



## 2023 IHSA JOURNALISM STATE FINALS: FEATURE WRITING

### DIRECTIONS & RULES

You are a staff member of Abraham High School's *The Standard* (Middleland, Ill.). Your editor recently interviewed AHS alum Amber (Boring) Rutledge, who is the proprietor of Wild Harvest Honey Farms in Heyworth, Illinois.

Your editor believes that beekeeping is unique and would make for an interesting feature story. He has provided you with a recording of the interview he conducted with Amber to pull quotes from, as well as to gain background information on Amber and the farm.

The story word limit will be 500 words. In addition to well written and organized articles, judges will look for the use of an interesting lead, accurate details about the information provided by the subject, and proper style and mechanics.

Students are permitted to use an AP Stylebook and dictionaries (non-electronic format only). At the top of your document, type "School Code: ####" with your individualized code numbers. Type the final word count at the bottom of the story before turning it in.

Start Time: 11:30 AM

Work must be submitted to Google Drive by: 1:00 PM

### VIDEO INTERVIEW

The video will be played once for the group. If you need to review further, it can be accessed at:

[www.ihsa.org/Journalism-State-Series](http://www.ihsa.org/Journalism-State-Series)



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### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Welcome to Boring's farm. Where a World War II and a flat tire led us to the Wild Harvest Honey Farms.

Beekeeping has been in our family for over 100 years. My great Grandfather Everett and Orinda were quite the duo. Great Grandpa Everett and his honeybees and Great Grandma Orinda keeping the family sour dough bread receipt going to eat with the amazing honey. We have traced the bread changing hands in the Boring family for at least 300 years. We learned this much in Orinda's book that was published about her life. "A Winter Lady" If you're lucky, some Saturdays we have free samples of it paired with the honey. As we still make the bread to this day.

Beekeeping has been a part of our family for over 100 years. Our goal here is to education the importance of bees for our survival.

Did you know one in every three bites of food depends on bees for pollination? That is why we have made it our mission to help our community repopulate and save the bees. Nearly one-third of all honeybees in the United States have died in the last few years. Scientists don't know the exact cause, but a growing body of independent science links a class of pesticides to widespread bee die-offs, both alone and in combination with other factors like disease and malnutrition.

Here at Wild Harvest we wanted to turn the land we grew up on and has been in our family for 3 generations and worked on by 5 generations into a bee sanctuary. All the proceeds from our sales will go into furthering education to those who want to learn about bees, help create a sanctuary, and protect the bees.

Tours Available & Store Hours:

-Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 10 AM to 3:00 pm

-Every Saturday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

-Special events on certain Saturday's, check website for details



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### SUBMITTING WORK

1. Upon completing your work, be sure your four-digit school code is at the top of the document and your word count at the bottom of the story. Be sure your name or school name do not appear in the document or file name.

2. Turn your work into a PDF (File > Save as > Save as Type) and name the file as follows:

**Four Digit School Code – Event Name**

So your file name should look like this...

**1234 – Feature Writing.pdf**

3. Go to [www.ihsa.org/Journalism-State-Series](http://www.ihsa.org/Journalism-State-Series)

4. Find your event and click the “Submit Work” link that applies to it.

5. Drop your PDF in the folder and make sure it uploads.

6. Please note that if you open any other contestants work in the Google Drive, you will be disqualified (file history will be reviewed).

7. If using a Heartland CC computer, please sign-out of the computer once you are completely finished.