

Remerica's Novi office expands to include new workout room

■ Agents also play basketball

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Gary Reggish is no ordinary boss.

Not only has he provided a new workout room for his real estate agents in his Novi office, but he also included shower facilities.

The Remerica United Realty office in West Market Square at Beck Road and Grand River Avenue was recently expanded by 3,000 square feet to offer more offices and its employees a way to energize themselves while at work.

Reggish said that with the real estate market on the decline and homes taking longer to sell with three times more product on the market than usual, real estate agents are having to work harder and longer hours.

"Agents are working harder today than they ever had," Reggish said.

"They may have early morning meetings and plan to be home in time for dinner. Then an offer comes in on a property or they get a listing appointment, and before you know it, they're not home until 9 or 10 o'clock at night."

Agents might work 10-, 12- or 14-hour days, and along with that can come a lot of fast food meals and eating on the road.

Getting to a gym to workout takes time, which is the one commodity real estate agents don't have.

So, Reggish decided to step up to the plate and offer his employees a place to exercise right at work.

"They need to have some balance in their life and a healthier lifestyle," he said.

The new workout room includes a weight machine, elliptical trainer and treadmill.

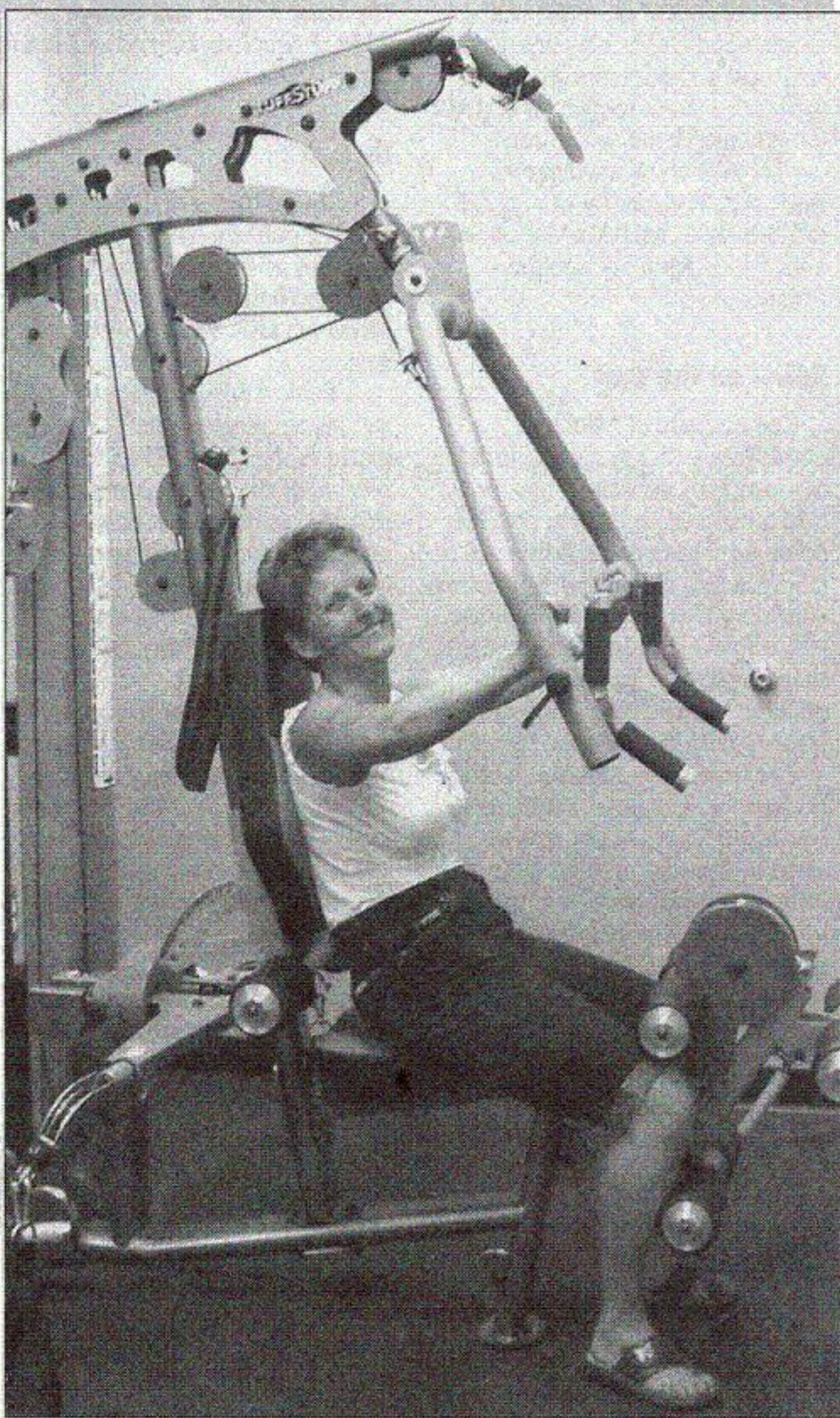
A basketball hoop was placed on a court outside, and shower and changing facilities were also added.

"Now, if agents have 45 minutes, they can work out right here," Reggish said.

A phone was also placed in the workout room in case an agent is waiting for an important call.

"Business doesn't stop," Reggish said.

The real estate broker said that



Courtesy photo

Patti Maida, an agent for Remerica United Realty in Novi, works out on the office's new weight machine. Gary Reggish recently expanded his real estate office by 3,000 square feet to provide a workout room for his agents.

agents who might now have been working out before have jumped on the bandwagon with the new equipment conveniently located in the office.

The workout room has been available for about a month now, and Reggish said the agents love it.

Agent Al Frederick of Westland has been with Remerica for about three years and has been in the industry for about 16 years.

"The only place that an agent can get this type of facility is here," Frederick said.

"We don't have to have a membership at a fitness club

anymore."

Agent Patti Maida of South Lyon has worked at the Remerica office for a year and a half.

"I like to work out, and this frees my time up so I don't have to go to the gym," Maida said. "I can bring my clothes here and work out at my leisure as opposed to having to set a schedule. It's wonderful."

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pffleming@gannett.com.