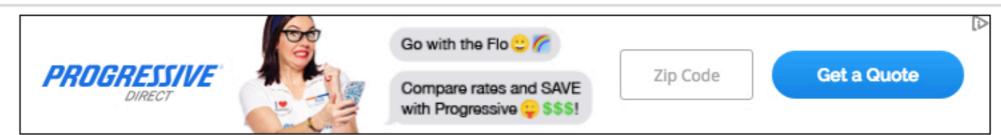


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Bacon Queen Crowned at Blue Ribbon Bacon Festival

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One lucky lady crowned "Bacon Queen" will make an appearance at the 6th annual Blue Ribbon Bacon Festival at the State Fairgrounds in Iowa on Saturday. Kim Pfannebecker, from Des Moines will wear a dress made entirely out of raw and cooked bacon created by a designer in East Des Moines who made the frock over the course of 15-20 hours using 20 pounds of bacon and 48 ounces of glue.

Pfannebecker was crowned on Thursday night after passing a Q&A from the Bacon Fest organizers and performing in a talent competition. On Friday she tweeted that she was attending a ceremony to pardon a pig at the Iowa Governor's Mansion at Terrace Hill led by Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad.

Bacon has become serious business in Iowa as 8,000 tickets for the Bacon Festival at \$35 a pop were sold out in three minutes flat. "It all happened by complete accident like anything wonderful; electricity, penicillin," said Marshall Porter, Chief Bacon Officer for Bacon Fest.

The festival began as a oddball sideshow on the Des Moines social agenda in 2008 (a few hundred people eating bacon cookies in a downtown bar) and has turned into an annual event that doubles in size each year. At the festival, people are treated to bacon samples of all different varieties and drink. All hail the pig!