

# Country girl Suzy Dalton tries her hand at jazz

By **Stephanie Caltagirone**  
Reading Eagle Correspondent

As a child, Suzy Dalton grew up listening to Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan.

"My parents were big jazz fans, so I was raised with jazz," Dalton said. "That was my first musical love, and I always had that urge to explore the genre at some point."

Music was a part of Dalton's life but not one she planned to pursue as a career. After earning a college degree in psychology, Dalton was studying to be an addictions counselor when she met country band leader Pat Garrett.

"Pat was looking for a singer and he heard me singing casually and asked me to sing for the Pat Garrett Band," she said. "Soon after that, the band lost its bass player and I asked Pat to teach me the bass. I sang and played the bass for 10 years with the band. We had the opportunity to open for Johnny Cash and George Jones and we went to Nashville quite a few times to play."

But Dalton always had a love of jazz, and three years ago a stint as a fill-in bass player for local blues band Mr. Z and The Nightshift sparked her interest in returning to her jazz roots.

"Jazz is all about improvisa-

tion, it's much more complex than country," she said. "It's much more difficult, but I felt I had a handle on it because I felt I had a personal background in it.

"My biggest influence has been Sarah Vaughan. She scats and has fabulous range. I just love what she does with a song. I've also been very inspired by Diana Krall."

Dalton said that through meeting people at Gerald Veasley's Jazz Base at the Sheraton Reading Hotel, she put together a band and started getting the bookings.

Her first shows will be part of the Berks Jazz Fest, starting Wednesday at 8 p.m. at the Peanut Bar in downtown Reading and then Saturday, April 5, at 7 p.m. at the YR Club in Wyomissing.

She'll be joined at the Peanut Bar by George Grund on piano, Steve Meashey on bass, Paul Miller on drums, Bob "Doc" Mulligan on trombone and Pete Souders on sax.

Playing at the YR Club will be Andy Roberts on piano, Meashey on bass, Ed Stalosky on drums and Souders on sax.

They will rely heavily on tra-

## If you go

**Events:** Berks Jazz Fest concerts featuring Suzy Dalton and Her Quartet

**When and where:** 8 p.m. Wednesday at the Peanut Bar, 332 Penn St., and 7 p.m. April 5 at the YR Club, South Parkside Drive and Thrush Road, Wyomissing.

**Phone:** For information or reservations, call the Peanut Bar at 610-376-8500 and the YR Club at 610-376-1303.

**Web:** www.berksjazzfest.com, www.suzydalton.com

ditional jazz standards, including a few in French, Portuguese and Italian.

"I've been studying French for many years and I sing several songs in French, including 'La Vie En Rose,' which I used to sing in the country show and it always got a great response," Dalton said. "I saw Eartha Kitt sing in different languages at one of her shows and I thought it added a nice element to the

Dalton continues on 7

## HOT TUB/POOL REPAIR

### NEVERSINK SPAS HOT TUBS & POOLS

#### We Repair Most Brands

- Chemicals
- Spa Covers
- Parts
- Heaters
- Accessories
- Emergency Service

Servicing Berks County & Surrounding Areas Since 1986  
302 W. Lancaster Ave., Shillington, PA 19607

**610-777-5044**

YOU WILL SAVE  
MORE THAN **20%**

### Modern Tailor House of Tailoring

- Suedes • Sheepskins
- Leather Cleaning & Alterations
- Custom Made Suits • Ready Made Suits
- Fur Alterations & Cleaning

**WE DO IT ALL!**

We also offer 1-hour dry cleaning

2441 Perkiomen Ave., Rdg., PA  
**610-779-8400**

**TEMPLE FIRE CO.**  
**BINGO**  
Every Tues. Night 6:30 pm  
THE LARGEST PAYOUT IN BERKS CO!  
Huge Progressive Jackpots  
★ Bingo Electronics Are Here  
Free Bus Service To & From TFC  
Call Between 3 & 4:30 pm for pick-up  
For Info or Reservations: 610-929-0183 • After 3:00 pm  
FREE U-PIK-EM w/This Ad April 1st  
Mgr. Peter Sfameni Jr. Benefits Temple Fire Co.  
4963 Kutztown Rd., Temple, PA 19560

**Basket Bingo Sunday, March 30th**  
1 PM — Doors Open 11:30 AM  
Fundraiser for: **Keystone Fire Co. of Shillington**  
\$20 Donation will include Hamper Drawing & 18 Games of Bingo.  
Great Basket Prizes, Raffles, Food & Door Prizes  
Call 610-796-1985 for information and reservations  
Benefits: **Keystone Fire Co. of Shillington** Mgr: T. Deamer

**SHOEMAKERSVILLE FIRE COMPANY**  
**BINGO**  
SUNDAYS - Doors Open At 12:00 Noon - Early Bird 2:00pm  
All Complete Cash Package Program  
Four Packages to Choose From: \$30, \$35, \$40, \$45  
★★★★★ Big Cash ★★★★★ Big Jackpots ★★★★★  
Benefits Shoemakersville Fire Co.  
Manager: Jackie Weiler • For more info call 610-562-8096

**BINGO at the**  
**goggleWorks**  
Center for the Arts  
2nd & Washington Streets, Reading, PA  
610-736-3693 • Every Wednesday at 6:30pm  
Doors Open at 5pm

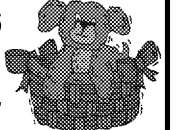
- Outside Security
- Paper & Hard Card Program
- Well-lit Parking
- Hot Meal, Snacks & Drinks Available
- No Smoking Facility

Manager: R. Stubbs  
Proceeds support Berks Advocates Against Violence and the Safe Haven Supervised Visitation Center. **KEEP THE KIDS SAFE!**

## BEAR BINGO

Sunday, April 6

Ruscombmanor  
Fire Company  
3721 Pricetown Rd.,  
Fleetwood



Doors Open At 1:00 P.M.  
Bingo Starts At 2:00 P.M.

Admission **\$20.00**  
Specials & Extras Available

For Info Call:

**610-944-5541**  
**610-944-7125**

Bears Provided By:

### BEARLY HEAVEN BARN

4045 Pricetown Rd., Fleetwood, PA  
**610-944-0880**

Benefits:  
Ruscombmanor Fire Company  
Mgr. E. Fox

**Fleetwood Fire Co.**  
**Social Quarters**  
!!! BINGO !!! !!! BINGO !!!  
Monday Nights  
Doors Open 5 P.M.  
Games Start At 6:30 P.M.  
All Paper Program and  
4 Packages  
\$20 - \$25 - \$30 - \$35  
3 Progressive Jackpots  
Growing Weekly  
!!! Don't Miss April !!!  
Enter Every Week  
FREE Month Of Bingo  
Drawing April 28th  
Manager: B. Stoudt 610-944-8591  
Benefits: Fleetwood Vol. Fire Co.  
**HALL RENTAL AVAILABLE**  
**610-944-8595**

## MAIDENCREEK BINGO

Complete Non-Smoking Room  
1060 Park Road, Blandon, PA  
610-468-1205  
New Units In Smoking Room

Getting The Most For Your Money?  
If Not, Come See Us At Maidencreek Bingo.  
Every Monday And Friday Evening.  
Doors Open 5:00 P.M., Starts 6:45 P.M.

(Complete All Inclusive Package; From Quickies To Jackpot, Including The 10 Progressives, Plus Free Platter, Snacks, Pastries, Hot Beverages And Complimentary Beer For Our Over 21 Customers.)

(All For One Price. Nothing Extra To Buy.)  
Packages - \$30.00 - \$40.00 - \$50.00

**Lil Champ Handsets**  
Could Let You Walk Out A Big Champ.  
Extra Cards In All Sets, Plus Progressives And Jackpot

**Friday, March 28th**  
**Linda's 60th Birthday Bash**

Free Gift, Free Specials, Free Goodies,  
Free Hoagies w/Trimings, Special Door Prizes  
And End Of Nite Gift Basket. Free Package,  
Free Handset, Plus All End Of Month Drawings To  
Some Lucky Players. **Must Be Present To Win.**  
Free Entertainment

**Tony Farina** - Come Join The Fun.  
**Monday, March 31st**  
Deal Or No Deal - Free Specials To All Players.  
All End Of Month Drawings. **(Must Be Present To Win).**  
Come On Down And See If You Can Make A Deal!

**New Players**  
\$15.00 Package Plus Dabber (First Time Only)  
**Birthday Club**

\$5.00 Lottery Ticket Plus 3 On Book Of Specials.

**All Paper Speedball Session**  
Friday 10:45 P.M. 10 Games w/Progressive Money  
And Huge Jackpot. 56 No's. (Win In 5 Free To All Players)

**"HUGE WASHLINES - HUGE JACKPOTS"**  
WAITING TO BE WON

Holly Heilman  
Cancer Fund  
Hall Rental - 610-944-5565  
L. Almond  
Manager

**RAJAH SHRINE**  
**BINGO**  
EVERY THURSDAY  
Doors Open @ 5:00 PM  
Bingo Starts @ 6:30 PM  
Drawing - March 20 for  
10 Easter Food Prizes!  
221 Orchard Rd., Reading, PA 19605  
Call for directions: 610-916-9000  
\*Proceeds benefit Rajah Shrine and are not deductible as  
charitable donations. Manager - W. Trautman

**58#**  
**CASH BINGO**  
LAURELDALE  
ATHLETIC ASSOC.  
1610 Nolan St., Laureldale  
EVERY SATURDAY - 6:45 P.M.  
610-929-4131 - Dir./Reservations  
EVERYONE WELCOME  
Benefits Laureldale Athletic Assoc.  
Mgr. M. Borzellino

## Holly Heilman Cancer Fund - Basket Bingo -

Sunday, March 30, 2008  
at Maidencreek Banquet Ball, Park Road, Blandon

Doors Open at 11:00am • Fun Starts at 1:00pm

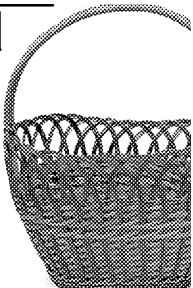
Tickets \$25.00 includes hot dog & soda.

For advanced ticket sales, call 610-926-1547.

Door prizes, food, fun baskets, baskets, baskets!

All proceeds go to helping patients in the Berks County and Surrounding area.

UNTIL THERE IS A CURE, WE WILL HELP THOSE IN NEED!



**SHILLINGTON BINGO**  
Shillington Social Quarters • 38 S. Sterley St., Shillington  
Reservations call 610-334-1371

**TUESDAY EVENINGS • ALL PAPER "CASH" PROGRAM**  
All Inclusive Packages Doors Open At 5:00 P.M. Game Starts At 6:30 P.M.  
**FREE** Money off Passes **FREE** Bonus # **FREE** V.I.P. Card  
**FREE** 3 on Book and Lottery Ticket for your Birthday  
**NOW ADDING MORE GAMES AND SPECIALS**  
**IN YOUR PACKAGE WITH**  
**HIGHER PROGRESSIVE JACKPOTS**  
**"BINGO MANIA" PLAYED AT 6:00pm AND INTERMISSION**

**SUNDAY BINGO CLOSED THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 30**  
**RE-OPENS SUNDAY, APRIL 6**

Kitchen Open - Great Food and Service with a Smile Mgr. - V. Macri Benefits - Shillington Social Quarters

# Dalton

Continued from Page 6  
show. I speak French and I can understand the others enough

to know what I'm singing about."

Dalton said she's not actively seeking a record deal, but she will have a CD available Tuesday on her Web site and also at

her performances.

"There are 10 songs, jazz and swing and blues, just vocals and guitar or piano," she said. "I got Ken Gehret to play guitar, and Andy Roberts on piano, both fabulous musicians.

"I'm very excited (about jazz)," she said. "After the Jazz Fest shows, I'll focus on putting my show together and, once I have everything finalized, I'll seek more bookings. I really have an eye to expand into Harrisburg and Lancaster. But if I could sing in Paris, my life will be complete."

■ E-mail correspondent **Stephanie Caltagirone** at [entertainment@readingeagle.com](mailto:entertainment@readingeagle.com).

Shelly & Jeff Reider

# Scrolls & Strings

RESTORATION EXPERTS • MASTER LUTHIER  
REPAIRS, SALES, RENTALS AND APPRAISALS  
*Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass and More...*

608 Penn Avenue • West Reading, PA 19611 • phone 610-374-3350 • cell 484-794-9265



Willow Street Pictures: Darren Modricker

Suzy Dalton, long-time bassist and singer for the Pat Garrett Band, makes her jazz singing debut on Wednesday night at the Peanut Bar in downtown Reading.

WEUU 830 AM presents

# Gerald Veasley's Jazz Base

at the Sheraton Reading

FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 7 P.M. & 10 P.M.



Downright Upright & More

## Brian Bromberg Band

Though much of his 23-year recording career has found him gravitating toward smooth jazz, the very versatile Brian Bromberg has released a good handful of straight-ahead jazz projects in which the bassist performs with a trio.

His latest release, *Downright Upright*, was recently nominated for a Grammy Award.

In recent years, he has expanded further and ventured into more rock-oriented jazz-fusion territory.

On his acoustic bass albums, Bromberg performs jazzy interpretations of various pop and rock staples from the '60s and '70s completely solo.

Tickets\*: \$25 in advance or at door

## More upcoming shows

VF Outlet  
Berks Jazz Fest  
at the Jazz Base

◆ Saturday, March 29, 7 p.m. & 10 p.m.

Introducing Nina Simone's Daughter  
Simone

and the Rob Stoneback Big Band

Tickets\*: \$25 in advance or at door

Monday, March 31, 7 p.m.

An Evening of Strings

Michael Manring & David Cullen

Tickets\*: \$12 in advance or at door

Wednesday, April 2, 7 p.m.

Carl Filipiak

and The Jimi Jazz Trio

Tickets\*: \$10 at door

Thursday, April 3, 7 p.m.

MusicReport

Tickets\*: \$12 in advance or at door

Friday, April 4, 7 p.m. & 10 p.m.

Guitar Master

Pat Martino Quartet

Tickets\*: \$30 in advance or at door

Saturday, April 5, 7 p.m. & 10 p.m.

Tribute to Chet Baker

Rick Braun

Tickets\*: \$30 in advance or at door

\*Get Jazz Fest ticket information at [www.berksjazzfest.com](http://www.berksjazzfest.com)

The Jazz Base is SMOKE FREE!

[www.READINGCOMEDYOUTLET.com](http://www.READINGCOMEDYOUTLET.com)  
at the Sheraton Reading Hotel • Reservations 610-376-3811

**Jazz Fest Special!** Fri. at 9pm & Sat. at 8 & 10:15pm  
Musical comedy of **PRESCOTT TALK** of California with **David Beck**  
discount admission with Sheraton Jazz Fest Show Tic Stub  
Workplace group & other groups welcome!

**RAYMOND the AMISH COMIC**  
May 9 & 10  
Tickets on sale now  
610-373-4242

**PASTA & PUNCHLINES DINNER & SHOW PACKAGE**

**Jonas Brothers** live!  
**the Burning Up Tour**

INTRODUCING **DEMI LOVATO**  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 30 - THE GREAT ALLENTOWN FAIR  
ON SALE SATURDAY MARCH 29

JOIN THE JONAS BROTHERS FAN CLUB FOR FIRST ACCESS TO CONCERT TICKETS & NEW ALBUM!  
VISIT [WWW.JONASBROTHERSFANCLUB.COM](http://WWW.JONASBROTHERSFANCLUB.COM) FOR DETAILS

**LIVENATION.com**  
**ticketmaster**  
Ticketmaster.com • 610.233.0006 & Retail Locations.

**WWW.ALLENTOWNFAIRPA.ORG**

GET IT NOW  
FAN CLUB MEMBERSHIP DOES NOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY OR LOCATION OF TICKETS

