center, even if it means the county’s financial crunch.

The city and county agreed to build a law enforcement training facility at the center, serving the Kansas National Guard at what would be the nation’s first homeland defense center merging city and county public safety and the military.

The city approved a long-term capital improvement plan in March that includes $6.3 million for the center, which commissioners will vote Aug. 15 on the county’s budget.

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