

# Alburtis Band

## The early years of Alburtis Park Country Music

The Alburtis Band was a community music group that played a significant role in the cultural life of Alburtis, Pennsylvania, particularly during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Formed sometime after the Civil War, the band consisted of local veterans and citizens who came together to perform music for the residents of Alburtis. This ensemble became a cornerstone of the community, contributing to the establishment of a lasting musical tradition in the area.

### Early Years and Performances

In its early days, the **Alburtis Band** constructed a building where they performed on an indoor stage, providing entertainment for the local population. Over time, their performances expanded beyond the confines of the building, moving outdoors to reach a broader audience. By 1925, the site where they played had become known as "**Mickley's Grove**." At these gatherings, the band offered country music, accompanied by refreshments and home-cooked food, turning their events into popular social occasions for the community in the park and around our little bandshell.

### Transition to Alburtis Park

A significant shift occurred in 1929 when the Grove and its associated buildings were sold to the **Alburtis Fire Company**. The building where the band had performed was repurposed as the fire company's headquarters, while the adjacent open lot, now featuring our current bandshell, was renamed **Alburtis Park**. This transition marked the end of the Grove era but solidified the area's identity as a hub for musical entertainment. The Alburtis Band's performances laid the groundwork for this evolution, establishing a legacy of country music that continues at **Alburtis Park Country Music**.

### Legacy and Impact

The Alburtis Band was instrumental in shaping Alburtis Park into a well-known venue for country music events. Following the 1929 sale, the park maintained the tradition of hosting free country music shows, a practice that endured for decades and attracted visitors from across the region. Their influence is evident in the park's enduring reputation as a community gathering place for free country music, great food, BINGO, and entertainment in a traditional outdoor venue.

In summary, the Alburtis Band emerged after the Civil War as a group of veterans and citizens dedicated to bringing music to Alburtis. Through their performances at Mickley's Grove and their role in the early history of Alburtis Park, they fostered a vibrant country music tradition that became a defining feature of the community, leaving a lasting cultural legacy in Alburtis, Pennsylvania thanks to **Alburtis Fire Company #1** and the purveyor of our current venue for the **Perseveration Of Live Entertainment (POLE)**; both are non-profit organizations.