

Hello all.

Today, August 3, 2018, the New York Times celebrates the birth of Maggie Kuhn, founder of Gray Panthers. Appropriately so. The passion, effectiveness and advocacy of Maggie Kuhn's life is needed today. Gray Panthers confronts ageism and confronts the wrong-headed developments in the world. Today, we face the onslaught of hatred, lack of compassion, and the destruction of all that is good in the USA. Gray Panthers fights back. And, we should follow the example of Maggie Kuhn –

“Power should not be concentrated in the hands of so few, and powerlessness in the hands of so many.” Maggie Kuhn

The New York Times

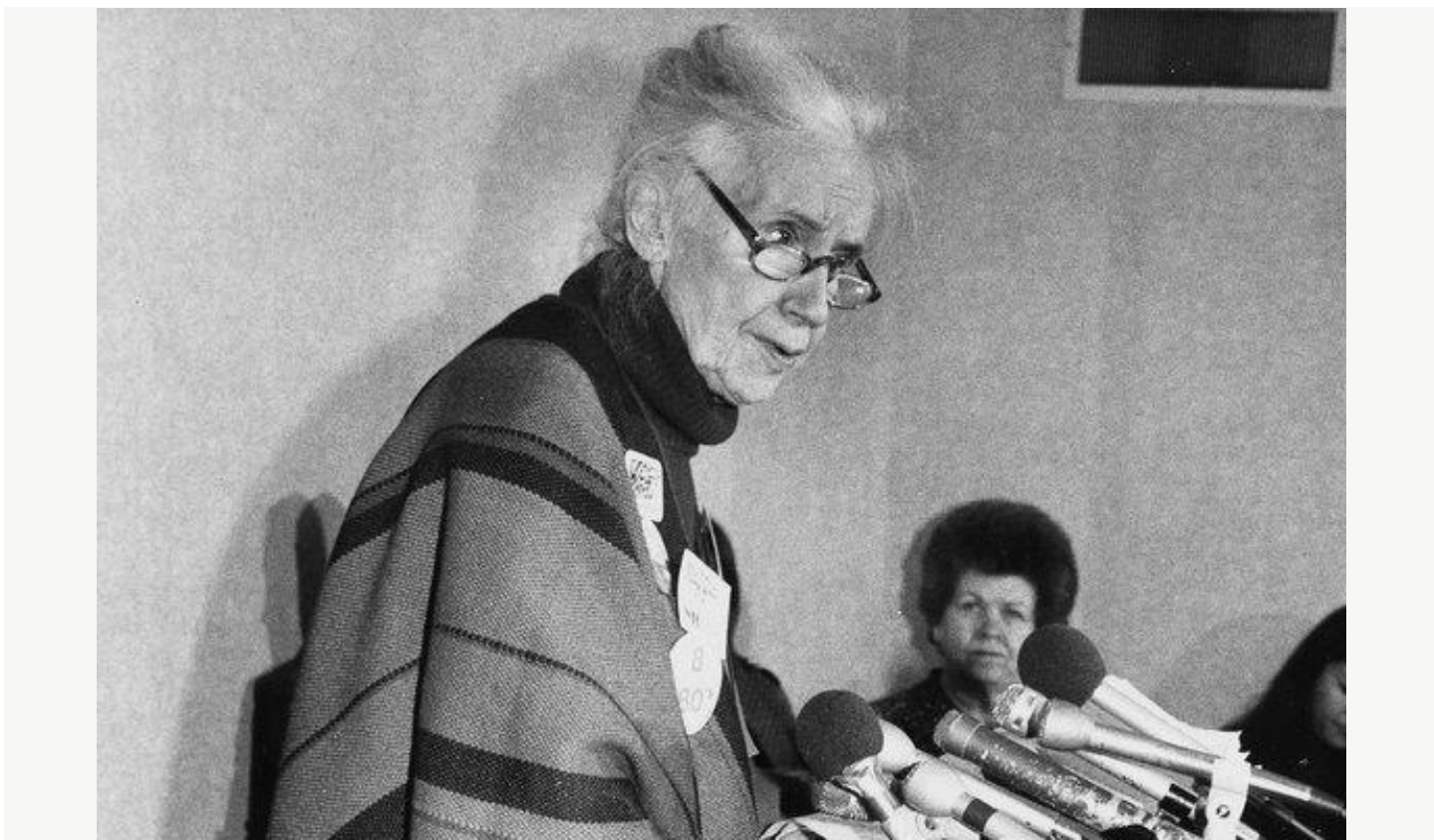
Morning Briefing

Friday, August 3, 2018

Back Story

If anyone could prove that age is nothing but a number, it was Maggie Kuhn.

The founder of the [Gray Panthers](#), an American advocacy organization for older adults, was born on this day in Buffalo in 1905.



Maggie Kuhn, founder of the Gray Panthers, held a news conference in Washington in 1981.
Credit Scott Stewart /Associated Press

In 1970, after working for the Presbyterian Church in New York for a quarter of a century, Miss Kuhn retired, having reached the mandatory retirement age of 65.

Soon after, she worked with fellow retirees to start a group that would be called the Gray Panthers (a reference to [the Black Panthers](#)), which worked to [bridge the gap between the young and the old](#) and addressed other social issues.

Miss Kuhn [remained involved with the organization](#) until her death at age 89 in 1995.

“I’m an old woman,” she told The Times in 1972. “I have gray hair, many wrinkles and arthritis in both hands. And I celebrate my freedom from bureaucratic restraints that once held me.”

On her 85th birthday, [she told a group of seniors in Vermont](#): “I made a sacred vow that I would do something outrageous, at least once a week.”

Claire Moses wrote today's Back Story.