

## ENTERTAINMENT

# Mark Reitenga and the Marksmen

By JENA PASSUT  
Of The Oakland Press

**Name:** Mark Reitenga and the Marksmen.

**Formed:** Reitenga has been playing music since 1988 and has been with his current band for three years.

## THE UPBEAT

**Sound:** "I'm kind of in the style of Van Morrison, James Taylor or the Beatles," says Reitenga, adding that his music is acoustic folk rock with a spiritual element.

**Members:** Reitenga plays guitar, sings and writes music; Steve Adams plays drums and Bill Engleman plays bass.

**Influences:** "There are so many," says the high-energy Reitenga with a laugh, listing James Taylor, the Beatles and Cold Play. "I like the 1970s AM radio stars."

**Day jobs:** Reitenga does advertising and sales for Car.com weekly.

**What's in a name?:** The band's name is a play on Reitenga's first name.

**So you wanna be a star:** Reitenga has opened for a few big-name Christian acts, including Jon Gibson and David Meece.

**Who knew?:** The suit-wearing folkster is a deacon at Ward Presbyterian in Northville and recently went on a mission trip to El Salvador.

**Favorite gig:** So far, he's

enjoyed playing at Lily's Seafood in Royal Oak the most. "It's very intimate," he explains. "It's like playing in your living room."

**What's next:** Reitenga hopes to warm up for bigger acts and play bigger venues. "Obviously I'd like to get a record contract, but for now I'm setting small goals I can attain," he says.

**Hear 'em:** His music can be downloaded from MP3.com or his debut CD "Unsung" ordered from Reitenga by calling (248) 670-4384 or e-mailing mreitenga@stoneage.com.

**See 'em:** Reitenga plays every Monday night at Four Green Fields, 30919 Woodward Ave, Royal Oak; call (248) 208-2088. He'll also perform Thursday and June 21 and 28 at Robusto's Martini Lounge, 19271 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe



Reitenga

Woods, (313) 881-0100; June 19 and 26 at Lily's Seafood, 410 S Washington Ave., (248) 591-5459; and July 26 at Hamlin Pub North, 741 S. Lapeer Road, Lake Orion, (248) 814-8109.

**Surf 'em:** www.markreitenga.com.

(The Oakland Press will regularly feature a different band or musician in The UpBeat. To be included, send background information, a black-and-white nonreturnable photo, daytime phone number and current CD to Gary Graff, The Oakland Press, P.O. Box 436009, Pontiac 48343.)