



Honey Festival in Minco - Dec 5

By Jayson Knight
Tuttle Editor

Minco will be having its 30th annual Honey Fest on Saturday, December 5th. There will be free food samples, milk, chocolate milk, and cheese provided by Braum's Dairy and Minco Chamber of Commerce located at City Hall, downtown Minco.

There will be a Little Miss Honey Bee pageant as well. Contestants must be in Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, or 3rd grade, and a Minco resident. This will take place Friday, December 4, 7 PM at First Baptist Church FLC. Contact Shelby Morgan (405) 535-8001 for more info.

At Ross Honey Co. 109 Belle Street, one block north of Main, one block East, there will be honey, candy, and gifts for sale at Oklahoma's largest honey plant, owned and operated by Jimmy & Glenda Ross (405) 352-4125.

Visit downtown where many festival events will be downtown this year, including the arts and crafts show vendors, food trucks, and more. There will also be tractor pull events on Saturday, December 5th.

Visit Santa downtown from 10

AM to 4 PM, featuring 21st Century Santa. The local Toy Drive is in need of new, unwrapped toys. There will be carriage rides provided by Thompson Carriages from 10 AM to 2 PM at Veteran's Park downtown for \$5 a person, five and under are free. There will be an Arts & Crafts show with over 100 vendors from 9 AM to 4 PM. Downtown Minco, there will be individual crafts, jewelry, gifts, honey baskets, wood & iron crafts. For more info, call: (405) 352-0518

Come see Lucas Ross, "Son of a Beekeeper" Downtown, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Emmy award-winning Minco native Lucas Ross has appeared in feature films, national television shows and hundreds of regional commercials. Lucas can be seen weekday mornings on Freedom 43's "Rise and Shine." When he's not on TV, he's playing the banjo and has released three bluegrass comedy albums, "Son of a Beekeeper", "Banjo Farm", and the newly released "Banjos in Space".

2020 does bring along some changes, though. The goal is to bring you all the family fun of the honey festival in a safe

environment. While some aspects of the festival will look different this year, as there will be no tours, some location changes, and some other difficulties that Deanna Walje with the Minco Chamber of Commerce discussed.

"Our biggest change would be that we will not be using the school building due to COVID-19 and the policies they have to follow for that," she said. "So, we have moved our crafts and food vendors to the downtown area. We do have some indoor spaces for our craft people, but the majority of vendors will be outside. We are going to be placing them along the three block radius downtown. From the post office all the way to the east end of our Main Street area. We have different areas that our vendors will be set up in so they will somewhat be protected from the weather. They'll be all up and down Main Street. The crafters are pretty excited about it. They're willing to take the chance with the weather, and we're just going to go with it and make this the very best we can."

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, there will be no tours.

"We will not be able to have our tours this year because we want to prevent a congestion of people, although everything else will be going on just as normal."

There was a concern that the Honey Festival would be canceled or postponed.

"All summer long, we wanted to be able to go ahead and have it. At that time, we were still okay to use the school, but they do have different policies than us. It just came down to the fact that we weren't going to be able to use that. Then we came up with an alternative because we wanted to have the festival. After talking to all of our vendors, we found out that they wanted to have the festival. If this is the way we need to do it, hopefully just for this year, this is what we'll do."

It is hoped that you'll still be able to visit and have a socially distanced good time. Thank you for supporting the local businesses and the city of Minco as you celebrate the 30th annual Minco Honey Festival.

cutline 1768- Festivalgoers enjoy the Honey Festival in December 2019.

9180- The Ross Honey Company sells honey and snacks during last year's Honey Festival.