

# POTTSTOWN CITIZENS FOR Enlightened LEADERSHIP

## Rep. Dean eloquent on PBS

Last month, we castigated state Rep. Tim Hennessey for formally promoting “the big lie” of election fraud in Pennsylvania’s presidential election Nov. 3.

Everyone saw the fruits of his actions, and those of his fellow legislator phonies, in Wednesday’s riot at the Capitol.

Happily, we could all be proud of Congresswoman Madeleine Dean, who appeared on National Public Television the day after the riot.

Congresswoman Dean represents most of Montgomery County, including Pottstown. She discussed the riot with PBS news anchor Judy Woodruff and the actions of Republican congressmen to try to stop the counting of the electoral votes that made Joe Biden the next president of the United States.

Here are some verbatim excerpts from that interview:

**Rep. Madeleine Dean:**

I’m sad for our country that yesterday’s disgraceful actions took place. ...

You know, we saw — in the morning, we saw the president at a rally at the White House, what I think of as lighting a fuse, a fuse that was built along lies and disinformation that he spewed for the last four-plus years and that others, both in the legislature, the House, and the Senate, contributed to and in his administration.

It made me so sad to sit in — I was in the gallery at the time of all the insurrection and the attempted coup. It made me so sad for our country.

But I will tell you, over the course of the hours of the day, I and everybody

else was determined to get back into that chamber that had been so violently pierced, that — I call it a cathedral of our democracy. I was so

determined to get back there and finish our civic duty and make sure that we certified the election of Joe Biden, which we did. ...

Last night on the floor, in defending the Pennsylvania slate of electors, all of the Pennsylvania delegation had a chance to make very eloquent arguments.

I chose to quote the words of John Lewis. He said that democracy is not a state. It is an act. What we do as citizens, elected or otherwise, the acts that we take to build our democracy matter. ...

One thing I read about was Margaret Chase Smith. If you remember, she was an important figure, a Republican congresswoman (senator from Maine), who stood up during the McCarthy era. And she called upon her — and I’m going to paraphrase this — she called about her Republican colleagues and said, you can’t search for victory, political victory, by riding the four horsemen of calumny.

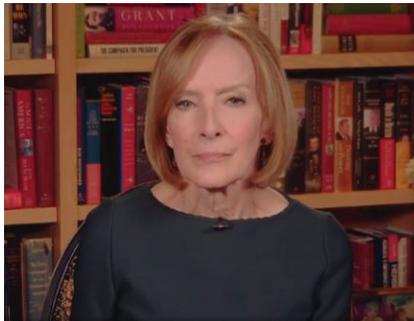
She called them fear and ignorance and bigotry and smear. You can’t want to ride to victory on those four horsemen.

That’s what I say to my Republican colleagues. Are you willing to do that? Are you willing to sell your soul for political victory? I call upon them to reject that and shed that. ...

Protect our democracy. It’s precious. It’s fragile. It’s up to us.



Commentary by  
Thomas Hylton



PBS news anchor Judy Woodruff, left, interviews Rep. Madeleine Dean, whose district includes Pottstown, after the Jan. 6 riot at the Capitol.