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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, February 23, 2012
Chicago, Illinois

PAUL VARNELL MEMORIAL EVENT PLANNED

Pioneering gay journalist and activist Paul Varnell will be posthumously honored at a Memorial Gathering planned for 2:00 PM on Sunday, April 15, 2012 in the Etienne Auditorium of the Leather Archives & Museum on Chicago's North side. There is no charge to attend the event that is open to anyone over the age of 18.

The event website, <http://varnell.lionwood.com>, has complete information. Interested persons can also sign up for the event mailing list to receive timely notices about the event as planning is finalized.

Programming for the event will include a series of short presentations from a number of Varnell's professional colleagues and close friends. Opportunity will be provided for extemporaneous presentations by attendees. Coffee, soft drinks, water and light refreshments will be served.

Varnell, who died December 9, 2011 at the age of 70, has been variously described as a Renaissance Man, a curmudgeon, brusque, one of the kindest and most compassionate men alive, conservative, libertarian, a gay activist and advocate, a journalist, social commentator, art critic and enormously multifaceted. In fact, he was all of these things and much more. The event will provide the opportunity to recount and share in some the eclectic experiences that distinguished the life of Paul Varnell.

The event organizers, Milan Vydareny and Gregory Nigosian were long-time friends of Varnell and have participated with him over the years in various projects and activities related to activism and the advancement of gay rights.

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