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Walla Walla's Marcus Whitman Hotel Promotes Dan Leeper to General Manager

After serving as the hotel's Assistant General Manager for 13 years, Dan Leeper steps in as General Manager of Walla Walla's historic and luxurious hotel

WALLA WALLA, WA. – August 21, 2015 – The Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center is pleased to announce the promotion of Dan Leeper as the new General Manager. As part of his role, Leeper will oversee day-to-day operations of the property, including the hotel, The Marc Restaurant and The Vineyard Lounge, and 13,000 square-feet of flexible meeting and event space. With 15 years in the hospitality industry and having spent 13 years in his previous role as Assistant General Manager at The Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center, Leeper brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience to flourish in his new role.

"Dan's experience, enthusiasm and unwavering commitment to excellent customer service coupled with 15 years at the Marcus Whitman, make him the perfect fit for General Manager of the hotel," said Kyle Mussman, Owner for The Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center. "Upon meeting Dan, hotel guests will undoubtedly be impressed by his professionalism, friendly demeanor and dedication to every individual to ensure they have a wonderful stay."

After a long career with the Teamster Union, Leeper joined HighSpeed.com, a regional communication company as an intern. HighSpeed Communication's headquarters were located at the Marcus Whitman Hotel, which gave Dan a chance to become involved with hotel management and the hospitality industry. This exposure eventually led to his role as Assistant General Manager at The Marcus Whitman. Dan has covered many of the department manager's duties during voids, including Marketing, Communications and Public Relations Director, Restaurant Lounge Manager, Housekeeping Manager and Front Desk operations.

"I believe first and foremost in excellent customer service," said Dan Leeper, General Manager at The Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center. "We pride ourselves on providing exceptional guest experiences, and I am very grateful to work with our first-class, diverse management team. As General Manager, together our team will continue to build on the success The Marcus Whitman Hotel has already experienced."

Leeper's passion for the hospitality industry began as a young child, when he would spend time each summer with his grandfather who owned a small chain of hotels. While on the properties, he quickly became aware of the daily routine of running a hotel and enjoyed the thrill of meeting new guests.

For more information, call 509.525.2200 or visit <u>www.marcuswhitmanhotel.com</u>.

About The Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center

Built in 1928 through a community labor of love, The Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center is a downtown Walla Walla landmark where history and luxury intertwine. The property was fully renovated in 2001 and restored to its original grandeur, while adding modern updates to provide a truly luxurious experience for today's traveler. The full grounds include a 133-room hotel with luxury suites, a state-of-the art conference center featuring grand renaissance ballrooms, six on-site wine tasting rooms, and the award-winning The Marc Restaurant – named "2014 Restaurant of the Year" by the Washington State Wine Commission – and The Vineyard Lounge. Thousands of overnight guests, diners, wine lovers, conference goers, business travelers and pleasure seekers enjoy the Marcus Whitman's exceptional guest service each year, where they find "ladies and gentlemen serving ladies and gentlemen" to the backdrop of modern splendor. For more information visit <u>www.marcuswhitmanhotel.com</u>.

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