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Committee 'stunned' by torching of 'Field of Dreams'

By **EAMONN MAHER**
Staff Writer

Town and school board officials are wondering what might be done to prevent another incident of vandalism at the new Kiwanis Field facility at Georgetown District High School.

Just after midnight on Saturday, Aug. 20, a passerby smelled smoke coming from the area of the \$2.1-million stadium.

The Halton Hills Fire Department responded and discovered seven separate burned areas on the synthetic turf field, causing approximately \$7,000 in damage.

Halton Regional Police investigated the incident and confirmed that an accelerant was used to light the blazes. No suspects were seen in the area at the time. The field is fenced off with locked gates but the culprits were able to gain entry to the facility, which is somewhat isolated from nearby homes.

"We are talking to the security company to see what type of measures might be taken," said Warren Harris, the Town of Halton Hills' manager of Parks & Open Space.

"But it's a difficult site to conduct surveillance. We're looking at other options to increase the security presence in that area."

A similar incident of arson took place recently at the Assumption



Georgetown Soccer Club president Alice Strachan surveys the damage at Kiwanis Field last week after several sections of the synthetic turf at the nine-month-old, \$2.1-million facility were burned

August 20 with what Halton Regional Police are calling an accelerant.

Photo by Eamonn Maher

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